

INK SLINGS.

A few days ago Dr. Wilmer H. Krusen, of Philadelphia, voiced a warning against neophobia. We presume most people passed the advice up as just another one of them things that the M. Ds are eternally dragging out of the bag to scare us with. We didn't. We've always been interested in what ails us. From the time that we grew out of catnip and peach limb tea, and nitre and Jayne's expectorant and camphor bags and asafetida and a woolen stocking pinned around our neck for sore throat and eelskin around our wrist to keep the muscles pliable, to the present we've always been ready—aye, even anxious—to try every new disease, at least once. We've had everything from mastoids to falling arches. It's just a shame how infested with disease our heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, stomach, gall duct, colon and arteries have been at times when we've had to have something or be sick. None of them ever "took" very hard. That is probably why we survived to keep up the eternal quest that is the obsession of those who enjoy poor health. But this "neophobia" stuff is not for us. Since it is a malady that incalculates "a fear of new things" in its victim, we are not going to take it at all. That's one disease we shall immunize ourselves against. All the joy of life would be gone for us if we became afraid to imagine we have appendicitis every time we get a pain at the centre of a line drawn from one right hip bone to the billy-button.

Last week we told you that Nathan Koffman had commissioned us to write something that would make the Turks lay off the Jews over in Palestine. If memory serves us right we also told you that we were not equal to the occasion. This week we have another commission. A number of aggrieved tax payers of Centre county have come to urge us to give Judge Fleming hell because they were invited to leave his court room and stay leaved until they could find a coat to cover the shirt sleeves in which they were invested when they ventured into the august presence. We bring this up merely to show how guileless poor Nathan is. He wanted us to prove to the Turks that every one is happier if he or she lives in peace with the other. As a hypothetical proposition his idea is all right, but the futility of it all shows up when old reality comes tramping on the heels of theory. Had we given way to Nathan's commission and hied off in foreign missionary work we wouldn't have been here to get into the home missionary field, where missionaries are needed more to stir up hell than urge people to live in peace with one another. We are in whole hearted sympathy with any order that Judge Fleming may promulgate that makes for conservation of respect for the dignity of our courts. When court is in session we think the auditorium in which it sits should rival the sanctuary of the cathedral in the confidence it inspires. But it is not necessary to humiliate men for unintentional offenses. Everyone knows that there are enough attaches to the Court's staff to spare one who might stand out in the foyer of the court house and explain to persons, who have no thought of offending, before they enter the court room, so that if they venture in on hot days, minus coat, they will not suffer the embarrassment of being ordered out after they have found a seat. The order is all right, but its manner of execution has been all wrong.

Why couldn't that twenty-four hundred dollar county detective have been delegated to stand out in the lobby and remind men who meant no offense or disrespect that a recent order of the Court prevented anyone entering the chamber in shirt sleeves. That would have been a good job for Boden, but possibly he might have wrapped himself in the dignity of his office and declined to do it on the ground that he is "no common policeman." Up at the ball game, the other day, a drunken individual was making a spectacle of himself and one of the spectators asked the county detective to remove the puffed nuisance. Mr. Boden replied to that request in this highly illuminating language: "I'm no common policeman." And he evidently knows what he is talking about, for only last week a grand jury ignored a bill against him for assault, notwithstanding the fact that a prominent business man of Bellefonte swears that he did assault him in the office of the County Commissioners. And the same grand jury pinned a rose on him in its report to the Court. We'd say that a policeman so uncommon as that could fall into the Big Spring and come out brushing dust off his uniform.

Since we all strive to have justice prevail why wouldn't the Court be lending a hand to that desired end if an order were promulgated to exclude all women from the court room who are not as well covered as the men have to be? Babe Ruth has announced his ideal ball team and it is a cracker-jack. But it will never be assembled in an aggregation.

Democratic Watchman

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Vare's False Pretense Stopped.

The resolution introduced in the Senate, on Monday, to finally dispose of William S. Vare's absurd claim to a seat in that body was both timely and proper. For three years the question of his qualification has been pending. Under one pretense or another the determination has been postponed. A bipartisan committee spent two years investigating the charges that his nomination had been procured by fraud. Nearly a year ago the committee unanimously reported that "the said William S. Vare is not entitled to a seat in the United States Senate." Yet during all this time he has been exercising all the prerogatives of a Senator except the right to sit in the chamber and participate in the deliberations of the body.

