

INK SLINGS.

—Often when happiness is just around the corner the seeker after it is so stiff-necked that he crosses the street without looking for it.

—On Wednesday the two-millionth Ford, model A car, was turned out of the factory in Detroit. Since Liz has become Elizabeth she's stepping fast.

—If you have ambition to serve the public in the capacity of occupant of any of the offices to be filled at the November election remember that you must file nomination papers on or before August 5th.

—Mr. William Feather, noted publicist and philosopher, has asked us this question: "Do business problems worry you?" We answer the gentleman very truthfully when we say: Not during the fishing season.

—The State Health Department reports that snake bite casualties have been more prevalent this season than for a number of years and anti-venom serum has been in great demand. We imagine we know what "anti-venom serum" is, but they didn't call it by that name prior to 1918.

—Overseer of the poor Thomas Fleming has informed us that the report to the effect that his son-in-law is a candidate for nomination as assessor in the West ward of Bellefonte is not true. So that makes the sailing relatively easy for G. Washington Rees and the dove of peace will probably fly back to roost on Reynolds Ave. again.

—Howard Sargent is trying to get us circus minded again. His enclosure of a clipping noting the death of Charles Forepangh stirs us not a bit. Charles might have founded the Forepangh shows in 1865, as his obituary says, but it was old Adam who enthralled us. His was the "phys" hat adorned the flaming sixteen beet stands and smiled alluringly at drilled youth from the sides of the hree bill cars that the enterprise boasted.

—France has decided to pay her debt to us and now our financiers are worried for fear we will be worse off than she does. That appears to be a rather paradoxical situation but it is quite possible because France has been piling up millions upon millions of dollars in this country in anticipation of settlement day and when that is withdrawn from the banks to settle the United States Treasury settlement day is likely to be one of considerable unsettlement among the present depositories of the immense fund.

—The two-dollar bill, naturally, as the Jonah in the new currency, is the only inaccuracy of design as thus far been discovered. On its back is an engraving of "Monticello," the home of Thomas Jefferson and on each side of the veranda a lion is seated. As a matter of fact there never were any lions on the Jefferson estate and we can't understand why the designer of the bill got a lion into his head, anyway. If he had bunted donkeys on the stoop of the home of the father of Democracy it wouldn't have mattered so much whether they actually were there or not. Everybody would have caught their significance.

—A little girl clad in a bathing suit was playing on the lawn of her home, in Chicago, last week. When a policeman came that it was a violation of ordinance umpteen hundred and umpteen to be in such attire anywhere than on a bathing beach, the little lady promptly took it off. She didn't know what ordinance she violated then, but the incident leads to inquire why many of her older sisters don't do the same thing. We think bathing in suits that wouldn't make a necktie for a hummingbird, then they roll on the sand in the straps pulled down off their shoulders so that their backs get the raviolet ray, we suppose, and in front gets the evil eye; we wonder. It seems so silly to bother with them at all and we wonder why they don't follow the example of the Chicago girl and take them off entirely.

—The suggestion to annex portions of Spring township surrounding Bellefonte is not a new proposal. It is something that has been talked of years, though it has never taken definite shape. If it should be carried out in consequence of the present agitation Bellefonte would gain considerably in population but not individual in buying power. She says the daily trade of those living in the suburbs just as fully as she would if the borough limits were extended far enough to include all the homes. It is a matter worthy of serious thought as to whether the limits would be better off if the corporate limits were extended. Certainly would have to provide more schools, go into costly extensions of water service and build and maintain streets in sections where there would be an herculean task. As whether the acquisition to our assessed valuation would be sufficient to carry such additional costs is a matter that should be gone into thoroughly before any one gets "het up" at a "Greater Bellefonte." Especially when a "Greater Bellefonte," in this way, would mean absolutely nothing more than a more imposing array of figures in the report.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 74.

BELLEFONTE, PA., JULY 26, 1929.

NO. 29.

Intolerance in the South.

Governor Richards, of South Carolina, has joined Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, and others in the South in feeding the flames of discord in the ranks of the Democratic party. At the convention of Governors, held in Connecticut last week, Governor Richards is quoted by an Associated Press correspondent as saying "that if the Democratic party ever again nominates a man who is against prohibition it will meet its doom." The correspondent adds, "he did not mention former Governor Smith by name but no one mistook the reference to be other than to the leader of the party in the last Presidential campaign." Governor Smith has already practically taken himself out of the list of candidates.

