

INK SLINGS.

—On July first the new currency is to be put in circulation. Then everybody's bills will be smaller.

—We don't know whether we're to have a frost every month this year but we've already had two in June.

—The Vore machine has nothing on the Mellon machine in the matter of election frauds but both together have honest voters "in chancery."

—Lloyd George will be in his element during the next administration of the British government. He can bargain with either or both sides.

—Now if President Hoover were like Colonel Roosevelt, Senator Jones, of five-and-ten fame, would be the baby member of the Annanias club of America.

—Some pseudo-wise man has proclaimed that science is now training children to eat disliked foods. Science is doing nothing of the sort. If anything is accomplishing such a beneficial result it is either necessity or compulsion.

—We agree with Mayor Jimmie Walker, of New York in his belief that "there is nothing worse in public life than the solemn dinner," but there is only one thing we ever knew of that proved infallible in taking the sol out of solemn and that can't be had any more.

—Citizens of Jackson, Michigan, are in New York buying an elephant with which to properly celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the birth of the Republican party. They say it was born in their town three quarters of a century ago.—Not the elephant, the Republican party. Some years ago a sheriff down in Florida attached a circus for debt. He took its only elephant in satisfaction of the claim, then the county came near going bankrupt buying hay for the elephant.

—As we said, a few weeks ago, we don't know John J. Raskob. For that matter we don't know Bishop Cannon, either. We know, however, that when the Democratic party falls into the control of a Methodist Bishop we're through with it. That is the reason we're hoping that the Virginia Democrats will have sense enough to realize that our donkey would starve to death before a Bishop would feed it. Ordinary preachers are bad enough but Bishops only get to be Bishops when they come to be past masters at the art of riding up to your door, dismounting and throwing the bridle reins into someone else's hands to care for the beast. Then they just naturally flow into the most comfortable chair in the best room in the house and sit there to inspire awe until dinner is ready. And what do they do at dinner? They start it by praying that the food may be consecrated to the use of OUR bodies and proceed to consecrate all the white meat to the use of THEIRS. No, Virginia Democrats, don't dally with Bishop Cannon or any other Bishop. Their place is in the pulpit, not in politics.

—Surely we'll have to get better in Centre county. It was bad enough when they were compelled to build a "bull pen" in the court house, but now that they are going to enlarge the jail the matter becomes more serious. Naturally a large jail will cost something. Then it will cost more each year to maintain it. After it is enlarged there will be folks who'll get worried because it isn't filled up and there'll be a hue and cry for more sleuths to pick up tenants for the nice, sanitary apartments Dr. McCauley says must be provided there. More sleuths will mean more salaries and it will keep on pyramiding bills for the tax payers to settle. Almost we are persuaded to suggest that it might be a better plan to reverse our present procedure. It would at least be economical to reduce the size of the jails and cut the army of police officers in half. The county hasn't grown in population in the last twenty years. People don't seem to be any worse than they were twenty years ago, so the only conclusion we can draw from that is that they weren't being found out then and they are now. And what we didn't know, twenty years ago, didn't hurt us a bit.

—Rarely have we sat for a photograph. The reason is obvious. The photographer doesn't live who could make a true likeness of us that would inspire anything else than a desire to murder him. Several pictures that we have among our belongings have been moderately satisfying to our vanity but none so perfectly portrays just what we are as the one that we had taken recently. We don't know the author. We regret that because we'd certainly like to give him credit for it. We realize we are than ever we would have been done.

—I would I were beneath a tree; A-sleeping in the shade; With all the bills I've got to pay, Paid! I would I were on yonder hill, A-baking in the sun; With all the work I've got to do, Done! I would I were beside the sea, Or sailing in a boat, With all the things I've got to write, Wrote!

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Secretary Stimson Throws a Bluff.

It may be assumed that Secretary of State Stimson appraises President Hoover's memorial day appeal for peace at its full face value. In a statement issued immediately following the President's speech the Premier of the administration at Washington warns the public "that the authorized and contemplated naval programme for the construction of new ships alone amounts to \$1,170,800,000," and in addition, "there will be required very large increases in the already large naval budget to cover the operating cost of these new ships." The obvious purpose of the Secretary is to frighten the governments of Europe as well as the Congress of the United States away from the trend to profanity.

Ever since the Washington conference, held during the Harding administration, which accomplished nothing except the scrapping of two or three entirely new and very expensive battleships of the United States navy, efforts have been in progress to procure an agreement among the leading maritime nations to fix another limit, not exactly on naval construction, but on naval strength. The Washington conference set a limit on battleships because we happened to have an excess in that type and Great Britain at once began the construction of cruisers, nearly as powerful as battleships. The subsequent purpose was to establish a parity that might be considered just and a limit at that standard.

