

INK SLINGS

—Lindberg's proposed flight across the Pacific is a great undertaking but it is a safe bet that he will accomplish his purpose.

—If that charity racket had occurred in New York instead of Philadelphia the Republican National committee would have butted in.

—If Germany can't pay according to agreement and can pay under a modification, it would be better to wait a while than cause a wreck.

—The Premiers of Great Britain and Germany are exchanging friendly visits and it may be said the meetings are not altogether for pleasure.

—Scar-faced Al Capone seems to be "up against it" at last. Under \$50,000 bail for appearance in court he faces a thirty-two year sentence for dodging the income tax.

—Rutgers University has now tackled the depression problem and the solution is in sight. When a bunch of college lads set their heads to a purpose the end is in sight.

—Governor Pinchot is getting rather chummy with Governor Roosevelt but nobody suspects the attachment is on the basis which led the Governor of North Carolina and the Governor of South Carolina into conversation.

—Our advice to the depositors of the closed Penns Valley Banking Co. is that the further they keep from the courts the happier they will be and the more money they will get. When fat is in the fire hot heads usually make a mess of pulling it out.

—Maybe those who are hopeful of picking up some bargains in the stock market had better wait a while longer. At the rate the list is going down the point will soon be reached, in many issues, where carnival fakers will be giving you certificates each time you knock the baby down or ring a cane.

—The President is seeing things again. His latest vision is an era of the greatest prosperity the country has ever known. Let us hope he is right. But if he thinks he is going to be elected President again so he can claim credit for it, let us hope he is wrong. If prosperity comes again, which it surely will, it will not be because of anything Herbert Hoover does.

—We understand that the Republican candidates for county offices are getting peeved because they think the public isn't warming up to their advances as it should. There does seem to be a noticeable coldness in the political atmosphere. We don't think it is local, however. It is nation and state-wide in its origin. The trouble is all because of Hoover and Pinchot. Neither one of them has done anything to write home about and most Republicans look like dill pickles when one starts to talk politics.

—If Judge Fleming, or the County Commissioners, or whoever has the fortitude to do it, would issue a pronouncement against parking cars against the south steps to the portico of the court house we think our Temple of Justice would look more like it is supposed to look than it does like a "Dew-Down Inn." We don't know whose cars they are. We do know that the Judge parks his at a most inconvenient place on the north side of the building, setting an example that should be followed by other county officials if their cars are the cars that block the entrance to the south steps and drip oil on the paving that the taxpayers of the county put there because they wanted their court house to look tidy. Whose ever cars they are, we're right here to wage our month's salary against theirs that they don't park them right against the front porches of their own homes.

—This is what we have to say to those who bite their finger nails, hunt up a tin can and go into a huddle with their neighbors every time a bank closes: In Bellefonte there are three banks all set and ready for the hysterical. They are ready to meet all demands that might be made on them and the head of one of them told us, Tuesday morning: "I pay no attention to these rumors. If anybody wants his or her money let them come in and get it. We have it for them, but I don't want the fellow who drew his balance out yesterday ever to bring it back. Let him keep it in the ash can. It's the second time he's done it and if he has no more confidence in us than that he ought not to do business with us." We applaud that frank statement because we happen to know that the banker who made it knows both of his competitor institutions feel the same way. A run on any bank in Bellefonte would not go further than to tighten up the present tight financial situation. Because they would temporarily suspend making new or renewing current loans. All have enough liquid assets to meet every demand that would be made on them and would come through a run with such nonchalance as would make a lot of excitable depositors ashamed of themselves.

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President Hoover's Opening Speech.

President Hoover opened his campaign for renomination in a speech before the Indiana Republican Editorial association, at Indianapolis, on Monday evening. In the presence of a friendly audience he spoke frankly, not only in defense of his past record but of his future purposes. The speech was well phrased and cordially received. It was wisely limited to a few questions, the industrial depression, the problem of relief and the tariff, and upon each of these subjects he simply expressed the views of Senator Jim Watson and other Hoosier politicians.

An analysis of the speech would take up more space than is available at this time and probably more time than it is worth. He attributed the economic distress to the World war and world conditions and expresses confidence that time, say twenty years, and patience will work a cure. He felicitated the country that other nations are suffering more than the United States but neglected to add that there are ample reasons for this fact, if it is a fact. The other nations that are suffering lost heavily in the war while this country gained immensely in wealth and industrial development.