The prohibition question was brought into the conference by a letter written by Mr. Wickersham, chairman of the recently created commission on law enforcement, addressed to Governor Roosevelt, of New York. It suggested the expediency of a division of the enforcement machinery between the Federal and State authorities, and has been variously interpreted as favoring each side of the controversy. That is to say, the wets construe it as a recommendation for the modification of the Volstead law and the dries interpret it as a censure of the authorities in some of the States for failure of full co-operation in the effort to enforce the law. The Governors talked freely on the subject but refused to take any action.

The only significance of the incident, therefore, was that it gave some of the southern Governors a coveted opportunity to express their religious intolerance on the first pages of a few equally bigoted newspapers throughout the country. A few days ago the Democratic National committee bestowed a courtesy upon Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, by broadcasting his very able speech upon the tariff question. Instead of manifesting appreciation of a compliment he responded with a bitter attack upon the chairman of the committee. Such actions create bad feelings and trouble. If the southern Democrats continue in that frame of mind we will feel, as Greeley said, "let our erring sisters go in peace."

—Fourteen murders in four years is the record of a town of fifty families in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania. That is going some in the wrong direction.

Can Pinchot Come Back?

Gossip in political circles turns toward Gifford Pinchot. The ex-Governor is somewhere in the mysterious South seas looking for bats or bugs or some other curiosities of nature, but his friends in Pennsylvania, according to current rumor, are scrutinizing the political map in search of an opening through which he may get back into the political life of the State. "His field agents are becoming suspiciously active," writes a correspondent of the Philadelphia Record, and "led by that affable foman, P. Stephen Stahlnecker, the laborers in the Pinchot non-alcoholic grape juice vineyard are diligently collecting much valuable information for use in political warfare."

That a great many among the better element of Republican men and women throughout the State are discussing the question of entering Mr. Pinchot in the race for Governor next year is an undisputed fact. But the means of accomplishing that result are not in view. He has the inclination and his antipathy to the Mellon machine and its active agent, Governor Fisher, is a strong incentive. He has plenty of money and the record shows that he is not niggardly in dispensing it in furthering his ambitions. But discretion is a stronger force in his mind than courage, and he hesitates to venture in the absence of substantial assurance of success. Recent reverses have made him cautious.

Gifford Pinchot was a good Governor and achieved much for the people of Pennsylvania during his term in office. But he might have accomplished vastly more if his courage had been equal to his information. In the beginning of his service he invested more energy to promoting personal ambition than to conserving the interests of the public. Instead of setting himself to "cleaning up the mess" he undertook to enlist the allegiance of the corrupt political bosses. Later he discovered his mistake and tried to correct the faults. But it was too late. The bosses had taken his measure and his efforts for clean politics and to defeat electric monopoly failed. He might do better if he had another chance.

Corporate and Other Tax Payers.

The New York Times attempts to prove by an analysis of the income tax returns for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1929, that big business is a positive beneficence to the people of the United States. In what it calls "the Rooseveltian era" the federal income was composed mainly of custom duties and internal taxes. Now two-thirds of all the federal taxes are derived from levies upon incomes and are paid by the rich men and women, and three-fifths of it from corporations. The total income tax collection for the period mentioned was \$2,331,000,000, and the appropriations amounted to \$3,675,000,000, so that only thirty-five per cent of the revenues were obtained from other sources.

Assuming that three-fifths of the income tax was paid by corporations, the Times' estimate, and a considerable part of the other two-fifths is paid by men of six and seven figured incomes, it can hardly be claimed that the medium and small income wage earners escape payment. The corporations and big business operators levy upon the users and consumers, in the form of rates and rents and other expedients, nearly enough to reimburse them. Of course they pay, and possibly their share, but they get from the government service and protection in full ratio to what they pay in taxes. The small income wage earner doesn't need much service from the government and gets comparatively little.

We are not corporation haters nor opposers of wealth legitimately acquired and properly employed. Corporations have contributed vastly to the development and prosperity of the country and in recent years have conducted their operations in a greatly improved manner. Neither do we object to big business so long as it treats its smaller competitors fairly and justly. But we are not able to even imagine that they are philanthropists giving their time and energies to the service of the people or paying the expenses of the government in order to make life easy for the less fortunate. Let it be assumed that they do their part more or less cheerfully and let it go at that.

—Those who saw Spring creek on Monday when all the water possible was being diverted through the race to the Gamble mill property got a very fair idea of what would have been an everyday eyesore had the borough not bought the mill property and thus come into control of all the waterways through the town.

Gas Tax Troubles in Sight.

