

INK SLINGS.

The higher-ups in the ship-building concerns are making their man Shearer the "goat." He should worry. We'd play most anybody's "goat" for the money he got.

Judge Fleming is holding court in Pittsburgh this week. Dan Grove and Bill Zimmerman ought to be out there, for then they could walk in in their shirt sleeves without fear of a tipstaff looking at them with that sort of a "you git" look.

We have been urged to take a crack at the Court for allowing his tipstaves eight days for a five day court week. We're fair. We have never wilfully made an unfair attack on anyone and as there were three night sessions of court during the week we think the Court was justified in making the order he did.

Having plead guilty to highway robbery, bank robbery, larceny of an automobile and several other offenses Mr. H. M. Kline and Raymond A. Shope have saved Clinton county a lot of court costs and insured themselves a meal ticket for about as many years, we imagine, as the law allowed Judge Baird to give them.

Shope and Kline must have gained a very high appreciation of the work of the state police as they sat up in the woods near the Furl place and watched the force running around in circles. Our uncommon county detective was on the job, too, but maybe he was only there as a spectator. You know he's "no common policeman."

Evidently Mr. Eugene Tunney has grown peevish at the lack of attention the press has been paying to him. He has sued Mr. Fogarty, husband of the lady who says Gene promised to marry her, for one hundred grand, but the news only made her inside pages of the metropolitan papers. Tunney was a front page feature for sometime but he boored himself off of them.

It appears from the record that Senator Howell, of Nebraska, has the President backed into a corner. Farmers, tariff mongers, ship-builders and peace advocates might as well give up hope of getting relief from the government soon. Senator Howell has given the President other fish to fry and Herbert's got to now a lot about handling hot pans or he is going to get his fingers burned.

It was hard luck for Carson who was brought back here from Champaign, Ill., on Wednesday. He escaped from Rockview in 1923 and had been free ever since. Hard luck for Carson but what a victory for the law? It is such evidences of persistent determination on the part of law enforcement officers that will finally convince society that some how, some time, the day of settlement will come. There should be no escaping that.

Gosh, in a few years there'll be nothing at all for men to brag about. Baltimore physicians have compiled statistics that prove that drinking mer women has increased twenty per cent. within the last ten years; whereas the best men can show is one ten or twelve per cent. less. If his keeps up it won't be long until the males of the genus homo won't give any more in what's going to happen than a drone bee does when he queen tells her affinities: He's no good. Kill him.

There has been much ado over the wedding of John Coolidge and Florence Trumbull. The fact that he is a former President's son and she the daughter of the Governor of Connecticut possibly makes their sings "big news." But why should John and Florence probably about their radiated notoriety, but they in outstrip their illustrious fathers after six months, they can prove to the world that they are actually living on nothing more than John will then be earning.

We own to having quite a surprise on Wednesday. The "watchdog" of the Watchman's treasury called us for having devoted so much time and spent so much money getting a true story of the chase the Beech Creek bank robbers. We were surprised at the idea that there is anyone sticking around the top who imagines that the Watchman has anything approaching a treasury. Also at the inference that possibly things don't go as well here when we are out as they do when we're in.

If you disagree with our belief at the Watchman's story of the audit chase is a pretty thorough and accurate record of the facts, you and interview the principals in it and see what kind of a story you'll come back with. We spent the latter part of three days talking to people who were there, or said they were, and checking and rechecking their stories and we know how, under the stress of excitement, no two servers get the same impressions on the same incident. Why, there are nearly a dozen people swore to that they had taken the money Delaney's body. Three of them found out later, hadn't even been the scene of the tragedy.

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The "Rich Man's Delight."

There is no cause for surprise in the announcement that the new issue of \$500,000,000 treasury certificates was vastly oversubscribed within the period of three days. It has been appropriately called the "Rich Man's Delight." It exempts holders from income tax, sur or common. It provides a source of investment the proceeds of which are "all velvet." It was authorized by Congress on the recommendation of Secretary of the Treasury Andrew Mellon, whose family and friends probably absorbed a large part of the issue. The only source of surprise in relation to it is that it is a short term loan. With Congress and the White House under control of Uncle Andy it might have been made to cover a long period.