Some time ago Senator King, one of the members of the investigating committee, declared openly that not more than ten per cent of the Senators would vote to award the seat to Vare. In presenting his resolution, on Monday, Senator Norris expressed a similar estimate of the sentiment of the Senate. "The only reason the matter was not disposed of last June," he added: "was because it was represented that Vare was a very sick man and too ill to appear and defend himself. Vare's health has now apparently improved and there is no further reason why action to declare Vare not entitled to a seat should be further delayed." This is literally the truth. He has had ample time and abundant opportunity to present his defense.

Senator Norris had no political "axe to grind" in presenting his resolution at this time. The final rejection of Vare will not inure to his personal advantage. In fact it will strengthen the Senate Republican machine for the reason that it will invest Governor Fisher with power to name a successor who will support every iniquity that may be desired. There is a contest for the seat pending and in the interest of justice no appointment should be made until the contest is decided. But the Republicans need votes for the tariff bill and other party measures and they have sufficient strength to admit to membership any one whom the Governor may name. But the Vare false pretense ought to be stopped anyway.

The weather of Wednesday and yesterday were forcible reminders that summer is on the wane.

Tariff Fight in the Senate.

The battle for the tariff bill in the Senate is now in progress and it promises to be as furious as its result is uncertain. Some sort of a bill will be enacted and the schedules will be increased. But it is within reason to hope that some of the rates on manufactured products, as expressed in the committee bill, will be cut down considerably and others may be stricken out altogether. With a few exceptions the Democratic Senators will be against excessive rates on all subjects other than products of the soil. It doesn't matter much whether the tax on such products are high or low, for importations are negligible and taxation will not materially effect prices.

But the purpose to increase the tax on manufactured products in the ratio of increase on agricultural commodities will be strenuously resisted by the Democratic as well as a considerable number of Republican Senators. Senator Capper, of Kansas, leader of the farm bloc, expresses a determination to fight the pending measure. "Agricultural rates needed boosting above industrial rates," he said, "in order that agriculture might be equalized with industry, but that since industrial rates have been raised agriculture is still at a disadvantage." As a matter of fact the present discrimination against agriculture is vastly increased, because agricultural products are rarely imported.

Senator Harrison, of Mississippi, proposes to throw a bomb into the camp of the tariff mongers early in the contest. He will introduce a resolution demanding "a statement of the financial condition of companies seeking tariff increases." The Republican platform pledged the party to ask for tariff increases only for industries that were operating at a loss or earning less than fair profits. But the pending bill provides for increased rates on products that already earn larcenous profits to the manufacturers. The Harrison resolution, if adopted, will expose these facts to public information and show that the measure is not for public good but to reimburse campaign contributors.

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Hoover Hits the Lobby Hard.

President Hoover gave a fairly good imitation of official indignation, the other day, when he publicly declared his purpose to "free the country" from lobbyists who "had deliberately attempted to create international distrust and hate." It had been revealed to him that three of the leading ship building corporations of the country had been paying large sums of money to a professional lobbyist for preparing and disseminating propaganda in favor of an extensive naval construction programme and against the policy of the administration to reduce naval equipment. One W. E. Shearer, who posed as a naval expert, has brought suit against the ship building corporation for unpaid salaries and thus "spilled the beans."

This is all very fine and looks like a radical new departure in policy of a Republican administration.

It will be recalled that Woodrow Wilson, during his first term of office, sent a great number of lobbyists, representing various interests, scurrying in all directions by a similar declaration of purpose. But upon the return to power of the Republican party the lobbyists returned and for eight years have been as thick as flies and as pestiferous as the Japanese beetle. But so long as they refrained from opposing the President's pet measures, they were allowed full opportunity to prey upon the public at will. It is gratifying to know, however, that their licenses have been revoked and that their operations will be curtailed, if not entirely cut out.

When the late Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, organized a "round robin" against the "attribution of the covenant of the League of Nations he was deliberately creating "international distrust and hate." But that wasn't the real purpose of his sinister enterprise. His aim was to preserve to the shipbuilders and the munition makers of the country a market for their death-dealing wares, and in this vicious purpose he was supported by a large majority of his party in and out of Congress. But President Hoover is not in sympathy with this system of rewarding party service when it interferes with his plans. He could see no fault, however, in the infinitely more dangerous propaganda organized and maintained by the power trust.

Monday night was a bad one for the airmail. One of the pilots was able to get through but the other was compelled to come down in Bellefonte, the mail being sent on by train Tuesday morning.

Corruption in Philadelphia.

