

INK SLINGS.

The oyster season is on but wise guys will take the early offerings with a grain of salt.

The airmen have everybody and everything else crowded off the first pages. Even hijacking operations get scant attention.

World-wide sympathy will centre at the bedside of former Premier Poincare, of France, who is critically ill at his home.

Three hundred and sixty miles an hour is the new speed record for air travel, and we'll say the driver must have been in a hurry.

Another expedition is about to set off for Africa to study the sun's heat. Why peddle away off there to find out how hot old Sol can really get? After the experience around here for the last week we think that nobody cares a darn about knowing whether the sun can do better.

Now that it has become a reasonable certainty that Mr. Cornelius McGillicuddy and his hirelings will be rallying around the flag in Shibe park in October, we're off the "Afaletics" for the time being and we think Philadelphia sports writers would be doing the team a good turn by wrecking their spreaders for the rest of the season.

Either the youth of the land is changing or the schools are taking on a lure that they were never supposed to have. Most of the boys and girls we know are actually beaming with happiness because the schools have reopened and they have gotten back to their—what? Shall we say studies or would it be nearer the truth to say the thrill of activities of massed children of their own age?

We are told that our local bankers don't like the new paper money. However that may be it takes a pretty gilt-edged note to get any of it away from them. And, talking about money, do you know that the new ten thousand dollar note bears a likeness of Salmon P. Chase? Better get acquainted with Salmon's "phys" so if anybody hands you one you will know whether it's real or just stage money.

Whoever can find out just what is back of Gifford Pinchot's opposition to the confirmation of Albert L. Watson, of Scranton, as a Federal judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, will dig up something that the regular Republican organization would like very much to know. Gifford is after something and he digs in such devious ways that he has the political manipulators guessing most of the time.

Some will think William F. Kenny is a fool for having telephoned from Paris to New York for his barber to go over and cut his hair. Maybe he is and maybe he isn't. William has so much money that he can't spend it, even if he were to do fooler things than that. Besides, it's his money and he has hair to cut. If we should waken up tomorrow morning and find we had suddenly become the proprietor of a crop of hair worthy of harvesting we think we would be just as foolish about it as Mr. Kenny. Of course, it goes without saying that we wouldn't be telephoning to Paris for a barber.

As years roll on and the present becomes history as ancient as is the Paleozoic period when coral reefs were in the building Bellefonte, even though the town might dry up and blow away, will be on the tongues of men. Noah's little trip in the Ark, Columbus' heading westward over uncharted seas and Lindbergh's daring flight across the Atlantic are no more indelibly impressed as epochs of civilization than will be the flight of the Graf Zeppelin around the world. And no matter when the student of the future turns to his reference book for some details of the first globe encircling by craft lighter than air he will see "Bellefonte" staring him in the face. Bellefonte is on the official log of the Graf, because she passed over our airport, and that log is history that will be referred to through all time to come.

Not being able to understand why people can't live in peace with one another Nathan Kofman wants us to write an article that will make them A-rabs lay off the Jews over in Palestine. We strive ever to be obliging, but we've lost faith in our ability to make people see straight. Seven years ago we blazed the only trail that might have led the creditors of the Centre County bank out of the wilderness in which they have wandered ever since. They are a normal group of humans, yet they wouldn't concentrate long enough to realize that a mob never gets anything, except for the few leaders who incite it. They understood, perfectly, the language we talked and all our suggestions got was immolation on the cross of ridicule. After such an experience how could we hope to influence an A-rab? The commission is too much for us. We're sorry to disappoint Nathan because we know him to be a peace loving soul. We also know if Palestine were filled with Jews as amiable and fair as he is the A-rabs would be so busy gathering junk for them that they couldn't afford to take time off for fighting as they are doing now.

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Vare Threatens to Run Again.

It has been semi-officially announced that in the event William S. Vare is denied a seat in the Senate, now practically certain, he will be a candidate for the office at the Spring primary next year. Whether this is a boast or a threat is left to conjecture but in either event it will indicate that his restoration to mental health has not been as complete as his physical recovery. In the contest in 1926 he carried only four counties for the nomination and at the November election though his colleague on the ticket had nearly a million plurality, he was defeated by more than 100,000 outside of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, where the vote was so corrupt that a Senate committee denounced it as invalid.