When Secretary Mellon was urging a material decrease in the tax rates on big incomes he descanted freely upon the evil of driving rich men into the bad habit of investing their money in tax-free securities, such as State and municipal bonds, to the great detriment of industrial and commercial prosperity. In fact he discoursed on his theme so eloquently and forcefully that Senators and Representatives in Congress were persuaded to cut the tax on big incomes to an extent that saved him upward of a million dollars a year on his personal income. This new tax-free offer of the government will enable him to invest that considerable saving without in the least measure impairing his capital. In fact it is a real boon to the millionaires.

One of the well-established principles of finance is that tax-free securities are inimical to business interests. Commenting upon this loan the New York Nation observes that "even in the enormous stress of financing the World war the government was most reluctant to exempt federal obligations from any but normal taxes, and as a matter of fact only a small portion of some \$25,000,000,000 worth of federal securities issued in that period was so favored." But Wall Street had less influence on operations of the Treasury Department than now, and Mr. McAdoo was less concerned about profitable investment for his surplus funds than Uncle Andy. Public rather than personal interests controlled then.

It is encouraging to learn that the ticket scalpers haven't got hold of the world series pasteboards as yet.

Shearer Chalked For the Goat.

The shipbuilders have abandoned William B. Shearer to his fate. His work in Washington and Geneva seems to have disappointed them and they are calling him hard names. Mr. Grace, president of the Bethlehem Steel company, has written to the President repudiating him and Mr. Schwab is free in denouncing him as a fraud. But they admit that he was on the pay-roll of their corporation and was sent to Geneva as a sort of "watcher." It remained for Mr. Bardo, president of the New York Shipbuilding corporation, however, to fix him in his place. Testifying before the Senate investigating committee Mr. Bardo stigmatized him as a skunk. Grace and Schwab were less candid or more polite.

Maybe Mr. Shearer does emit an unpleasant odor but he served the purpose of the shipbuilders for a time, and the purpose didn't look like a lilly or smell like a rose. He was their representative in Washington while the Jones-White ship subsidy bill was pending and he disbursed \$143,000 to promote the passage of that measure. He was sent by them to California to enlist William Randolph Hearst in an ambitious shipping enterprise and they employed him in various other matters. How he spent the vast sum in furthering the ship subsidy bill has not been revealed but it is certain that his methods in that case met with their approval for they continued to pay him for some time afterward.

We have no desire to defend William B. Shearer and even less to excuse propaganda employed for selfish or sordid purposes. But it is impossible to condemn one form of an evil and silently acquiesce in another, infinitely more mischievous. The Power trust lobby has been more insidious and damaging than anything Mr. Shearer has done or tried to do, and President Hoover has not spoken a word or sounded an alarm against it. In the matter in mind the shipbuilders are more culpable than their agent, but it is a safe prediction that he will be condemned while they will escape even a censure. The failure to find out who got the ship subsidy boodle is evidence of that.

Corruption Wins in Two Cities.

The result of the primary election in Philadelphia confirms the impression that that city is "corrupt and contented." The result in Pittsburgh justifies the belief that the Republicans of that city prefer vice to virtue. In Philadelphia a well-meaning group managed good intentions by blundering management. In permitting Mayor Mackey to appear in the role of leadership it assumed a burden that no organization has strength enough to carry. The name of Vare is anathema to thousands of good citizens but that of Mackey is even more abhorrent. Every plea he uttered, every speech he made for the League ticket, made scores of voters for the Vare political bandit.

With alignments thus formed there was little difference except in the character of the candidates. The Vare ticket, hand-picked by the boss and Tom Cunningham was made up of servile followers of the machine. The League ticket was constructed of better material. With a single exception it was composed of men widely known in business life for civic virtues and unselfish effort in public interests. In these circumstances they ought to have been preferred by an overwhelming majority. But the activities of Mackey in their behalf cast a doubt upon the integrity of their purposes and influenced thousands to "rather bear the ills we have than fly to others that we know not of."

But conditions were different in Pittsburgh. There the voters had full opportunity to choose between vice and virtue in public life and they not only selected the evil but adopted the greater offender against virtue. Mayor Kline has not only encouraged political corruption but is charged with having defied the laws and official decency in planning ballot frauds. One of his competitors, Malone, is said to be little better, but Judge Martin is not only a fine lawyer but an excellent citizen who has long been active in efforts for clean politics and just government. He defeated the Mellon machine when he was elected Judge and his election as Mayor would have guaranteed honest government.

According to current gossip in Harrisburg, the employees of the State are secretly circulating propaganda against the voting machines.

The Senatorial Trading Post.