The troubles of the Mellon management over the four cent gas tax is about to begin. The independent gasoline dealers from various sections of the State held a meeting in Harrisburg, on Monday, and decided to bring equity proceedings in the Dauphin county court to test the validity of the bonding feature of the law. As interpreted by the Department of Revenue this provision of the law practically puts all the small dealers out of business. It is impossible for them to qualify under the conditions laid down by the department and their carefully nursed enterprises are destroyed.

The law provides that each dealer must file a bond measured by the volume of business transacted last year. The Department of Revenue has issued a ruling that only bonds of incorporated bonding companies will be accepted, and the bonding corporations require an indemnifying bond of two or three times the value of the corporate bond. The result is that small retail dealers in gas are unable to procure the necessary bonds. A survey made by an official of the Pennsylvania Gasoline Venders' Association shows that only one out of twenty-eight dealers that he interviewed was able to meet the conditions laid down by the corporate bonding companies.

The same survey revealed the fact that gasoline sales have materially decreased since the increased tax has been in operation, and along the border lines of the State gas stations have been moved across the line, thus in a measure defeating the revenue expectations of the law. But the principal cause of complaint is in the fact that the law gives a substantial monopoly of the business to the big dealers, such as the Gulf corporation, owned by the Mellon family, the Standard Oil company and the Sinclair concerns. The Mellon management is a hard master and makes Governor Fisher take orders that a hungry hobo would refuse to obey.

—Now that France has agreed to settlement of war debts she can continue to eat frogs instead of crow.

Wise Suggestion to Motorists.

The Harrisburg motor club has adopted a plan which ought to contribute materially to the solution of the problem of safety on the public highways of Pennsylvania. It urges all members to report to the club all violations of the motor code which come under their observation on the highways. Upon the receipt of these reports the club, in kindly terms, warns the offender of his fault. If the admonition fails of its purpose a second letter is sent. If a third offense is committed complaint and proofs are forwarded to the Department of Highways in order that suitable action may be taken and just penalties imposed.

The fact of espionage involved in this plan is repugnant to the average American man and woman, but the importance of the service should overcome the distaste of the process. As an esteemed contemporary has stated, "the motor laws are designed, not to produce revenue, not to harass the motorist, but to safeguard him." Most of the accidents are caused by recklessness, and if the drivers inclined to bad habits on the road are brought to understand that there is always a critical eye focused on their movements, and severe punishment "just around the corner," he will soon mend his manners and change his methods of operating a machine capable of inflicting much harm.

The rapid increase in the number of motor vehicles and the ever present urge to greater speed add to the hazards of motoring on the highways, even if infinite care is exercised in operation. For that reason every automobile operator ought to be held to strict accountability while at the wheel, and we have heard of no more promising method of securing safety than that devised by the Harrisburg organization. If every motor club in the State, and every motorist, whether affiliated with a club or not, were to adopt it and faithfully adhere to it the number of motor accidents would soon decrease.

Hon. J. Laird Holmes, of State College, has a comfortable club house in the Barrens near Hostler, between Marengo and Pennsylvania Furnace. At one time there was a large dam there, used to store water for washing ore when the Hostler ore mines were in operation. But a charge of dynamite put off in the breast of the dam several years ago ruined it as a water basin. Last summer Mr. Holmes had the dam repaired and through the generosity of fish commissioner N. R. Buller liberally stocked it with waters with good sized trout, having visions of the trout suppers that were to come. But along came a cloud-burst, which also caused a dam-burst, and the trout were swept down the stream and were gobbled up by the natives living in that section. Just what to do with the dam now is rather perplexing to his Honor.

—Dwight Morrow will probably make a first rate Senator in Congress, but the President is taking a long chance when he undertakes to select Senators for States other than the one he lives in.

—Vice chairman Besse A. Miles, of the Republican county committee, entertained her district committee women at a picnic supper, at the Snow Shoe park, yesterday afternoon and evening.

—Mr. Vare must be entirely restored to health and nerve. He has notified his party leaders that he intends to name the candidates for office in Philadelphia himself.

—It has been discovered that President Hoover comes from Swiss ancestry. Well there's nothing the matter with Switzerland except the holes in the cheese.

—Harry Sinclair has ended the first three months of his prison sentence and the tradition is that "the first three months are the hardest."

—If the ocean steamers continue to increase their speed there will soon be no practical reason for crossing the ocean by airships.

—Still a war with a foreign enemy might unite the factions in China and make a strong nation capable of much good.