In the primary campaign that year Mr. Vare and his supporters spent considerably more than a million dollars, a large part of which was believed to have come from the criminal element of the two big cities under promise of protection in the future. At the general election he had the active and earnest support of his party organization, yet he ran nearly 300,000 behind his ticket and only obtained an apparent majority by the fraudulent votes cast in the big cities and Lackawanna and Schuylkill counties. He has done nothing since to change public sentiment in his favor. In fact every development in relation to the matter since has not only confirmed but increased the opposition to him.

But the Democrats of the State will raise no objections to his aspirations for another nomination. He will be an easy mark for defeat, and a Pennsylvania Democrat in the Senate will have a wholesome influence on legislation. It is true that the candidacy of such a type implies an impairment of the dignity and importance of the office. A Senator in Congress represents the sovereignty of the State and should exercise the mental and moral standard of its citizenry. Mr. Vare does not measure up to the Pennsylvania level. Public interest has no appeal to his mind and public service is to him only a means to promote selfish interests and ambitions. As a Senator in Congress he would be a misfit.

What's in a name. Rutherford Hayes was shot for rum-running at Buffalo, the other day, and Daniel Hastings addressed a Hebrew convention at Wilmington on Sunday.

MacDonald Has Changed His Mind.

If the latest information on the subject is accurate Premier MacDonald will not come to this country to arrange with President Hoover for either a decrease in naval equipment of both countries or a parity of naval strength between his country and ours. He has had frequent, long and satisfactory conversations on the subject with Ambassador Dawes. But "on sober second thought" the level-headed Scotchman has arrived at the opinion that the right place to consider such questions is the council table of the League of Nations and he has politely asked Mr. Hoover's consent to present it to that body, now in session.

Premier MacDonald wants universal peace, and so do all men and women of the United States, with the exception of the warship builders and the manufacturers of war materials and munitions. But an agreement between only two of the many nations of the world, even though of such power and importance as the United States and Great Britain, would be of doubtful expediency at best. It might do much good and it would be capable of considerable harm. Jealousies are easily aroused among small nations, and two great powers arrogating to themselves the right to regulate the world would not be polite and might make trouble.

Half the anxiety among certain politicians in this country to settle world affairs by agreements between two or among three or four powers is based on a desire to discredit the League of Nations. Premier Ramsey MacDonald is apparently not in sympathy with this purpose. He understands that the safest and sanest means of promoting peace, reducing armaments and cultivating amity among nations is the League of Nations. It was created for that purpose by the greatest minds of the world and is provided with facilities for achievement which will never be assembled by another agency, and in that he is absolutely right.

Suggestion to some esteemed contemporaries: Why not write it Senator-reject instead of Senator-elect. It would be more accurate.

The World War Ended Finally.

The World war is ended at last. On Saturday, at the Hague, representatives of the several nations immediately concerned, signed the reparations pact known as the Young plan. It not only fixes the definite sum which Germany must pay but apportions the amount to be paid to each of the creditor nations. In this lies the principal difference between the Young and the Dawes plans. The Dawes plan, which was really devised by Mr. Young, provided for annual payments of fixed sums but set no time for final adjustment or definite total. The plan agreed upon now does both. Germany knows now exactly how much she must pay and in the absence of unforeseen contingencies, when and how it must be paid.

This important result has not been achieved without labor and difficulties. The Young conference held in Paris covered a long and sometimes acrid period of controversy. The differences between the contending forces were wide and confusing. But the masterful mind of Owen D. Young, one of the representatives of the people but not the government of the United States, reconciled these differences and led to a conclusion that seemed to satisfy all. Then followed the conference at the Hague in which this country was not represented. It assembled on August 8th under most favorable auspices. But at the very beginning the British delegates "threw a monkey wrench into the machinery" and almost wrecked the works.

But after long and patient effort the trouble has been adjusted. The justice of the British claim for a larger share of the German payments has been recognized, and though not allowed in full were made acceptable to Mr. Snowden, the British Chancellor. That settled the disagreement so far as reparations are concerned. The graver question of the alien occupation of the Rhine was settled with less difficulty. It is agreed that the removal of foreign troops from German territory shall begin at once and continue in full vigor until completed probably within six months. America had nothing to do with this great achievement because of the partisan malice which has kept us out of the League of Nations.

The Graf Zeppelin is a daring adventurer but it hadn't the nerve to carry a quantity of Jersey applejack on its home voyage.

Advice to Philadelphia Reformers.