The Hawley-Smoot tariff bill is likely to debase the United States Senate to the low level of a trading post for commerce in legislation. Already several blocs have been organized with a view of "log-rolling" in the interest of one product or another. The latest development along this line is the lumber bloc, the ostensible purpose of which is to extract from the Republican machine a tariff tax on logs and shingles. These products of the forest are on the free list in the administration programme, though Senator Pitman, of Nevada, was promised a tax rate in consideration of his vote against the motion to limit increases to agricultural products. He will probably figure in the organization.

The Senators thus far active in the new movement are all Republicans. At the organization meeting McNary, Oregon; Jones, Washington; Steiwer, Oregon; Oddie, Nevada; Thomas, Idaho, and Johnson, California, were present. They claim to have sufficient strength to hold "the balance of power" between the administration followers on one side and the Democrats on the other, and thus be able to exact favors from either or both elements in the contention. In a game of grab, such as is contemplated, the only consideration which enters into the matter is "everybody for himself and the devil take the hindmost." The effect upon the interests of the public is of no consequence in commercial statesmanship.

Of all the tariff iniquities this is easily the greatest. So far as public interest is concerned the wisest thing that could be done would be to encourage the importation of forest products in all its various forms. The time is coming, and it is not far distant, when the scarcity of American timber will become a national evil. Already the high price of lumber, is retarding building operations of the country and checking the progress of industrial life. To avert this danger would be an infinitely greater service to the country than reimbursing slush fund contributors with tariff favors.

The Shearer episode merely shows what fools some big business managers are.

Hoover Charged with Delinquency.

When Senator Howell, of Nebraska, declared the other day that prohibition law enforcement in Washington is not quite up to the highest standard of efficiency he provoked the resentment or aroused the conscience of the President. The Senator inferentially saddled the blame for this condition on the President. That is, he declared that the President has power to hire and fire the enforcement agents and that if he served notice that the delinquents would be fired there would be no further delinquency. This occurred on Saturday. On Sunday the President issued a statement asking the Senator to produce proof of laxity and promising to make "Washington a model for the country."

When a conflagration is properly started it moves rapidly. On Monday Senator Cole Blease, of South Carolina, in a speech discussing the Howell episode, stated that he "is reliably informed that within two squares of the peace monument, on Pennsylvania avenue, four narcotic joints are being run and it is known to the people who are supposed to stop it." The Narcotic law is a Federal statute and the obligation for its enforcement is upon the same agencies as are required to enforce the Volstead law. Therefore if the President has been remiss in one he is equally culpable in the other. The only important difference in the matter is that Howell is a Republican and Blease a "pseudo" Democrat.

It is possible, of course, that President Hoover has adopted the idea of Clarence True Wilson, Bishop Cannon and others more or less responsible for his election, that there is only one article in the constitution, the Eighteenth, and a single act of Congress, the Volstead law, that are deserving of enforcement, and that he will not think it worth while to answer the indictment of Blease. But the public mind will focus it from a different angle and come to the conclusion that Mr. Hoover is so absorbed in problems of engineering that he is overlooking many important obligations of his office. His inexperience in public life may account for delinquencies but will hardly excuse them.

We opine that President Hoover was only talking big when he expressed the determination to make Washington the model American city. It seems to us that he is in a position to make it as dry as a piece of Fourth of July punk if he wants to. If he isn't, the President of the United States isn't the potentate in the District of Columbia we have always imagined him to be.

According to figures compiled by the United States Department of Commerce, in Washington, Centre county had 260 marriages and 21 divorces in 1928, against 293 marriages and 24 divorces in 1927.

Harry Sinclair complains that he has not been fairly treated by Washington courts, and we agree with him. He ought to have gotten nine years instead of nine months in jail.

Maybe Wakeman, vice president of the Bethlehem Steel company, will be the goat, but Shearer will be tagged the "evil genius."

The proposed tariff on sugar will cost the consumers \$50,000,000 a year, but Senator Smoot needs money for the Mormon church.

Senator Caraway is a master magnet but he can't draw an opinion of the pending tariff bill out of President Hoover.

Clarence True Wilson has started a crusade against cigarettes and he is setting himself to a hard job.

Lindy is earning his salary as an air mail carrier and preserving his reputation as a first class citizen.

What Is Men's Work.

There is much discussion about the invasion of men's field of work by women. There are almost no exclusively masculine occupations left.

