

INK SLINGS

—We wish Bellefonte's new council the best of luck.

—Robins were chirping and lilacs blooming in parts of Montgomery county on Tuesday. That ain't so hot. We saw dandelions in bloom not twenty miles from Bellefonte last Friday.

—What an inconsiderate old chap Frank W. Savin, New York millionaire must have been. He left ten million to his fourth wife, who happened to be his house-keeper when he married her, and not a cent to his third wife's brother-in-law.

—"Uncle Andy" has announced that the country can look forward to further very great tax reductions. Looking backward, it seems to us that it was only a year or so ago that "Uncle" was shouting woe in me and the whole country if even a little cut were to be made.

—Maj. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards headed an army of sixty thousand men in France, but he'll have to get sixty million behind him if he has really set out to wipe the Volstead law off the statutes with the idea of being as successful in his crusade over here as he was over there.

—Archeologists are digging around Ur of the Chaldees and not without results for they have unearthed evidence of a rather advanced civilization back as far as \$100 B. C. Wouldn't it be funny if some day archeology should reveal the hull of Noah's ark and the stump of that apple tree that caused all our woes.

—Those who might have been anticipating an invitation to the house-warming of the Cabin we have been laboring on so enthusiastically or the past six months are hereby notified to cease anticipating. The abn warmed itself last Sunday night and is now only a pile of gray shes in which are buried many cherished treasures and thoughts of such pleasure we might have had not given to others.

—A. Lawrence Lowell, president of Harvard University, is of the opinion that intercollegiate sports activities should be restricted to one game a year in each major sport. Lowell's suggestion is not likely to be acquiesced in by the Coonskin Outers and the In-and-Outers at Fair Harvard or any other institution, for that matter. What are colleges for, anyhow, and aren't they staid more by the size of their bowls than by the comprehensiveness of their curriculums.

—We are wondering what the on, Mitch Chase is thinking about harley Long's ambition to go to congress. C. P. has a habit of going after things in earnest when he is at all and his decision to enter race will come very near upsetting several apprecators. While it has happened it is not often that one unity in a district gets both the congressional and senatorial nominees so the ambition of the retired Spring Mills business man can't be ewed with anything but alarm by Mayor Scott, who probably thinks has right to succeed himself, at ast once. From what we hear ere are already a number of budg candidates for Sheriff, County easurer and Prothonotary, two ars off. These gentlemen also, e going to have some mighty un- comfortable moments should Senator ott and Mr. Long, whose political terests in this case are diametri- cally opposed, both call on them for port.

—Any observant person knows at passenger business on the rail- ads has been so cut by the opera- on of automobiles and busses that any trains are probably run at a ss. Always there have been some ations, and now probably many re, that are on the debit side of e company's books, even when the ight receipts are added to those m passenger, express, and mail rriage charges. It has been nec- sary for all public carriers to re- nch wherever possible but we ver dreamed that retrenchment on e Standard Railroad of America," e P. R. R., would reach the point ere it would split up a passenger ution in Bellefonte that never was mmensurate with the importance the town, in order to gain a lit- rental from it. We used "the portance of the town" advisedly, aside from the proud position it held for a hundred years among ter towns of the State and nation is important to the Pennsylvania ilroad because it probably origi- es more freight than any town of size on the entire system. We not speaking from any specific oration, but we are certainly ery wide of the truth when we ture the assertion that there are three cities between Philadelphia l Pittsburgh that originate more ight than is routed out of Belle- ente every day. And until we are wn something to convince us to contrary we cling to the thought t, perchance, there isn't one.

—In face of the fact that Bellefonte the best paying station on "the t paying single tracked railroad the world" we just can't under- nd a parsimony that will so be- le our own in the eyes of the velling public. If the sixty ty cars of freight we give at corporation every day doesn't tify a little loss of possible rental the station here then let us take an annual subscription to make such a loss and save the face of town.

Juggling the Prohibition Problem.

Passing the buck continues to be the most popular in-door sport in Washington. At the suggestion of President Hoover the Senate has already adopted a resolution providing for a joint committee of Congress to receive, consider and probably dispose of the expected report of the crimes commission appointed by the President some months ago. The tardiness of that commission provoked the recent flurry on the subject and Senator Borah's denunciation of the entire system of prohibition enforcement. In order to appease the Borah group the crimes commission will make a report in the near future to the proposed Congressional joint committee which will take its own time to report to the public.