If the reform party in Philadelphia is wise it will dump Mayor Mackey. He is too heavy a load to carry. "Every eye he opens his mouth he puts his foot in it." In a recent speech over the radio he set himself down as a political hijacker. He admitted a part in the fraudulent vote for Vare in 1926 and acknowledged that during the two years he occupied the office of city treasurer he drew from the people of Philadelphia the substantial sum of \$31,112.20 in fees, in excess of the regular salary. A man with such a record can contribute no strength as a leader in the movement for "cleaner politics and better municipal government." His identity with the movement casts a doubt upon its sincerity.

Before the Slush Fund committee of the Senate investigating the expenditures of the Senatorial election of 1926 he boastfully revealed the iniquities of machine politics. He was proud of the achievements of the organization under his management in "the neck." He drew much enjoyment from his description of the morons and criminals who thought they were voting for the ward leader for every office on the ballot. In his radio speech, the other night, he manifested equal indifference to moral obligations. He offered no apology for his effort to mulct the city in the underlier conspiracy and makes no promise of restoring to the city the considerable fees he abstracted over and above his salary.

It would be all right for Mayor Mackey to join a force of reformers as a penitent "private in the ranks," anxious to make amends for faults of the past. No party organization can "pick and choose" its supporters. Even undesirables may serve a good purpose by promoting a just cause. But they should be modest in their activities and not presumptuous. The reformers of Philadelphia are engaged in a great enterprise for public service. Their purposes should not be defeated, their labors nullified by the "butting-in" of selfish pretenders. The loss to the cause of Happy Moore may not be important in the contest. But it is a symptom and should receive attention. Put a muzzle on Mackey.

Governor Reed of Kansas Alarmed.

Governor Clyde M. Reed, of Kansas, a straight-laced Republican, has sounded a surprising note of alarm. Addressing the national convention of Railroad and Utilities Commissioners in session at Glazier Park, Montana, the other day, he said, "interference by the federal judiciary in the regulation of public utilities by the States, represents a grave threat to our form of government in which the States have a vital part." He places responsibility for this fault in administration on the Supreme court of the United States, and ascribes to it any and all delinquencies "in the regulation of public utilities and common carriers in the last twenty years."

Coming from such a source this is an astonishing statement of fact or fancy. Centralization of power in the federal government is, and always has been, a basic feature of the philosophy of the Republican party, and in late years the tendency in that direction has been rapidly increasing. It was one of the main points of difference between Jefferson and Hamilton in the beginning, and the late President Roosevelt almost demanded the right to regulate family affairs from the executive office in Washington. Coolidge seemed willing to relinquish the prerogative to Wall street and Hoover is creating commissions every few days to gather information that will enable him to regulate everything.

Governor Reed, of Kansas, is a faithful, it might be said even a servile follower of President Hoover. For that reason his statement is surprising. But he may not mean exactly what he says. Language is not always used to express thoughts. Sometimes it is employed to conceal purposes and possibly that is what the Governor of Kansas had in mind. The utility corporations are unanimously against federal control. They are spending millions of dollars annually to mislead the public mind into opposition to it, and Governor Reed may be speaking for them. The confusion that might grow out of conflicting State laws would make admirable smoke screens for various kinds of corporate iniquity.

Lindbergh may have been a trifle indiscreet in operating his plane at Cleveland, the other day, but it's his first offense and he meant well.

Hard Bunch for Monopoly.

The Power trust got a well deserved bump at the hands of the Federal Power Commission, the other day. The several subsidiaries composing that menacing monopoly were warned against padding their capital accounts with fictitious items and it is estimated that it will result in the draining out of the aggregate capital of those already under license of a billion dollars worth of "water." Under the law these corporations are allowed to exact from consumers a rate which will yield a fair profit on their invested capital. By the watering process their capital is inflated so that they are able to secure profits on a vastly greater amount than is invested in the enterprises.

For example, take a local utility company, the organization and equipment of which cost the owners say \$100,000. It is rendering fairly good service at moderate rates and earning satisfactory dividends. Along comes a promoter who organizes a "holding company" with little capital and no conscience. He induces the shareholders of the local concern to come into his corporation with a lot of others by offering \$500,000, not in cash but in shares of the new concern and guarantees a much larger return. He promises better service as a result of greater efficiency in operation and lower rates because of decreased overhead expense. In a few months, without improvement in service, the rates to consumers are increased 25, 50 or 100 per cent., and there is no redress.