Perhaps the shoe is about to be put on the other foot. A news item from New York says a German young man has been serving as a maid in various New York homes for the past four years. The young man has now put on his male attire and returns to Germany with money ahead.

If women can take over all of men's jobs, perhaps men can make a successful invasion of the feminine domain.

WHAT WE GIVE AWAY.

Lewis Ginsberg in the American Hebrew.

Love that is hoarded moulds at last Until we know some day The only thing we ever have Is what we give away.

And kindness that is never used, But hidden all alone, Will slowly harden till it is As hard as any stone.

It is the things we always hold That we will lose some day: The only things we ever keep Are what we give away.

To Form a New Political Party.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Third party movements in this country have never met with any considerable success; but, undeterred by past experience, a group of enthusiasts have determined to organize a new national political party in opposition to the two existing major organizations. In its present state it is called The League for Independent Political Action. Professor John Dewey of Columbia University is the chairman. He is to be assisted by a committee of one hundred to be selected from the various States of the Union.

The purposes of the new party are rather sweeping. In the initial announcement it is said that it stands for "public ownership of public utilities, unemployment and health insurance, old age pensions, relief for the farmer on a virtually a free-trade basis, high progressive taxes on incomes, inheritances and the increase in land values; the independence of the Philippines, non-restriction of negro and immigrant labor suffrage and a sincere and determined effort to eliminate the economic, psychological and political causes of war.

Some of these things will have to be elucidated before they can be fully understood. The rest seem to be a hodge-podge of the principles of the Single Tax and Socialistic parties. The secretary of the new organization declares that the greatest need of our Nation politically is critical opposition. One might think that this was already furnished by the Democratic party, but he does not concede the facts. "The Democrats," he declares, "have not one fundamental issue that distinguishes them from the Republicans. The only hope of liberals in this country lies in slowly building up a new party which will compare with the British Labor Party." The idea is to construct from the bottom. In pursuance of this plan it is proposed to "send a battery of nationally known speakers" to take part in municipal campaigns.

All this is rather vague; so much so that it will surely be a long while before the new party can make any impression upon the politics of the Nation. Indeed, it is far more likely to die in early infancy.

The Farmer Shifts the Burden.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Observers state that the officials of the Department of Agriculture in Washington are beginning to wear a worried look.

There are evidences that what they have feared is coming to pass. Winter wheat acreage is to be increased 1.2 per cent. over last year, according to their own surveys.

This despite the warning broadcast by the department that the world wheat outlook for next year does not promise a continuance of high prices.

It may be that the short world crop of the present year has encouraged the farmers to sow more wheat, but the department is beginning to wonder.

They fear that the wheat farmers have come to the conclusion that with the formation of the Farm Board all of their troubles are over. They fear that the impression has gone abroad that the Farm Board will market any surplus, no matter how large, at prices that will repay the individual agriculturists well for their season's work.

The department's "intention to plant" survey has been made annually for several years past. Whenever such surveys showed that acreage was increasing to such an extent that a price collapse might be expected the department has broadcast a warning. There is little evidence that such warnings have had much effect. Every farmer has had much to decide that the other fellow will cut down his acreage and then goes ahead as he planned.

How different would be the effect of such a warning from the Department of Agriculture if the McNary-Haugen law were in effect.

Then the warning of too great acreage would carry with it the threat of an equally great equalization tax on every bushel of wheat. The farmers would pay for their own folly.

Mayor Mackey announces that he will support the Vare ticket and it may be predicted that in the near future he will be begging favors from Vare.

President Hoover understands the art of "passing the buck," but in trying to make a police sleuth out of a Senator he goes too far.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Auto license tags in Pennsylvania next year will be orange and blue numerals and they will be three inches shorter than the present tags. A report that the colors would be red and grey is erroneous State officials said.

Members of the State highway patrol are continuing their inspection of garages and repair shops which have asked to be designated as official stations during the compulsory period of automobile inspection October 1 to November 15.

Jealous of its competitor, a vicious African monkey caused a riot among the animals in the game exhibit building at the opening of the seventh annual Doylestown fair, when it bit off three inches of the tail of a monkey in an adjoining cage.

High school girls of Carmichaels High school, in Greene county, who have adopted the stockingless fad are indignant over the action of the Cumberland township school board, which has decreed that girls who appeared with bare legs would be barred from the school.