The creating of the joint committee depends upon action of the House of Representatives yet to be taken. But as it is an expedient of the President no trouble is expected in that quarter. In anticipation of prompt concurrence, however, Senator Fess, of Ohio, has undertaken to have Senator Borah named as head of the joint committee. Mr. Fess is an ultra-dry but the most servile supporter of the administration in Congress and as the President is "jockeying" for delay Fess is willing to take a chance that the investigation of the joint committee may be prolonged for a considerable time and Borah as chairman, will be muzzled during that period, whether long or short.

This juggling may serve the purpose for a time but it won't fool the people always. As Senator Borah has said, the failure of enforcement of the Volstead law is not the fault of the law but of the system. The public is coming to understand this fact and is growing impatient. Sooner or later there must be a "show-down," and the sooner the better. No government can endure that is incapable of enforcing its own mandates. It may cost a lot of money and a vast amount of trouble, but there is no escape from the obligation. The administration at Washington must "face the music." Party interests make strong appeal but they must give way to public duty.

Chairman Collins, of the Democratic State committee, is getting his forces in line for the greatest campaign of recent years. Conditions are ripe for a political revolution in Pennsylvania.

Shearer Inquisition to be Resumed

The investigation of the lobby activities of William B. Shearer is to be resumed in the near future according to information from Washington. This inquiry was in progress at the time that Premier MacDonald came over to talk with President Hoover about decreasing armaments and was adjourned for the reason that the disclosures being made might be unpleasant to the sensitive ears of that distinguished Englishman. Now that arrangements have been completed for a parley on naval parity it is considered safe to resume the investigation and fully unfold the wretched story of the failure of the naval parley of last year held at Geneva, if the whole truth is told.

Of course the whole truth will not be told for that is not the purpose of the inquisition. But Shearer will be justly condemned as a fraud and false pretender, though as a matter of fact he is not the most culpable of the conspirators who were concerned in the crime, not only against the people of the United States but of the whole civilized world. Shearer did what he could to defeat a major movement in the direction of world peace but those who employed and paid him large sums of money for his work are equally guilty and quite as deserving of public execration. The shipbuilders who for selfish purposes sent him to Geneva, ought to share in his punishment.

In a statement made public, the other day, Shearer declared that the "shipbuilders were perfectly satisfied to continue on with me but former Secretary Kellogg protested against my employment by them and as a result my income was cut off." These captains of industry knew perfectly well what he had done at Geneva, were satisfied with his achievements and willing to continue their relationship with him. But Secretary of State Kellogg, anticipating the scandal which subsequently developed, warned the shipbuilders of the danger and demanded that Shearer be discharged. It was an entirely proper course to pursue but the offenders ought to be treated alike.

Congress has resumed business with grave apprehensions of trouble and little hope of achievement.

Good or Evil of Big Business.

General Atterbury, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, in a New Year's day address to the pupils of Girard College, Philadelphia, paid the tribute of cordial approval to "the great combinations of industrial enterprises" commonly known as trusts. "We know that wealth is the most potent material power for good that exists in the world," he said, and added "other things being equal the bigger and stronger are useful and capably managed business enterprise becomes the better and more beneficial it is to the welfare of the country as a whole." This is the philosophy of big business and the monopolies of the country are paying vast sums of money to sell it to the people.

It is true that these great combinations of wealth in industry were once feared and "are now recognized as among our greatest national assets" and there are reasons for this changed attitude of public sentiment. When they were feared it was for the sufficient reason that they were comparatively unrestrained in their operations and tyrannical in their practices. Corporations, big or little, are not philanthropies, and until public opinion resented their cruelties with such force as to cause a change in their methods they deserved all the execration that was bestowed upon them and some more. That they are in better repute now is because of the great change in their methods and manners.

The nature and the purpose of men who organize and operate giant corporations and strive by every conceivable means to convey them into heartless monopolies, have not changed. "When the devil was sick, the devil got well; when the devil was he." By yielding, in most cases reluctantly, to public demand for better behavior, they have removed a large part of the popular opposition which existed some years ago. But there is no assurance that if the opportunity presents itself they will not revert to the evil practices which earned for them the just condemnation of all right-minded men and women. It will be a safe public policy to hold a tight rein on them.

Mr. Vare is enjoying the soft breezes of Florida while his friends are negotiating with Grundy to put Francis Shunk Brown on the slate for Governor.

Negotiations in Progress

Negotiations for the sale, "in bulk" of the votes of the Vare organization to Grundy are already in progress. Vare had scarcely reached his destination in Florida when his "war board" called on Mayor Mackey to enlist his branch of the organization in a movement to support Grundy for Senator and Francis Shunk Brown for Governor. It is understood that Mr. Grundy favors the combination and it is believed that the Mellons will acquiesce. Of course Governor Fisher will go along" and it is hoped that a sufficient number of the county leaders will join in. The Mayor was plainly pleased with the visitation but a trifle coquettish. He reserved his decision and invited further conferences.