He eulogized the Grundy tariff, notwithstanding the "iniquities and inequalities" which he admits it contains. There will be no reduction of rates so long as he is able to prevent it. The Tariff Commission, which always increases and never reduces rates, is a guarantee of safety, according to his notion. He deprecates pessimism as the greatest of all evils and admonishes against want of confidence as the stumbling block to the approach of prosperity. As a matter of fact the principal cause of fear is the presence in office of a stubborn and stupid President.

But taking one consideration with another the speech served its purpose of opening the Hoover campaign for 1932 and serving notice to all other Republican aspirants to "keep off the grass."

—There is an impending difference between the State and Treasury Departments in Washington on the matter of war debts and reparations payments. But it is a safe bet that the Treasury idea will prevail.

How Long Will Pinchot Fool the People?

Governor Pinchot's anxiety for the utility rate payers of the State seems to have abated since the adjournment of the General Assembly. The preponderance of evidence taken by both the investigating committees during the session indicated that one of the gravest reasons for defective service of the Public Service Commission was caused by the insufficiency of funds to promptly and adequately investigate charges against utility corporations. With the purpose of remedying this fault in the operations of the Public Service Commission the General Assembly increased the appropriation for that service by \$862,000. In approving the general appropriation bill the Governor cut that increase out.

In the face of this action on the part of the Governor there can be little hope of improvement in the service. The Senate investigating committee recommended several important changes in the law in order that more efficient service might be rendered. Both branches of the Legislature agreed substantially on the legislation recommended. But Governor Pinchot insisted upon a provision vesting in him the power to hire and fire members of the Commission and rather than relinquish that prerogative he caused the measure to fail. Now that he has vetoed the legislation which would have permitted the Commission to serve the public, the inference that he is insincere is incontrovertible.

When Gifford Pinchot joined in the campaign to elect Herbert Hoover President, in 1928, he revealed his indifference to the utility problem. Mr. Hoover was openly committed to the Power trust and in full sympathy with the plans and purposes of the utility corporations. For that reason Senator Norris, of Nebraska, bolted his party and supported Mr. Smith by vote and voice. That was the crucial test of fidelity to the people and Gifford Pinchot failed to measure up to the standard. His action against the strengthening legislation and his veto of the appropriation to the Public Service Commission is additional proof of hypocrisy. How long will he be able to hoodwink the people?

—The Soviet government of Russia has adopted the bonus system to encourage workers. The bonus is in the form of free transportation.

FEDERAL FISH HATCHERY FOR FISHING CREEK

Sportsmen all over Central Pennsylvania will be greatly interested in the proposed U. S. Government fish hatchery and nurseries that now seem definitely located for Fishing Creek in Clinton county. That stream is outstanding among the ideal and natural ones of the State and the decision of the federal fish culturists to locate a large hatchery on it is proof of the fact.

For seven miles it winds through the picturesque Lamar narrows of the Nittany mountains, without an improvement other than fishermen's cabins, to mar its wild beauty. It is not what might be called a turbulent stream because the grade is low. It is broad and shallow, considerably larger than the Rapidan river on which the President's fishing camp in Virginia is located and has just enough of riffle and pools to make it the ideal stream on which we understand the government hopes to carry out some interesting experiments that may confirm the belief of its experts that the cleanest and most recreative of outdoor sports can really be given to the people of every State, in the way of fishing—that is, fishing when the lure is seductive enough to be compelling.

According to plans that are already beyond the tentative stage and down to examination of briefs of title and preparation of deeds, the U. S. Government has bought the private fishing preserve of Sen. Charles Steele at Lamar, together with a portion of the Krape farm now occupied by Bruce Harris that abuts on the preserve. This is part of the original Washington Furnace lands and later portions of it were in possession of the Queen of Spain. It takes in all of what is commonly known as the Washington Furnace dam site, about half of the Krape farm and other lands to the south so far as the iron bridge crossing the creek at the entrance to the gap, as well as Rag run and its water shed for a considerable distance eastward. The transfer will necessitate the removal of the Ferree cabin at the mouth of Rag run and that of Robert F. Hunter, which is located on the Steele property.

This purchase is for development of a nature yet to be determined.

Seven miles further up the stream most of the Daniel Rhule property has been purchased from James C. Furst, its present owner. This purchase takes the dam, springs, farm buildings and practically all of the land under cultivation leaving to Mr. Furst only his present cabin site and the mountain side on the north side of the stream to a point several hundred feet east of the present location of Geo. R. Meek's cabin. It gives the government control of the real and unfailing source of the stream and about three quarters of a mile of its course.