Married life was just one black eye after another, Mrs. Esther F. Palermo, 21, of Pittsburgh, told Judge Richard W. Martin in common pleas court, last week, in asking for a divorce. "When one black eye he gave me would clear up, I would get another," she said.

H. R. Smith, 50, former cashier of the Citizens' National bank, Slippery Rock, has been held in default of \$150,000 bail by a United States commissioner for trial on charges of embezzling \$3,060 from the bank. Bank examiners said they expected a check would reveal Smith's defalcations as approximately \$38,000.

Adjutant General Beary announced Monday that examinations will be held November 13 and 14 for guardsmen who seek appointment to West Point. Governor Fisher will select five guardsmen to enter the military school in July, 1930. Candidates between 19 and 22 years old with one year's service are eligible.

Paul Olinick, 63, Forest Hill, Schuylkill county, choked to death on Sunday while eating a ham sandwich. The man had stopped at a Minersville hotel on his way home from church, and was eating the sandwich when a piece became lodged in his throat. A physician was summoned but Olinick was dead when he arrived.

A lead slug the size of a quarter was removed from the esophagus of 3-year-old Leo Horn, of Pottsville, with the aid of a bronchoscope by Dr. R. D. Spencer. The child swallowed the slug nine days ago and her parents became alarmed when she was unable to eat solid food. An X-ray revealed the obstacle at the entrance to the stomach.

Suit for \$75,000 damages against the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie railroad has been instituted at Pittsburgh, by the Waverly Oil Works company, charging destruction by fire of refinery buildings in Corsopolis last October as the result of hot coals dropped from a locomotive. Tank cars of the plaintiff also were damaged, the action alleges.

Helen, 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Bidlack, of Ghent, near Towanda, fell into the farm well, which is 26 feet deep and half full of water. When she slipped in her playmates spread the alarm. Her father found the child clinging to a small ledge. Her 6-year-old brother was lowered into the well and held her while both were pulled up in the bucket.

A hearing was held, last Friday, before Judge Watson R. Davison, in Franklin county courts, to declare Samuel Russell Statler legally to be dead in order to settle an estate. Statler, a graduate in civil engineering at State College in 1911, left his home at Marion, Franklin county, two weeks after graduation to seek out-door work in the west and has never been heard of since.

Citizens of Clearfield, where the business slump and industrial depression, due to conditions in the central Pennsylvania bituminous coal field, has been felt more keenly, are in high spirits over the prospect of having a manufacturing plant of considerable magnitude locate there. Clearfield now has 25 or more small industrial plants, which proved the town's salvation since the slump in the coal mining industry set in.

Because Charles Lewis, Beaver Falls, charged with taking two Pittsburgh girls to Beaver Falls for improper purposes, signalled to witnesses during his trial he will have to serve out his sentence of four years in the penitentiary. Judge W. A. McConnell, in sentencing Lewis, said the court had been inclined to parole Lewis until he learned from a juror that Lewis had been making signs to witnesses, apparently in order to influence their testimony.

A note, pinned to the door of his shack and reading, "Have killed myself, you'll find me in bed," led to the discovery, last Thursday, of the body of Alonzo Hinton, 35, in the building beside the railroad tracks near Youngdale, Clinton county. Death had been caused by a bullet and a rifle lay by the body on the bed. He had lived alone. Hinton was believed to have been brooding over domestic difficulties which resulted in his wife taking their children and moving to Lock Haven about a year ago.

Three private policemen of the Pittsburgh Coal company soon will be put on trial for the murder last winter of John Bercoveskie, a miner, after arresting him on a minor charge. The miner's death is said to have resulted chiefly from the terrific beating given him by Lieutenant W. J. Lyster, a discharged former State trooper, Frank Slapka and H. P. Watts, coal and iron policemen were also charged with aiding Lyster in the pummeling of Bercoveskie. Lyster was formerly a member of the State police and several years ago was located in Bellefonte.

Investigation of alleged election irregularities in Clearfield county is to be made by district attorney A. Lee Edwards, who has been directed by the Court to submit all testimony to the December grand jury. Judge A. R. Chase, retired to action by news stories and editorials in a Clearfield newspaper, which referred to the existence of affidavits charging fraud and irregularities in the Republican primary election of two years ago, advised the district attorney to proceed, in a long statement read in open court. Mr. Edwards replied that he had made repeated efforts to have the September grand jury launch an investigation, but had been balked by the attitude of the foreman.