Meantime by building cruisers Great Britain was constantly forging ahead of the United States in naval strength and Japan crawling up to an equality while no agreement could be reached to check the evil. Finally Congress authorized a rather ambitious building programme with the idea of frightening England into a different frame of mind. The statement of Secretary Stimson may therefore be interpreted as a warning that we have the money to bankrupt any competitors in naval construction and unless an agreement to limit operations is agreed to we will use it to that end. It may have that effect on the minds of the new government of Great Britain and in that event it will be a step in the direction of world peace.

—Everybody is willing to help President Hoover to enforce prohibition and all other laws, but in fairness he ought to indicate his plans if he has any.

President Hoover's Memorial Speech.

The theme of President Hoover's Memorial day address was "Peace." It was delivered at Arlington National cemetery, near the tomb of the Unknown soldier. Since the close of the World war each of Mr. Hoover's predecessors in office had discoursed on the same theme at the same sacred shrine and it is not invidious to say that his language rings truer to the hopes and hearts of the people than that of either Harding or Coolidge. Yet it is not completely satisfying. "If this agreement is to fulfill its high purpose," he said in reference to the Kellogg multilateral treaty, "we and other nations must accept its consequences. We must clothe faith and idealism with action."

That is to the point and admirable. But he subsequently envelops it in doubt. "If we are to earnestly predicate our views upon renunciation of war as an instrument of national policy; if we are to set standards of naval strength is purely for defense and not for aggression," he continues, "then the strength in fighting ships required by nations is but relative to that of other powers." There is "the fly in the ointment." Each nation contends for the right to determine for itself what constitutes armament for defense and the inevitable consequence is competition in naval construction and other military equipment, and such activities are provocative of war rather than incitements to peace.

If the Kellogg multilateral treaty had been a sincere expression of its purpose, and had been accepted by the other signatories in good faith, it might have accomplished much good. But its absolute failure to make provision for its enforcement discredited it among thinking men, and the fact that its adoption was immediately followed by legislation providing for a vastly increased naval construction programme gave it the semblance of a grim joke. No doubt President Hoover is sincere in his desire for enduring peace, and possibly he believes in the efficacy of the Kellogg treaty as an instrument in that direction. But something more substantial than memorial orations is needed to inspire confidence.

Governor Fisher's Curious Theory.

The conspiracy to loot the public treasury enjoyed an unusual triumph in Harrisburg, on Monday. Five members of the Governor's cabinet and four other State officials resigned their commissions, under agreement with the Governor that they would be reappointed immediately. The purpose of this operation was to juggle the provision of the State constitution that "no law shall extend the term of any public officer, or increase or diminish his salary or emoluments, after his election or appointment." During the recent session of the Legislature the salaries of these officials were considerably increased. Governor Fisher remarked "the increases are deserved by the meritorious services performed by those affected."

Two years ago each of the officials affected eagerly sought the places with a clear understanding of the salaries fixed by law. Since then there have been no additional burdens or increased labors imposed on these officials in the performance of their duties. No crises have since arisen that imposed additional tax on the physical or mental equipment of these men. No perceptible increase in the cost of maintaining their families or supporting the dignity of their offices has occurred. Thousands of men equally fit, amply capable and quite as deserving were perfectly willing to assume the duties and discharge the obligations of these offices at the salaries fixed by the old law. It is not likely that either of them asked for the increase.

But Governor Fisher seems to have adopted a new economic theory and is "trying it out." His policy seems to be "collect like a hard-boiled miser and spend like a demented profligate." He feels that the people of Pennsylvania will stand for any form of abuse. They have condoned all sorts of crimes and endured every type of outrage. The officials benefited by this violation of the spirit of the constitution are his personal friends, and handing them a generous unearned bonus will increase their devotion to him. There may be complaints here and there but there is no tribunal to which appeal may be made. It is a cruel policy and represents a sordid purpose, but it is effective.

—So long as the Athletics are one hundred points in front it may be assumed that the country is safe "and the government at Washington still lives."

Mrs. Willebrandt Loses Her Fight.

When Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt set out to fight Senator Dave Reed, of Pittsburgh, and the Vore machine, of Philadelphia, on the matter of selecting a federal district attorney for the Eastern district of Pennsylvania, the Watchman predicted that she had taken on the fight of her life. It was a just quarrel, however, and for a righteous purpose. The enforcement of prohibition legislation in Philadelphia had degenerated into an absurd farce mainly for the reason that the district attorney had not been in sympathy with the purpose. Rather than fulfill his obligation he resigned and the Senator and the Vore machine undertook to put another man of the same type into his place.