The Vare "war board" is composed of sheriff Cunningham, councilman Hall and chairman of the Republican city committee James M. Hazlet. All of them have been servile dependents upon Vare's favor for years. After the campaign of last fall they publicly "read" Mayor Mackey out of the party because he opposed the Vare ticket for municipal offices. Their appeal to him now to help in an enterprise which must work humiliation to Vare was not only flattering to his vanity but a tribute to his power. And unless the visit had the sanction of Vare, which is improbable in the face of his declaration that "he is in the fight to the finish," it was flagrant treachery.

That Mr. Mackey will ultimately join in the movement may be accepted as certain. He was among the first of the party leaders to pledge approval of the Grundy appointment and support of the Grundy ambitions. He would like to be the candidate for Governor himself, and botched from the Vare ticket last fall in the hope of thereby promoting that aspiration. But the result of that gesture was disappointing. The defeat by an overwhelming majority of the really worthy ticket he supported was largely because of his association with it and that is that. Besides, he likes Grundy and is friendly with Brown and present service to them may work to future service to him.

Congress proposes to protect the Bald Eagle as long as he behaves.

Something Like Refusal in Sight

One of the first duties which devolved on Ambassador Edge after assuming his office in Paris was to enter a protest against a high tariff tax which the French government proposes to levy on motor cars, trucks and automobile parts. Mr. Edge, previous to his entrance into the diplomatic service, was a Senator in Congress from New Jersey and a tariff monger of the most ultra type. He practically dictated the rates in the schedule which shut out French competition from the products of the Trenton potteries and cheerfully accepted the rates suggested by Mr. Joe Grundy in all other schedules. There was no more valiant and vocal defender of the "home market" in Congress than Senator Edge.

It is said that the proposed French tariff tax will be a serious blow to the automobile industry of this country. Automobile parts have become a leading feature of our export trade. Even in some of the French makes American parts are used. This is probably the reason that most of the motor vehicle builders in this country protested against any tariff tax against foreign competition. Free trade in their products encouraged a spirit of reciprocity which worked to the decided advantage of American producers. The proposed French tariff it is said, will compel Henry Ford to abandon business in France or manufacture his parts in that country. Now they are shipped from his American plants.

This action of France indicates that the protests made by the several governments abroad when the pending tariff bill was under consideration in the House Committee on Ways and Means were not idle gestures. There were no threats of reprisals but they were easily interpreted as notices that the right to exclude products of other nationalities, in order to secure monopoly of home markets, is universal. President McKinley in his last public address to the American people admonished against "the danger to American industry. The proposed French tariff may be the beginning of a movement which will limit our sales as well as our purchases to the home market and that will be disastrous.

Now that council has decided to apply receipts from the borough's water rentals to nothing else than maintenance of and payment of debts incurred by the water service department of the borough we expect to see an oft made prophecy of the Watchman fulfilled. We believe it will maintain itself and whittle down on the mortgages on the Phoenix and Gamble stations at a gratifying rate. Another splendid result of the new plan will be discovery by council that since it won't be permissible to throw all the money into one pot any longer more serious attention will have to be given to budgeting for street and interest purposes, and laying enough millage to actually meet such budgets, with due allowance for defaults in tax payments.

Word comes from Clearfield county that the wide-awake Democratic leaders over there have hopes of inducing William A. Hagerty, now burgess of Clearfield, to become a candidate for State Senator. Should he hearken to the call and decide to enter the race he will probably have no opposition either in Clearfield or Centre county, in securing the nomination; and it is hardly possible for the Democrats to find a stronger man to wage a contest for the election than Mr. Hagerty, regardless of who his Republican antagonist might be. Mr. Hagerty is not only well known throughout his own county but also in most of Centre, and he has the ability and commanding appearance to make a very efficient member in the upper house in Harrisburg.

Governor Fisher declares that Sam Lewis and Jim Davis are "aggressive" and Shunk Brown and Benson Taylor "potential" candidates for Governor. Upon what foundation does he build the adjectives?

The railroad problem is likely to develop a new investigation. The recent operations of "holding companies" are exciting suspicions.

It is admitted now that Governor Fisher appointed Grundy to spite the western Senators who had impeached his title to office.

Grundy is beginning to realize that wise cracking forms a poor background for pretences of statesmanship.