There is to be a new grand jury investigation in Philadelphia. As an incident of the Republican factional fight Mayor Mackey, the other day, mailed letters to employees of the street cleaning bureau of the government, directing them to the addresses as of record in the bureau. Some 200 of the letters were returned with the notation that "no such persons were known at those addresses." This surprising incident aroused in the Mayor's mind a suspicion that the pay roll of the bureau has been padded and he called the district attorney's attention to the matter. The head of the bureau is a former employee of Mr. Vare and a service member of the Vare machine.

It will be remembered that about a year ago a grand jury investigation of the police department of the city was instituted. After several months of diligent probing a vast system of corruption was exposed, one or two machine politicians were tried and convicted and more than a hundred officers and men of the force were denounced "as unfit to hold public office." But the Vare machine, having control of the civil service board, most of them have since been restored to the service. In justice to the district attorney and the new superintendent of the police department, it should be stated that the restoration was against their protest. It was surely a Vare gesture.

The impending investigation may produce more enduring results. The action of the civil service board nullified the work of the former grand jury. The personnel of the board is chosen by the city council and that body chosen by Mr. Vare, is amenable only to the machine. The lesson to be drawn from these facts is plain. The only real remedy for the evils which abound in Philadelphia is to "turn the rascals out." Investigations, however thorough and searching, are of no value while corrupt men are in control of the municipal government. The Vare machine is putrid and the government of the city will be corrupt as long as it remains in power.

United States of Europe Probable.

Aristide Briand, Premier of France, submitted his long cherished plan for the creation of a "United States of Europe" to the League of Nations, last week, and it met with enthusiastic approval. This has been a pet enterprise of M. Briand's for some years, but heretofore has been "laughed off" by other statesmen of Europe as an "iridescent dream." But to his mind it has seemed the basis of a hope for perpetual peace and prosperity. In his address before the League, the other day, he appealed to the nations of Europe to make a deep study of the proposal, and according to press reports of the incident generous "applause greeted his remarks."

Before the little war such a proposition carried little appeal to the popular mind of Europe where each nation was concerned only with its own prosperity and happiness. Since the war, until very recently, there has been nothing to alter the mental attitude of our cousins across the sea. Each people was striving in its own way to conserve its own interests and promote its own welfare. In some cases there were conflicting interests to consider and, anyway, they were getting along fairly well in comparative isolation. But since our Congress has manifested a purpose to organize a commercial war against Europe public sentiment has undergone a change. A United States of Europe doesn't sound bad.

In the beginning Premier Briand had no purpose to go beyond political lines in his proposed federation. But the schedules of the Hawley-Smoot tariff bill has aroused in his mind the fear of another danger, not only to France but to all Europe. That this fear is widespread is shown by the great number of protests that have come from all sections of Europe, as well as from Canada and the Latin-American countries. No nation will submit quietly to a policy on the part of another which implies destruction of her commerce and industry, and that will be the inevitable result to Europe of an economic war organized against her by the United States.

Good government always begins at home, and that is the reason why very earnest consideration should be given the various candidates for local office at the primaries next Tuesday. Every man has a certain following of friends who might naturally feel that they should stand by him in his political aspirations. On the other hand it is a civic duty imposed on every voter, regardless of party, to do the best he can for his home town. And this obligation extends to the selection of the best qualified men or women to fill the various borough offices. For this reason consider the candidates carefully before voting next Tuesday.

As evidence of how low Centre county streams have been as the result of the prolonged drouth Bald Eagle creek, on Saturday, was just seven-tenths of an inch lower than any former record known. The measurement was taken on the abutment, where the railroad crosses the stream, by P. H. Haupt, state weather observer. The rains of Saturday and Sunday, however, raised the creek six inches. Out at Rockview penitentiary they wore out eight dozen plough points trying to do their fall plowing then decided to wait for rain.

The Centre county court is now operating with strictly enforced dignity. Under a new ruling men in shirt sleeves or wearing overalls and jumpers are barred. Last week when the thermometer was soaring around the ninety mark, a former county commissioner was invited to leave the court room when he appeared minus his coat and two men in overalls were refused admittance at the door. A visiting attorney, it is alleged, who appeared at the court house without a coat, borrowed one from an office holder down stairs in order to appear in open court.

The various rain storms which passed over portions of Centre county during the past week have freshened up vegetation considerably, and may be of great benefit to the late potato crop. Corn, however, is too far advanced to be much benefited. The rains, however, have not been sufficient to wet the ground enough for fall ploughing and farmers are still wondering when they will get their seeding done.