What the developments are to be there are merely matters of conjecture. It is probable, however, that a hatchery and nursery ponds will be installed because both the water supply and topography of the land are admirable for such objectives.

We know that the federal authorities have in mind the growing of bass as well as trout, though the former involves problems on a stream of the temperature of Fishing Creek that have yet to be worked out. However it all ends there is promise of a great project. For when the State gets in and completes the highway through from Lamar to Tylersville and Uncle Sam makes it possible for blind men to catch trout in Fishing Creek at midnight then—Oh Lord, it sounds so good we're afraid to write another word for fear somebody tells us to waken up, our pipe is out.

—When water superintendent J. D. Seibert laid the 12-inch water main, on Lamb street, he cut into the 6-inch main on Spring street, capping the unconnected end, on north Water street, and as a precautionary measure propping the bank against the bank. The water pressure in the pipe is about five tons and the result was the bank gave way, about four o'clock last Saturday morning, and one joint of pipe was torn loose. The water had to be shut off from that section of town until repairs could be made which were not completed until Saturday afternoon.

—State Banking Commissioner William D. Gardon has appointed Robert C. Enders as a special deputy to represent the banking department in either a continuance or liquidation of the affairs of the Snow Shoe bank, which closed last week. If the bank's financial standing is found in such shape as to justify reopening it and continuing in business that will be done; if not, it's affairs will be liquidated.

PENNS VALLEY BANK CLOSED FOR LIQUIDATION.

Following close upon the closing of the Snow Shoe bank, last week, the Penns Valley Banking Co., of Centre Hall, failed to open for business on Monday morning. A notice on the door announced "Closed for Liquidation."

The Penns Valley Banking company was a partnership institution, one of the very few privately owned and conducted banks in the State, and because of this fact was outside the oversight of the State Banking Department and consequently was never subject to an examination. With a successful financial history of more than half a century the bank was naturally regarded as a safe institution, and it could not have been anything less than a shocked surprise when the fact became known that it had closed for liquidation.

The bank is not insolvent and officers and partners claim it will pay dollar for dollar of its obligations. Its resources are given as \$510,000, liabilities \$413,000. Excessive loans beyond the limit of discretion caused such a shrinkage in actual cash that the bank reached its limit on Saturday. Saturday afternoon a meeting was held with the board of directors of the First National bank of Centre Hall to discuss the possibility of a merger but the proposition did not meet with the approval of the Federal Reserve bank examiner. The merger failing to go through there was nothing left for the officials of the Penns Valley Banking company to do but close.

Steps are now being taken for the liquidation of the bank's affairs without going into court. It is expected that a meeting of the partners and depositors will be held in the near future to consider the proposition. It will be less costly and quicker of consummation than court action. While the resources exceed the liabilities by \$97,000 there will undoubtedly be some shrinkage when it comes to realize on the resources. In the banking partnership, however, are forty-three members, whose combined wealth is estimated at from a million to a million and a half dollars, and as each one is liable, under the law, for the debts of the partnership, every obligation will probably be met without making a very heavy drain on any of the partners.

The bank had about 900 accounts, which of course included duplicates, certificates of deposit, savings accounts, etc. D. K. Keller was the cashier and in conjunction with the partners will do everything in his power to hasten liquidation and relieve any distress that the closing of the bank may cause to depositors.

County Treasurer Lyman L. Smith used the bank as a depository for the county general fund, but so far as could be learned there was less than a thousand dollars in the fund when the bank closed. Centre Hall borough also kept its account in the bank but how much it had there at this time could not be learned.

The Penns Valley Banking company was organized April 1st, 1873, by General James A. Beaver, J. Dunlop Shugert and John P. Harris, of Bellefonte; John and Peter Hoffer, of Centre Hall. It had a capital of \$50,000. Peter Hoffer was the first president and W. B. Mingle cashier. At a reorganization meeting in 1876 Shugert and the Hoffers retired and their interests were taken over by Daniel Hess and William Wolf, the latter being elected president. The bank building was erected in 1877 at a cost of \$8,000.

BELLEFONTE COUPLE INJURED IN READING

On Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Frank Galbraith, of Bishop street, accompanied their daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Shields, back to their home in Reading for a visit of several weeks.