Mrs. Willebrandt, assistant attorney general in charge of enforcement of prohibition laws, protested against such a perversion of power and declared that so long as she occupied her position in the service no man would be appointed to the vacancy unless he had the approval of the prohibition administrator of the district and the support of the militant prohibition element of the community. That meant either that Senator Reed and the Vore machine would be disappointed or else Mrs. Willebrandt would lose her job, and the result is that the newspapers, on last Tuesday morning, carried the surprising information from Washington that Mrs. Willebrandt had resigned and her resignation was not only promptly but hurriedly accepted.

This ends the happy prohibition day-dream of the complete drying up of the booze streams and the elimination of the bootlegger industry in Philadelphia. These dreams, based on promises before the election, made to deceive, now vanish and like Mrs. Willebrandt's courage and purpose, will soon be forgotten, while the machinery of the federal district attorney's office is preparing to resume business at the old stand and in the old way. The President expressed regret at the parting with the lady who had done so much for him in mobilizing bigotry during the campaign, but he may find consolation in the increased devotion of the Philadelphia underworld to his political interests.

Pittsburgh's System of Voting.

Judge Gray, of Pittsburgh, obtained an interesting description of how Republican majorities are created in Allegheny county, the other day. Three women had served as election officers at Homestead, in that county, at the general election in 1926, and having been convicted of fraud were before the court for sentence. The judge had told them of the gravity of their offenses and the evils of such things upon the public life of the community and then sentenced them each to thirty days in jail. This was a surprise as they had been told that "it had been fixed with the judge." Apparently this promise had been made without consulting the court, or possibly the arrangement had been made with another judge.

But the details of the operation are interesting. At noon of election day two Republican leaders, one a captain of police of Homestead, visited the polls and expressed disappointment at the few votes cast. Then they tore off twenty-five ballots, took them to an adjacent pool room, marked them as they desired and returning, deposited them in the ballot box. Subsequently the clerks were given twenty-five names to write on the voter's list. During the afternoon the two party leaders brought bunches of negroes to the polls and voted them "though half of them didn't know what names they were to use." One of the witnesses informed Judge Gray that "more than half the ballots cast during the day were illegal."

Unfortunately the two Republican leaders who perpetrated these crimes are immune from arrest and punishment, more than two years, the time limit, having passed since the occurrence, but they are still in the confidence and favor of the Mellon machine. The women victims of the conspiracy of fraud have received some reward for exposing the iniquities. They have been paroled from serving the sentence and their affidavits will be forwarded to the Senate committee now considering the Wilson-Vare contest. In this the intention is good but may not prove beneficial. The Senate committee realizes that the Republicans need votes in the Senate and evidence of fraud will not influence the machine to a just decision.

County Commissioners to Enlarge Jail.

The Centre county jail is not big enough to afford proper accommodations for the number of law violators who seem to persistently seek entertainment there. During the past several years the number of prisoners has grown to over twenty up to over thirty, and the latter number really meant over-crowding. Then there never has been suitable accommodations for female prisoners. There are only two cells in the jail for the accommodation of women, and to get to them it is necessary to go right through the main corridors of the jail and run the gamut of all the men prisoners.

In fact back in November, 1927, Mrs. E. S. H. McCauley, Secretary of the State Department of Welfare, wrote a scathing letter to the county commissioners, with a duplicate copy to the court and the sheriff, in which she condemned the county jail in no uncertain terms and demanded that repairs be made forthwith. At that time the board consisted of John S. Spearley, James W. Swabb and John A. Way, and as two of them would go out of office on the first of January they paid no attention to the letter.

During the past year several representatives from the Welfare Department have visited the commissioner's office relative to repairs at the jail but the board could not see its way clear to do anything until now. They are now having plans made for an addition to be built on the south side of the present building, utilizing the space between the jail and the high wall around the jail yard. Entrance will be direct from the sheriff's office. The new portion will be built on modern lines and with all sanitary equipment. The estimated cost will be approximately \$10,000.

—The Philadelphia May grand jury demands the repeal of the Eighteenth amendment. The Three Tailors of Tooley street also had some nerve.

—After the President's law enforcement commission has disposed of all other problems assigned to it it might find out who stole Charlie Ross.

—May "good digestion wait on appetite and health on both," after the Democratic harmony dinner in Washington, next week.

State Officers Resign To Get Salary Increased.