Conservative estimates indicate that fully twelve thousand people visited the campus at The Pennsylvania State College for the various conventions and demonstrations held there during the summer.

Retail Business Men.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer. Dr. Julius Klein, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, in an address in Chicago, said that failures in retail business were due more to incompetence than to competition. He declared that statistics showed that three per cent of the business failures last year were brought about by competition, while thirty-one per cent were caused by incompetence. The largest single factor was lack of capital. Numbers of men go into business on the proverbial shoestring and in times of stress go to the wall. Mistakes in credit policies also make a terrific drain on the resources of the retailer.

Mr. Klein advised his hearers—who were business men—to dress up their stores so that they be attractive to the women. "This is most important," he said, "because with eighty-five per cent of the buying in retail stores to-day being done by women—even in hardware and paint stores—the far-sighted retailer is graciously considerate of milady's whims and fancies. As one discerning observer put it, 'Shall we join the ladies?' is no longer a perfunctory after-dinner query. It is an important problem in merchandising. And the answer is 'yes,' emphatically."

We have here counsel from a man who is in a position to know what he is talking about. And it is a foolish retailer indeed who overlooks the importance of women in the business world.

Slicing the Sugar Duty.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. The Senate Finance Committee has done well to cut the high sugar duties of the House bill, but the axe should have sunk deeper. The House raised the rate on Cuban raw sugar from 1.76 cents a pound to 2.40 and on world sugar from 2.20 to 3 cents. The Republican Senators have decided that a Cuban duty of 2.20 and a general duty of 2.75 are sufficient. The committee wisely resolved to recommend no restrictions on sugar from the Philippines.

This action is a compromise satisfactory neither to the producers nor the consumers. The sugar growers have been contending for even higher rates than those in the House bill, and yet they failed to make out a convincing case for any rise of existing duties. Senator Smoot's sliding-scale compromise blossomed only for a day. It quickly wilted under the criticism from both consumers and producers. Senator Borah has a sugar-bounty plan which he will press on the floor of the Senate. Virtually all the Senate committee tariff schedules are tentative, subject to radical revision by the main body, to say nothing of the ordeal they will undergo in conference with the House. But none will provide a more bitter battle than the sugar schedule, which has no power to sweeten the tempers of its advocates and opponents.

"Heartless" Big Business.

From the Altoona Tribune. The theory that big business is heartless was rather upset Thursday night when the Transcontinental Air Transport, Inc., ordered a suspension of service so that all company planes might aid in the search for the missing "City of San Francisco." It is obvious that the Transcontinental Air Transport thought more of the lives of the eight persons aboard the missing plane than it does of the monetary return which will be lost through the suspension.

In addition T. A. T. officials offered \$5,000 reward to the person finding the missing air liner. Such concentration of resources in search for endangered lives, with utter disregard of the demands of business, is worthy of commendation. The public esteem which will certainly be gained through such humane procedure is far more valuable than the money which might have been made if service had continued uninterrupted.

Fight to Finish in Philadelphia.

From the Harrisburg Telegraph. The situation in neither Pittsburgh nor Philadelphia was changed materially with the passing of the last day for withdrawals from the primary ballot. With Vare in Atlantic City, ready to direct the fight against the Mackey-Republican League ticket, "Young Tom" Watson, leader of a very independent ward, whose father "Old Tom" is a member of the Mackey cabinet, has come out in favor of the Vare slate. Senator Salus has attacked the Mayor's sincerity in his spoken opposition to the Mitten interests and points out that the Mayor and his friends tried to kill the Woodward bill which the Vare organization had passed in the last Legislature over the opposition of the Mitten people. Prospects are for a bitter fight to the finish in Philadelphia.

All the ministers of Bellefonte are now back on the job after their summer vacations and any little devils that may have been chasing around the town during the past two months had better make haste to their own underground kingdoms.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Mrs. Leonard J. Robb, of Beech Creek, Clinton county, fell from a stool while papering a room in her home and broke both bones of her left arm at the wrist.

—Miss Hazel Lucas and Miss Ruth Fleck, both 18 years of age of Winburne, Clearfield county, drowned in the waters of Lycoming creek at Williamsport, Tuesday afternoon.

—A count of the traffic at the Pennsylvania railroad crossing at Mill Hall in twenty four hours showed that 6970 motor vehicles and nineteen railroad trains passed over the crossing during that time.

—Jersey Shore officials would rather have a nice paved street fixed up by the State than a rough brick pavement and a trolley line, so they have served notice on the railway company to either rebuild its roadbed under State specifications or get off the street.