They had reached that city in safety and were only a few blocks from the Shields residence when another car, rushing out of a side street, crashed into them with such force as to completely overturn the one in which they were traveling. Mr. Galbraith was thrown clear out of the car and injured about the head and back. Mrs. Galbraith suffered slight injuries and both were taken to a Reading hospital where it was found that neither was in a serious condition.

Mr. and Mrs. Shields and their two children, who were also in the party, escaped with minor bruises. Mr. Galbraith is nearing his eighty-third birthday, but that means little in his case, for every day he is at his place of business and puts in longer hours there than any business man we know of in Bellefonte.

—Subscribe for the Watchman.

FIFTY YEARS AGO IN CENTRE COUNTY

Items taken from the Watchman issue of Friday, June 24, 1881.

—Commencement exercises at State College will begin on Sunday with the baccalaureate sermon, which will be preached by the Rev. W. L. Wallace.

—The Scotia mines are now being filled up with Italians, Swedes, Norwegians, Negroes and any other classes of labor that can be secured. Labor is in great demand in that section and the Celtic company, which is opening several other veins of ore there promises to add to the demand when it gets going right.

—Other names have this week been added to the long list of aspirants for county office. They are: J. G. Meyer, of Haines Twp., for Treasurer; N. J. Mitchell, of Howard, Harry Miller, of Harris, and P. W. Barnhart, of Boggs, for Associate Judge; and John Wolf, of Miles, and H. E. Duck, of Penn, for County Commissioner.

—It is said that Gregg Post, G. A. R., of this place, will send sixty members to the celebration at Gettysburg on the Fourth.

—The wheat crop shows signs of being a fair one in Centre county this year.

—During the recent rise in the stream there, cellars in Millheim have nearly all been filled with water.

—The Bellefonte Car Works has made its first shipment of new cars. They were twelve in number and consigned to the Northern Central R. R.

—John Blair Linn Esq., late Secretary of the Commonwealth, has been engaged by L. H. Everts to prepare the general history of Centre and Clinton Counties, which he expects to publish as soon as it can be completed.

—Last Tuesday afternoon Charles Marks, who has been a blacksmith in the employ of both Curtin & Co., and McCoy and Linn, went to Dr. Hoy to have a tumor removed from his head. Being a courageous fellow he refused to take an anesthetic and assured the Doctor that he could keep still enough to permit of a successful operation. In the midst of it he lost his nerve and collapsed. For awhile there was fear that he couldn't be revived, but artificial respiration was resorted to and he came back to have the job completed. It was an heroic undertaking, but the tumor is gone and Charles is now exhibiting his wound.

—Franklin Dale and his friend, Mr. Thaler, are sojourning in town with the intention of organizing a musical school.

—Gen. Beaver's legal frolic, that was to have come off in the shape of a banquet in honor of Judge Mayer, has been indefinitely postponed by the Governor's veto of the bill that would have changed our judicial district and taken Judge Mayer away as our presiding Judge.

—The annual excursion and picnic of the Bellefonte Methodist Sunday school to Snow Shoe Intersection will take place next Thursday, the 30th.

—Miss Anna Pletcher died in Howard on the evening of the 14th. She was 76 years, 10 months and 22 days old. Her was a very peculiar case for she had refused to take food of any kind for forty-five days before her demise and drank very little water. It is said she suffered very little pain during her abstinence from food and was unconscious most of the time.

—The Board of Commissioners of the State Geological Survey have ordered a complete survey of Centre county for the State records and W. G. Platt is now quartered at the Bush house preparatory to beginning the work.

—The Undine Fire company will have charge of the Fourth of July celebration here. The Logan company and Capt. Mullen's Bellefonte Fencibles have accepted invitations to parade with the Undines in the morning. In the afternoon and evening a picnic dinner and dancing will be held in Valentine's grove near the toll gate.

LOGAN FIRE COMPANY TO HOLD A BIG BAZAAR.

At a special meeting of the Logan Fire company, on Wednesday evening, it was definitely decided to hold a home-coming celebration and bazaar on the High school grounds, July 2nd, 3rd and 4th, opening at 7 o'clock each evening. Al Nuttle, musical clown of Chicago, has been engaged as one of the free attractions, and there will be several others. Wetzler's boys band and the I. O. O. F. band, of Bellefonte, will furnish free concerts each evening. On Saturday afternoon there will be a baseball game on Hughes field between Bellefonte and Pleasant Gap. On the last night of the celebration a Ford car will be given away.