Meantime Governor Pinchot is viewing the parade from the side lines with a keen eye for opportunities.

Time to go Fishin' "

From the Harrisburg Telegraph.

For A-1, Simon pure, never-say-die enthusiasm, the fisherman has it all over the golfer a hundred per cent. If you doubt it consult the statistics. Was there a golfer on the local links last Thursday? Not one, but 170 Harrisburg fishermen took out licenses that day, and were in a great hurry to get them in order to go sucker fishing. Again, according to the department, this was no mere burst of interest caused by a warm day in January. These anglers had parked their red worms in favorable places last fall and were all set to go. This shows forethought prompted by premeditated purpose.

But there is more than a mere argument in favor of the enthusiasm of fishermen in this. It indicates that with the holiday season behind us we have begun already to think of the advent of spring and a resumption of activities along all lines. If business men are as forefrightened and as energetic as these anglers in going out after trade, the forecasters who predict good business for the year will be wondering before six months are approaching avalanche of prosperity.

It is a good thing to look hopefully ahead and to try to anticipate the seasons. The practice keeps our minds on the future, and to the future we must look for the results of the present. If we plan wisely and work intelligently, we are apt to be happy, providing of course we keep our aims directed toward what lies ahead.

We shall note with interest the arrival of the first seed catalogue, the advent of the first robin, the blooming of the first hepatica, the appearance of the first shad fly. They will make us a little happier for their coming because they will point toward spring, "and spring unlocks the flowers to paint the laughing soil," which is satisfactory enough in itself, but it also brings surcease from carrying ashes, wearing overshoes, putting chains on the car and the sad business of finding the coal bin empty and the bill still unpaid.

Three rousing cheers, then gentlemen for these 170 fishermen who in the winter of our discontent, bring us the first harbinger of the gentle season of Easter eggs, spring hats warm winds through the willows streams bankful between verdant shrubbery and the trout season just around the corner.

The Year's Promise to Industry.

From the Philadelphia Record.

What makes an unemployment situation?

Primarily, lack of confidence, not in the distant future, but in the immediate future.

Every business man, at any time, is sure of the ultimate industrial health of the country. But in order to keep men at work he must be sure of his market for the current month, and the next month.

A report just presented to Secretary Davis by Francis I. Jones, director of the employment service of the Department of Labor, indicates that business is reviving precisely this important form of confidence. Unemployment undoubtedly increased during the closing weeks of 1929. The automobile industry, steel and radio suffered setbacks, largely seasonal in nature.

The turn of the year sees the major railroads entering upon ambitious projects, necessitating the employment of large numbers of men and the purchase of vast quantities of basic materials.

The automobile trade, quiet now had the best year in its history. Replacement orders alone, to care for cars now unfit for the road, should be record breaking in volume. Radio expects the same sort of activity.

It is undoubtedly true that confidence was shaken for a time. In the nature of things it was inevitable. It is just as true that the prompt rallying of industrial and construction forces, under the President's leadership, took up the shock and put the workaday world back on the track.

The Hoover principle that a reserve of construction works can be used to stabilize prosperity is working out. In an atmosphere of great projects swiftly executed, fear must subside. Confidence in the present, so much more stimulating than confidence in the future, must arise.

The new year seems to hold our great promise to the country and its people.

Not So Bad as Feared

From the Harrisburg Telegraph.

Every day that passes establishes the fact that the recent Wall Street crash is not nearly so bad as had been feared. Accepted authorities in the industrial and business world all point out that the general business situation is resting on a solid foundation. It is expected recuperation will be rapid after the first shock of the stock market slump passes away.

One of the leading experts of the country says: "We are disposed to look forward with hopefulness and feel that with the fundamental and economic position strong much better things can confidently be expected after the necessary adjustments are completed."

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE

—The toll of the last hunting season was 53 killed and 213 wounded according to incomplete reports to the Game Commission.

—Several hundred thousand legal size trout are now available at the hatcheries for distribution to those who applied during 1929, the Board of Fish Commissioners announced today.

—Since the organization of the State Police force twenty-five years ago, twenty members have met violent deaths; since the organization of the Highway Patrol, nine have met violent deaths. Of the 29, eleven were shot and killed.

—Application of Joseph Cauffiel, convicted Mayor of Johnstown, for a pardon will be heard by the State Pardon board at its hearings in Harrisburg, January 22. Cauffiel, convicted of conspiracy, has been denied a new trial by the lower and Appellate Courts.