—Suffering an attack of dizziness when she was dipping a bucket into the waters of the Juniata river last Thursday, Mrs. Mary Musselman, 23, wife of Berry Musselman, Claysburg, fell into the river and drowned. Her body was recovered late the same afternoon.

—Thieves who had ears for music were forced to drop \$2,000 worth of the Ashland high school band instruments when police appeared as they were about to carry the instruments out of the old high school building early Sunday. Some of the instruments were damaged.

—An automobile which Williamsport police officers had confiscated last Saturday night when they found in it a cold keg evidently containing strong drink disappeared from the rear of the city hall while the officers were carrying the liquor into the police station for storage.

—Limestone content of the water at the United States fish nursery at St. Thomas, near Chambersburg, has caused the death of at least 1000 brown trout. The limestone water irritates the gills of the fish and a fungus forms which smother them. Many of the trout were saved by giving them a bath in salt water. The limestone water does not affect the rainbow trout in the nursery.

—Leaping from a fourth-story window at the Williamsport hospital on Sunday afternoon, Mrs. J. H. Gates, of Reading, died within a few minutes. Mrs. Gates, who had been visiting in that city, was removed to the hospital last Wednesday. She was suffering with melancholy and was in charge of two nurses. The patient asked for a drink and as one of the nurses started for it, the woman leaped from the window before she could be halted.

—Sylvester Quiggle, of Lycoming township, Clinton county, sustained a \$10,000 fire loss on Saturday when a large barn on his farm was destroyed by fire of unknown origin with all the season's crops, all of the farm implements, a team of horses and three cows. A wagon shed also was burned. Neighbors assisted in saving the house and other farm buildings. The telephone service in that section had been crippled for two days and men went from one farm to another in automobiles to take helpers to the scene of the fire.

—Herbert Sunderland, 70, of Horton, Potter county, died at the Renovo hospital, Wednesday night, of last week, of injuries sustained on Saturday and a half earlier when he was crushed under a steam roller on the State highway about a mile west of Renovo. Sunderland was shoveling gravel behind the roller and failed to note that it had been reversed and was operating in his direction. His right leg was entirely crushed and was amputated above the knee in an effort to save his life. He was a widower and is survived by three brothers.

—Many an erstwhile dutiful husband is lured from the home hearth by the charms of a modern siren but Leonard Edwards, of Bloomsburg, is believed to be the first to be lured by the enticing wails of a moaning fire siren. Mrs. Edwards told her story to a sympathetic court. Her husband, she said, had left her so that he could be nearer a fire whistle. Her testimony was supported by other witnesses and Edwards did not deny the allegation. Ordered by the court to pay his wife \$18 a month, Edwards announced he would rather go to jail. He went.

—The family dog was pressed into service at Scranton, last Friday night by persons who sought to dynamite the home of Joseph Melnick, 661 Clearview street. Several sticks of the explosive were attached to the dog's tail, and the animal then chased home. As he reached the door, the charge exploded and tore off the porch, shattered windows in the building, killed the dog and caused superficial injuries to Melnick's daughter, Nellie, 12, who ran to the door when she heard the animal whining upon his arrival. Six of the children in the house were uninjured. Their parents were not at home when the detonation occurred.

—Stanley Morris, night clerk in the Hotel St. George, of Lancaster, faced automatics in the hands of two bandits on Sunday, and saved \$155 which he had taken from the cash register several minutes before the men entered the lobby of the hotel. Morris looked up from his desk and faced the automatics. "Stick 'em high, Buddy," one man demanded. Morris obeyed and the other man opened the drawer of the cash register. It was empty. "Where's the money?" the bandits demanded. Morris said the boss had left the hotel five minutes before with the day's receipts. The bandits without another word backed from the hotel, keeping Morris covered. The clerk explained that he had placed the money in his pocket. The bandits forgot to search him.

—Gerald Rupert is in the Lock Haven hospital in a critical condition as the result of being stabbed Saturday night by Tony Di Celio, divorced husband of Rupert's wife. Mrs. Rupert recently secured a legal separation from her former husband and was married to Rupert on Friday at Jersey Shore. Saturday evening the couple were being entertained by friends at the home of the bride's parents when Di Celio made his appearance, forced his way into the house and stabbed Rupert in the chest near the heart. The injured man was taken to the hospital where it was found necessary to perform an operation. Di Celio returned to his home and barricaded himself inside but was subsequently arrested by Lock Haven police who forced their way into the house and took him into custody.