The suffering consumers kick, of course, and if they have grit and the price they appeal to the State Public Service Commission. But that gets them nowhere. In deference to appearances the Commission holds a hearing and the holding company certifies its stock at the cost price of \$500,000, plus \$50,000, for the promoter, \$100,000 for the organizer, a large sum for the engineering, management, supervision, financing, development and various other imaginary expenses, and the Commission hands down an opinion that the increase in rates is necessary to earn fair profits on the product. The ruling of the Federal Power Commission, if sustained, will put an end to this form of legalized banditry.

The disturbed political conditions in Virginia seem to have developed a man-hunting snake.

Spite Screen Reveals Bad Blood at Mountain Top Resort.

The quiet stillness of the Sabbath morning, on the top of Nittany mountain, was broken by the active hammering of nails and handling of lumber and by noontime there had been put up a board screen in front of the observatory erected by James Nixon which afforded tourists an unobstructed view of the long and broad expanse of the beautiful farms and fertile acres of Pennsylvania. But the view is now obstructed and probably will be until the first heavy storm when the flimsy spite screen will probably fall before the wind.

Ever since the top of Nittany mountain has been made a playground a spirit of contention has prevailed between the proprietors of the two refreshment stands. Just who was the first man to divine the money making possibilities of the top of the mountain is not definitely known, but John H. Detweiler, of Centre Hall, purchased a tract of land there which includes all the flat top of the mountain. Later Musser E. Coldren bought a strip on the south of the Detweiler tract, the line running right along the edge of the crest of the mountain.

Detweiler then gave James Nixon a refreshment stand privilege on his land, and also built a bungalow for himself. Nixon, an old Phillipsburg, purchased two abandoned cars of the Phillipsburg street railway, had them moved to the top of the mountain and set up as refreshment stands. He also built a twenty foot high observatory to afford tourists a good view of Pennsylvania. On his land Coldren erected a nice frame building as an eating place, with an observatory in front and a second story as living quarters for himself and family. He also moved a smaller frame building from Grange park and set it down a little northwest of his other building. Detweiler claimed this was partly on his land and promptly brought ejectment proceedings to compel its removal. The matter is still in the courts of Centre county and is scheduled for trial at this month's term of court.

In the meantime the two promoters are not living in peace and contentment, and according to all reports Mr. Coldren is the most aggressive because Nixon's stands are better located to catch the bulk of the trade. The Nixon observatory is also the highest and affords the best view of Pennsylvania, or at least did so until Coldren erected the spite screen on Sunday morning. The screen was probably built that day to avoid any possibility of injunction proceedings. It is thirty feet in height, twelve feet wide, and while an apparently flimsy affair it proves a good obstruction to the view. It is built on Coldren's land and therefore cannot be touched by Nixon without laying him open to the charge of trespassing.

On the screen Coldren has attached a sign which reads: "You only heard one side of the story. Come over and hear the other side." A large sign on his own stand reads "Best view from our observatory. Come and try it."

The fence was removed, on Tuesday, and serenity again prevails.

Summer Ends.

From the Williamsport Sun. Regardless of what the calendar may have to say on the subject, summer is at an end when Labor Day comes around. This holiday, once devoted to a celebration in honor of labor, in most communities retains only its name to indicate its origin. It serves as a culmination of the summer vacation season, a final day of freedom before returning to the routine schedule of existence.

It marks the departure of guests from summer resorts; the exodus of campers from the cottages and tents they have occupied for weeks; the return of thousands of motorists to their homes from tours which have taken them to distant places, with new scenes and new friendships; the return of workers to their labors, and the exchange of carefree, outdoor life for the more serious routine of the school room by millions of children. According to the calculations by which such things are determined, summer, as one of the seasons of the year, still has some days to run. But year, still has some days to run. But year, still has some days to run. But year, still has some days to run.

Chancellor Snowden is the most popular man in London at present. His achievements at the Hague conference will put a vast amount of money in the British treasury, and an Englishman likes money.

Being assured of his own election Controller Hadley, of Philadelphia, doesn't seem to care which of the factions win.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Police are seeking two men for questioning in connection with slaying of Joseph Paladino, 35, crippled World War veteran found murdered in a field near Farrell.

A force of twenty-five men and women began work this week at Shamokin Dam, when the Greene Silk company, Inc., began its operations. The force is expected to be gradually increased.

Dr. F. W. Black announced that he has signed a contract for the construction of a thirty-six-bed hospital near Lewistown. The hospital, to cost \$125,000, will care for Dr. Black's private patients.

Edward Newcomer and Harry Kilpatrick have received \$50 each from the Pennsylvania Motor Federation for their aid in the arrest and conviction of Elmer Martin, of Williamsport, held to be a hit-and-run driver.