—Permission to discontinue a bus line between Tyrone and Nealmont by the Logan Valley Bus company was granted on Saturday, by the Public Service Commission. Inadequate revenue from the operation was the reason given by the company for discontinuing the line.

—Following 50 1/2 years of continuous service in the public schools, Miss Mary Connor, teacher of the first grade at High Street school, Phoenixville, has resigned because of ill health. For 20 years, from 1907 until 1927, she did not miss a day from her school room and in the entire half century of service her days absent totaled 14, all because of illness.

—Pleading guilty to the larceny of an electric refrigerator by changing the address upon it while he was working as a messenger on a train, W. L. Dubel was sentenced to from six to twelve months in jail by President Judge William M. Hargest, in Dauphin county court. At the same time his parole was revoked on a similar charge of having stolen a radio late last year.

—Pennsylvania is still the leading producer of buckwheat and cigar-leaf tobacco, according to the State Department of Agriculture, which says 2,383,000 bushels of buckwheat valued at \$3,383,000 and 47,801,000 pounds of tobacco valued at \$8,521,000 were produced last year. Only one State produced a more valuable potato crop and but three produced more valuable apple crops, according to the department.

—To make death doubly sure, a despondent Germantown gardener on Sunday locked himself in a garage, started the engine of an automobile and cut his throat. He was dead when found. The suicide victim was James Alken, 38, of 406 West Rittenhouse street, his brother, Eugene Alken, with whom Alken lived, went to the garage at 5524 Pulaski avenue to get his automobile he found the gardener's body across a fender of the car.

—Kenneth M. Shambaugh, Lykens tax collector, won't go out after money. It will come to him in his wheel chair. Accidentally shot by a companion when 12 years old, Mr. Shambaugh was crippled for life. The bullet penetrated the spinal column. In the last election he was the candidate of the Kenneth M. Shambaugh Booster League and both Republican and Democratic opposition were borne down by his plea for a chance to be self-supporting. His four-year term began on Monday.

—Mrs. Kenneth Uip, 23, of Northumberland, missed death last Friday, by a half inch when a bullet from an exploding shell in a rubbish fire struck her chest. It penetrated the flesh for several inches and went out of her body. She is not seriously wounded. A physician said that had the ball been a half inch further in her body it would have struck the heart and been fatal. The woman had thrown several empty 32-caliber cartridge shells in the fire with rubbish; and apparently did not see the one that was loaded.

—C. R. Swanson, of Castanea, foreman of section No. 4 of the New York Central railroad, a distance of five miles extending from a point west of Youngdale to a short distance east of Mill Hill, has won the prize for 1929 for maintaining the best section of track in 25 sections known as the Beech Creek district and comprising 200 miles. The prize, for which all the section foremen strive, is an increase of \$5 a month in salary. The inspection was made October 28 last and the decision has just been announced. A foreman in each of the more than 40 districts of the New York Central system is awarded a prize each year.

—School attendance figures in Pennsylvania show a constant trend toward 100 per cent, records Dr. John A. H. Keith, superintendent of public instruction said today. The last monthly report for which results were tabulated by the attendance bureau showed a State average of 95 per cent, believed to be a record accomplishment. Three school districts under the jurisdiction of district superintendents maintained a percentage of 99; 77 districts maintained a percentage of 98; 55, a percentage of 97; 20, a percentage of 96; and four a percentage of 95. Twenty-four of the 68 counties maintained a percentage of 96 and seven, a percentage of 95.

—A piece of paper, found under a peony bush in the yard of the home of Miss Ella Brunner Krick, of Spring township, Berks county, last year, where a bonfire of Miss Krick's old papers had been made, will be admitted to probate in orphans' court at Reading, Judge F. A. Marx decided on Saturday. The paper had blown away from the bonfire and was later found to be an informal will signed by Miss Krick. It bore a date two months before that of her death in June. Charles L. Young was named as the beneficiary of her estate, valued at \$6000. The will accepted in Saturday's opinion displaces another previously probated, giving the estate to others. Young attended the woman in her last illness.

—Construction work on the new Methodist church, Warriors Mark, is rapidly being completed. Plans are now being made for the dedication ceremony to be held Sunday, March 2. The preacher for the morning service will be the Rev. Dr. W. L. McDowell, research secretary of the board of Home Missions and Church Extension, Philadelphia. Dedication service will be in charge of the Rev. Dr. J. McKendree Retley, superintendent of the Altoona district of the Methodist church. He will also preach at the night service. Services in the morning will start at 10 o'clock. Following dedication day, two weeks of services will be held during which time former and community pastors will preach. Special music will feature all meetings.