—The Fogerty family seems determined to get money out of ex-champion Tunney, "coming and going."

—Mr. Wickersham seems to have opened his type writer and "put his foot in it."

War in the East.

From the Harrisburg Telegraph.

The grim shadow of war hangs over the Far East. Russia has proceeded to the breaking of diplomatic relations with China. Its representatives in that country have been summoned home. Soviet troops are being massed along the border. The Red horde that has been under training of the most practical kind for years is prepared to move at the word of command—a force that threatens to be most effective against the army of China, which never has made a very good showing in conflict with foreign forces.

The trouble grows out of the seizure of the Eastern Chinese railway by Manchurian troops. Russia holds its treaty rights have been violated. China has decided to change its attitude.

Harbin is so far away that the incident may seem to some as of small interest to the United States, which has no property, no treaty obligations nor anything else to gain or lose directly. But England has large interests in China. So has Germany. Japan has most of all. For years the Japanese have been extending their sphere of influence in Manchuria.

War between Russia and China, therefore, might have far-reaching consequences. The spark that set off the World War was of far less importance than this railroad dispute. In addition, there are those who have suspected for a long time that the Red army was being maintained and drilled not only to keep order at home, but to extend Soviet influence and enlarge its prestige abroad. To win a war over China would be to strengthen the Bolshevistic government at home, inspire respect for its strength abroad and offer opportunities for the spread of Red doctrines in the conquered territory.

On the other hand, it is apparent that Manchurian officials have the backing of the nationalist government in China, and the Chinese in turn seem to be acting in accordance with a preconceived plan.

This state of affairs in the Far East is as puzzling as it is dangerous. Perhaps the war clouds will blow over. But one must be prepared for dire consequences if they do not. A war between Russia and China might easily become another world conflict. Modern transportation, increased international interest and responsibilities and a new consciousness of the interdependence of the nations of the world make any serious disagreements between any two countries likely to involve the rest.

Farm Board Workings.

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

Because of widespread misapprehensions regarding the functions and limitations of the Federal Farm Board, Chairman Legge has had to issue some explanations. Private business enterprises, small unorganized groups or farmers and even individuals have applied to the board for loans from the \$150,000,000 fund it has in hand. Loans can be made only to co-operative associations, which must be organized under State laws. There is no rule as to the size of these associations. The board is not obliged to grant all applications for loans made in due form. It will use its discretion. Each case will be judged on its merits.

A usually well-informed Washington correspondent recently stated that the Farm Board would actively promote the forming of co-operative associations. Chairman Legge says this will not be its policy. The farmers themselves must take the initiative. It is a good thing to have these points made clear as the Farm Board buckles down to business. It is estimated that about 2,000,000 farmers are now members of co-operative associations. Evidently millions more will have to join this progressive movement if agriculture is to receive full benefit from the Government's plan for farm relief.

Potatoes in Peck Sacks.

From the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

Potato growers of Pennsylvania, now established among the national leaders, might lend a willing ear to a marketing plan evolved by a co-operative exchange of Michigan. One peck sacks are packed and shipped to distant markets. They are plainly marked with the name of the exchange and its address. Repeat orders are said to come frequently. Formerly the smallest sack weighed 100 pounds and frequently remained at the dealers. Now the conveniently-sized package is carried direct to the home of the purchaser and the marking sends pleased customers back for more.

Preparation of goods for the market is as much a part of modern agriculture as plowing, harrowing and harvesting. It has long been a subject of comment that Pennsylvania farmers, as a whole, were lax in this regard. Too little attention has been paid to packing, sorting and, in general, to making the package attractive to a purchaser. With the State advancing rapidly in production—the rating of Pennsylvania in potatoes is now fifth in yield and second in total value of the crop—these matters of detail are of increasing importance.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Mrs. Elsie T. Diltz, 45, wife of Dr. H. C. Diltz, was drowned, on Monday, in a bath-tub at the Wilkins hospital, Pittsburgh, a private institution. She had been ill several months and was in the hospital for psychiatric treatment.

—David Hall, 65, was crushed to death at Bloomsburg, last Wednesday afternoon, at the plant of the American Car and Foundry company, when a chain slipped permitting a mine car to fall on him. A crane had raised the car so that Hall could replace a bolt.

—Two men walked into the office of the fashionable Pittsburgh Athletic Association, at Pittsburgh, early on Monday, held up the night clerk, A. L. Cooper, and fled with \$548 and checks amounting to \$379. Two blocks away they were captured by a policeman.