As a means of becoming legally eligible to the increase of salary from \$8000 to \$10,000 a year, provided in a bill passed by the last Legislature, five members of Governor Fisher's cabinet resigned, on Monday, and were reappointed within an hour. They were: Rev. Charles G. Jordan, Secretary of Agriculture; Charles E. Dorworth, Secretary of Forests and Waters; Adjutant General Frank D. Beary, head of military affairs; Benson E. Taylor, Secretary of Property and Supplies, and Robert R. Lewis, recently appointed Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Other State officials who resigned to take immediate advantage of increases under the revised code are: Major Lynn G. Adams, superintendent of State police, \$6,000 to \$7,500 a year; Harry L. Knapp, chairman of the Board of Motion Picture Censors, \$3,600 to \$4,800 a year; Mrs. Katherine A. Niver, vice chairman of the board, \$3,300 to \$4,500 a year, and Henry Starr Richardson, secretary, \$3,300 to \$4,500 a year. Under the law judges can legally accept any salary raise given them while in office. The increase from \$7,000 to \$9,000 in the pay of Judge Fleming, as well as all other judges in the State, became effective May 16th, but the increase will not be given until their June pay check, as the money was not available until the first of this month.

Unveiling of Tablet Drew Large Crowd.

The unveiling of a bronze tablet in honor of Elijah Chambers, Revolutionary soldier, in Gray's cemetery, last Thursday afternoon, accentuated the always solemn services of Memorial day, and drew to the home of the dead, in Halfmoon valley, a crowd of more than three hundred people, a number traveling quite a distance to be present.

The Col. John Proctor chapter, D. A. R., of Altoona, was in charge and was assisted by members of James L. Noble post Veterans of Foreign Wars. A squad of World war veterans fired a military salute over the Revolutionary soldier's grave and the bugler took part in the effective taps services which closed the program. Scout Boggs, of the Altoona Boy Scouts, gave the bugle call, which opened the program, and took part in the sounding of taps at its conclusion.

Miss Mary V. Turner, regent of the Colonel John Proctor chapter, directed the D. A. R. ritual, which was a part of the services. The Rev. W. W. Willard, of Harrisburg, a great-grandson of the patriot, who was honored at this time, gave the address, and the Rev. Willis Hartsock, Tyrone, led in prayer. Little Marietta Larimer, a great-great-granddaughter of the hero, assisted by Miles W. Morrison, Civil war veteran, who attended in full uniform, unveiled the memorial. At the conclusion of the D. A. R. service, the V. F. W. men, led by Commander Burkett, and Sergeant Duncan, in charge of the firing squad, conducted their exercises.

"Big Tom" Must Tell.

From the Pittsburgh Press. The Supreme Court has ruled that Pennsylvania shall have the "inside" in one of the most interesting stories of the State's political history. It has decided that Big Tom Cunningham of Philadelphia must tell the Senate where he got the \$50,000 he contributed to the Vore senatorial primary campaign back in 1926.

Big Tom now is sheriff of Philadelphia. At the time he made his generous donation to Vore he was clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions, a position which paid \$8,000 annually. That he had been able to accumulate \$50,000 for a political fund on that salary naturally interested the Senate. It was at least an example of canny thrift and almost superhuman investment intelligence.

But Big Tom wouldn't reveal how he got the money, and defied the Senate. Now he must tell.

Maybe there will be disclosed to an acquisitive public the magic system Tom employed in conserving his salary. Maybe there will be another story.

If it is the first it will interest and educate the small investor. If the latter it will interest everyone who wishes to learn about politics as the game is played in Pennsylvania when a United States Senatorship is at stake.

—Colonel Lindbergh's name now adorns the social register, which may interest him if he ever finds it out.

—Senator Borah has again assumed the role of "the bull in the china shop."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Clarence Stocker, who pleaded guilty to padding Reading's payroll while a highway foreman, this week obtained a second extension of the date for imposition of sentence when President Judge Paul N. Schaeffer fixed August 12 as the day for his appearance.

—Mr. and Mrs. Milton Freeman, farmers near Jonestown, Lebanon county, arrived home Friday night, after an absence during the afternoon to find that a fifteen-year-old son, Paul, had taken a tractor from the barn, and in hitching it to a harrow ran over Clayton, fifteen months-old brother, killing the child instantly.

—Michael Condo, of Luzerne county, who spent a pleasant hour stoning automobiles which passed near his place, paid \$22 before a Freeland alderman as well as costs. He proved to a crowd he was able to shoot a twister through the windshield of the car of Thomas Horn, or Jeddo.

—The United States Circuit Court of Appeals at Pittsburgh, on Tuesday, dismissed, with the consent of counsel for the appellant, the appeal of Guy W. Brown, former State Senator and Fayette county banker, convicted of embezzlement. Brown was sentenced to serve three years in Atlanta penitentiary.