The American Car and Foundry company, of Berwick, will fill two large orders. An \$8,000,000 order for subway cars for New York has been received and the plant also will fill an order of 1000 all-steel freight cars.

While the town policeman, Robert Simons, was standing near the front entrance, a burglar broke into the back of the Headings Drug Store, in Lewisburg. The policeman heard the cash register gong sound when the drawer was opened, but the burglar dashed out before the officer could reach him.

State Police and county officers are investigating the reported disappearance of Mrs. Walter Sharkey, 34, of Tarentum, and her two daughters, said to have dropped out of sight while delivering \$1500 which Mrs. Sharkey and her husband had saved to pay on a home. The daughters are Alair, 10, and Marie, aged 16.

Playing "mumbletypeg" four weeks ago, Elvin T. Aument, 14, son of Charles F. Aument, of Lancaster, clerk in the register of wills office, suffered a slight laceration when the blade of his penknife lodged in his left knee. Septic poisoning developed and Thursday afternoon the boy died in St. Joseph's hospital.

Prolonged drought has created a serious condition among many communities in Huntington county. Parts of the manufacturing town of Mt. Union are without a water supply. The 1,000 men at a brick plant there are being supplied with transported water from springs, and the State health department has recommended that all the water be boiled.

Members of the Freeland Rod and Gun Club feel that some form of testimonial should be given to beavers in Ley Valley, Luzerne county. The club members worked for a long time to dam Oley creek so fish would not be washed into the Lehigh river. A family of beavers established itself on the location of the fishing grounds and built the dam the club was trying to finance.

As S. G. Roush, of York, was driving over the Trevorton-Dornale road, he saw a large blacksnake and decided to run over it. The snake coiled itself around one of the front wheels, and when the car swerved, was thrown directly into the lap of one of the women in the car. She faintled. E. M. Unger, carrier on the mail route between Shamokin and Herndon, passed in time to aid in killing the reptile.

Albert Shultz and Tony Quemez, alias Manande, who were arrested at Greensburg by State police on the charge of stealing a car in Maryland, are wanted by Lewistown officers in connection with the robbery of the Gottschalk garage, in Readsville, on the night of July 1, when a number of tires and tubes were taken. A detainer has been sent to Greensburg to hold the men after they have served their sentence for stealing the car.

Believed to have been temporarily insane, George Gill, 24, Tyrone, shot his wife in the head and then turning the gun upon himself, ended his own life at his home on Twenty-first street, Tyrone, about 2:30 Tuesday. Gill, shot through the head, is believed to have died almost instantly. His wife, critically wounded, is in a serious condition at Altoona hospital, although she is said to have a good chance to recover. No reason could be given for the act.

Housewives of the Homewood district are confronted with a new problem brought about by the present era of air-mindedness. The Franktown avenue police station has received several complaints that oil dripping from planes has ruined clothes hanging out to dry. Householders also said they feared the oil drippings might result in the firing of their homes if patches of oil should be ignited by sparks from engines on a nearby railroad alighting on roofs.

Residents of Merriam, near the site of the New Locust Summit \$4,000,000 breaker, in Schuylkill county, are experiencing the worst water shortage in their history, despite the fact that they recently petitioned the Butler Water Works company for water lines. All the cisterns in the town of forty-four families are dry. They get their only supply from a small spring a mile from the town, where a twelve-quart bucket can be filled in twenty minutes. This supply is also decreasing.

A preliminary survey of the farms from which raw milk is sold to the consumer and for the pasteurizing plants, is now being carried on throughout the State by members of the health department's field milk inspection staff, according to a report submitted, the section by Ralph E. Irwin, chief of the milk service. According to Irwin this activity has been undertaken to assist milk distributors in making preparations and developing proper plans for the compliance of the recently enacted milk control law which will be put into active operation in 1930.

A story from Pittsburgh's "Wall Street" concerns a woman who entered a broker's office and timidly pushed a paper across the counter of the cashier's window and asked if it was worth anything. The cashier examined the paper and said it was. It was a certificate for a share of radio stock, and worth, according to the quotations of the day, \$35. She was overjoyed. It developed that she was a widow and had found the paper among her husband's effects. Not knowing whether or not it was of any value but, facing destitution, she decided to take it to a broker. "I'm so glad," she told the cashier, "because there are 20 more at home." radio comes this somebody does, mainly beca' the stock market has said