—The Mexican bean beetle, an insect that attacks all kinds of field and garden beans, has attacked crops in and around Jersey Shore in such numbers that a representative of State College will visit that section this week to make an investigation and try to prevent the spread of the insect.

—The Richfield Oil company, of New York and California, has obtained control of the Peerless Gasoline company, of Scranton. More than \$350,000 figured in the transaction, it is said. The Peerless company controls twenty fuel stations in Lackawanna county and supplies many independent stations.

—Harry O. Eider, 11, of Gelesonton, died in the Williamsport hospital, Wednesday night, from tetanus which developed from burns sustained in setting off Fourth of July crackers. The tetanus set in from lacerations of the palm of the left hand, and the boy's condition became serious two hours before he died.

—The State industrial board of the Department of Labor and Industry has adopted a regulation requiring all motion picture theatres, exclusive of those in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Scranton, to use an approved fire-prevention device on projectors. Pennsylvania is the first State to promulgate such a regulation.

—Claire Barber, 18, captain-elect of the Bradford High School football team, rescued a small boy from being captive in a burning barrel. The lad was placed in the barrel by playmates, police were told. The barrel was covered with burlap and set afire. Barber heard the boy's screams, pulled him from the barrel and extinguished flames which were consuming his clothing.

—Appearing in Lackawanna county court in behalf of his request that the city close down the Filmore avenue playground, in Scranton, George Francis, railroad man, complained that the scanty attire of young women and girls at the resort is one of the causes of his action. Another witness told the Court that "the girls go about with hardly nothing on them." Court reserved action on the plea for an injunction.

—Ben Hur without a chariot could have felt no more lonesome than did John Snyder, 38, stranded in a Pittsburgh suburb in the wee small hours of Tuesday morning. John opened a police box and told the sergeant about his predicament and the obliging policeman sent the black maria. Later, John tried to explain before a magistrate that all he wanted was a cab. "The wagon never makes a trip for less than \$10," replied the magistrate.

—Private Harry G. Wagner of Troop A, State police, on Tuesday, rescued Jane Burns, 16, of Clayville, Washington county, from drowning. Miss Burns and a party of friends were swimming at Sunset beach near Washington, Pa., when the girl, apparently seized with cramps, disappeared under the water. Private Wagner reached her after she had gone down a second time. Reaching shore, the policeman applied first aid and the girl was revived.

—The Rev. A. J. Bachman, of Schaeffers-town, who has been in the ministry for more than half a century, finds in summing up his work that he has married 1323 couples. Last year he married 37. Other statistics of the Rev. Bachman's lengthy pastorate follow: Infants baptized, 3488; last year, 45; adults baptized, 506; last year, 15; privately communed, 9484; last year, 60; dismissed, 408; last year, 4; received from other churches, 841; last year, 48; funerals attended, 2298; last year, 37.

—Independent gasoline retailers at a meeting in Harrisburg, on Monday, decided to file equity proceedings in the Dauphin county court against the State Department of Revenue to test the bonding requirement of the four-cent gasoline tax imposed by the Fisher administration. Thousands of small gasoline dealers are reported to be facing extinction as a result of the act which requires all retailers to be bonded, because bonding companies are refusing to bond the smaller dealers unless they post collateral.

—Two bandits held up and robbed an Atlantic Refining company gasoline service station in the business section of Altoona early on Monday and escaped with \$400. The two robbers entered the service station as S. S. Werkins, night attendant, was placing the day's receipts in the safe and preparing to lock the station for the night. Werkins was tied and gagged by the bandits, who left him lying face downward on the floor. The two men escaped in an automobile which they had left standing near the station.

—A proposal to substitute motor busses for Pennsylvania railroad trains between Tyrone and Gramplan, has been submitted to the Public Service Commission by the Pennsylvania General Transit company, subsidiary of the railroad. The bus company asked permission to begin bus service between the two points by way of Osceola, Phillipsburg and Clearfield. Such service, said the application, could be "co-ordinated" with existing train service along the route and if found feasible, would replace trains entirely.

—Given up for dead when she was taken unconscious from the water of Fishing Creek, near Bloomsburg, on Friday, Margaret Milroy, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Milroy, of Berwick, owes her life to the persistence of John Albertson, a 15-year-old Boy Scout. The girl was swimming at Forks when she went under. Other swimmers thought she was pretending and by the time Donald Shingler got to her she was unconscious. He dragged her to the shore. Several women asserted their belief she was dead. Albertson said he would try to restore her to life, and, after working for 15 minutes, his efforts were rewarded.