—When she leaned against the door of an automobile in which she was riding and it opened, Alice Connelly, 23, of Addison, Pa., fell beneath the wheels of the car and was fatally injured. She died enroute to the McKeesport hospital. Three other persons in the car, when the accident occurred, were held for coroner's inquest.

—Michael Sabel, 65, a hero of the Johnstown flood of 1889 in which he was said to have saved 19 persons from drowning, committed suicide by hanging at Pittsburgh, on Monday. The body was found by his wife in his garage in East Pittsburgh. Sabel had been brooding over his arrest a week ago for injuring a boy with his automobile, friends said.

—John H. Kirck and wife, of West Lawn, Berks county, believed they were victims of a "spell" cast by some malicious person. They spent \$846 to have the spell removed by a band of gypsies who had been occupying a Penn street store in Reading. Now the gypsies are gone and the police are looking for them with little prospect of locating the money.

—Fern Bowly, 14-year-old daughter of H. M. Bowly, near Beachdale, Pa., is recovering slowly from shock and burns received the past week when lightning struck the house, coming down the chimney and tearing one shoe from her foot and almost removing the other shoe. A steel arch in the shoe was torn off. She was standing near a stove. The chimney was torn from the house and joints in the basement broken loose.

—An hour after he had returned from devotions in church, Michael Mishock, a Natalie miner, had bitten off the left thumb of his son-in-law, Henry Hamura, Kulpmont, in a heated battle between their wives, according to testimony in a damage suit before Judge Lloyd in the Northumberland county court at Sunbury, Monday. Hamura asks \$5000 damages for his thumb. Mishock has been convicted of assault and battery in the criminal branch of the court.

—The descendants of John Bell, who came from the north of Ireland in 1776 and settled in Millfin county, will hold their first annual reunion, June 20 and 21, at the Methodist training camp, Newton Hamilton. Some of the clan will travel there from California. J. Ellis Bell, of York; Raymond Bell, of Carlisle; D. Bates Bell, of Beaver, but at one time a resident of Bellefonte; Miss Marion E. Bell, Fearon Bell, Miss Emory Bell, John Kin-sloe, Mrs. W. R. Sloan, Robert M. Barr and Mary Bell Stannert will be in charge.

—A grave grave for his dog and nothing for his former wife were the provisions contained in the will of Ricannan P. Walker, an accountant of Philadelphia. Walker died May 28. In his will he bequeathed \$3000 to his son, Raymond P. Walker and daughter, Mabel P. Walker, with instructions to always keep the grave of his dog green. The testator called the canine a "true pal." Walker directed that his former wife, from whom he was divorced in 1905, should be given no monetary assistance from the estate.

—Peter A. Fleming, of Williamsport, driver for the Triangle Transportation company, saved a \$60,000 cargo of silk two miles east of Locust Gap, near Mount Carmel, early on Monday. In a thickly wooded section, a large car passed his truck, then turned crosswise on the highway. Three men, with drawn pistols, demanded Fleming submit to their search for "booze" on the truck, claiming they were prohibition agents. Fleming pulled his gun and opened fire and the bandits ran to their car and fled. A suspect was arrested this evening by State police.

—An attempt to destroy the home of Michael Martin, of Port Griffiths, Luzerne county, was made late Saturday night when a charge of dynamite was exploded a few feet from the home as Mrs. Martin was preparing her five small children for bed. Aside from shock, no one was injured. Martin, who is employed at the Number six colliery, of Pennsylvania Coal company, where the recent Pittston mine warfare had its inception, was working when the explosion occurred. Police learned that he took no active part in the disturbance of a year ago, and as yet have found no motive for the crime.

—Running to catch a street car at Shamokin, Wednesday evening of last week, Miss Louella Honabach, 16 years old, of Mount Carmel, dropped dead at the corner of Shamokin and Commerce streets, at Shamokin. The girl, who weighed 200 pounds, had been with a companion, Ruth Miller, to Edgewood park to spend the day. Returning to Shamokin, they left the park trolley and started out to catch the car to Mount Carmel. As the Honabach girl reached the side of the trolley and was about to board it, she collapsed and died almost instantly from over-exertion. In falling her head struck the street with rebounding force and caused an ugly gash in her forehead. When the Miller girl was apprised of the fact that her companion had been stricken and died, she collapsed also but was revived a short time later. It required several men to carry the heavy girl to a nearby store-room but she was dead when a physician arrived on the scene. The intense heat was a contributing factor in her death, together with over-exertion.