—Mr. Coolidge has announced his purpose to take a long vacation. Producing 200 words a day for a newspaper syndicate appears to be too much for him.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Clearfield's four volunteer fire companies are preparing to go on strike because Town Council voted to take over the \$30,000 firemen's relief fund established in 1898. The firemen watched the vote and then advised municipal officials of the walkout.

—All outstanding bills for dental work are cancelled in the will of Dr. Horace Basehor, entered for probate at York, Pa. The remainder of the estate, valued at \$10,000, goes to his widow during life. On her death one-half goes to a nephew, Horace Yeagy, and a fourth each to a nephew and niece, George and Marie Yeagy.

—Major General Charles M. Clement, of Sunbury, 75-year-old member of the Pennsylvania National Guard, underwent a minor operation in the University hospital, Philadelphia, on Monday. He was reported not in a serious condition, although a second operation was said to be necessary in two weeks. General Clement has been with the P. N. G. for forty years.

—Immediate work on a natural gas pipe line from the Tioga field into the Williamsport-Sunbury section has been announced by the Pennsylvania Power and Light company. The right-of-way has been obtained and construction is expected to be started within a week. The line will supplement lines now serving Muncy, Milton, Sunbury, Bloomsburg and Danville.

—Some time during Wednesday night, or early Thursday morning, of last week 64 pure-bred lambs were stolen from the farm owned by Dr. George Lake, Franklin township, at Huntingdon Furnace. Dr. Lake is a practicing physician at Pittsburgh, and the farm is operated by his three sons. Police say that it would require several trucks to remove the animals from the farm.

—Denied the time-honored privilege of shearing the heads of a group of graduates with horse clippers, members of the junior class of Mahanoy City high school on Monday retaliated by bombarding the homes of the superintendent of schools and the high school principal with eggs. Three of the leaders of the demonstration were jailed. When their followers threatened to storm the jail.

—John Dabalansky, of Uniontown, who speaks the English language well, but sometimes has trouble with his "r's" was acquitted on a charge of driving while intoxicated last week. A physician testified he believed the man was intoxicated because he was unable to rattle off, "around the ragged rock, ran the ragged rascal," following his arrest. The doctor said he passed several other tests.

—Banking suspensions have taken a greater toll of deposits in Pennsylvania than in any other State in the Union in the first five months of 1931. The Federal Reserve Board reported twelve more banks in the State closed their doors in May, bringing the total number of suspensions to date this year to thirty-one, with deposits involved of \$39,544,000. Several other States have had more suspensions, but the aggregate deposits were less.

—Revival of the old practice of keeping a family photograph album, especially as an aid to identification in police work, is urged by Major Lynn G. Adams, superintendent of the Pennsylvania State Police. "The family album may have been the butt of 1000 jokes, but it served a useful purpose just the same," Adams said. He said that the inability of authorities to secure good photographs was responsible for burial of many unknowns in the Potter's fields of the counties of the State.

—Plans have been completed for placing a monument in memory of Corp. Brady Paul, of the state highway patrol, who was shot and killed December 27, 1929. W. Glenn Dague and Mrs. Irene Schroeder were electrocuted for the crime at Rockview penitentiary on February 23rd. The monument will be on the spot along the Butler-New Castle highway where Paul was shot down when he and a fellow-officer stopped Dague and Mrs. Schroeder as they fled from a Butler store robbery.

—William E. Miller, Sunbury, Pa., must continue his search for his son, missing 15 years. Miller made a 250-mile trip to Albany, only to learn that Clyde Williams, raised by gypsies and once called Miller, is not his son. "The boy gave me a hint, however," said Miller. "He says he knows a young-man about 25, which is about the age my boy would be. This youth is traveling with gypsies, but is light-complexioned and not like him. I firmly believe Williams may help me find my boy, Therman."

—Dr. Homer Price Rainey, president of Franklin College, Ind., will succeed Dr. Emory W. Hunt, retired, as president of Bucknell University. His acceptance was announced on Tuesday by Judge John W. Davis, Trenton, chairman of the committee on nomination. Dr. Rainey was elected at a meeting of Bucknell trustees last week, but did not accept officially until after commencement exercises at Franklin. Dr. Rainey, who is 35, was elected president of Franklin College four years ago, being one of the youngest men ever appointed to head an American college.

police armed with fire hose, held them at bay with a powerful water stream.

—C. Harrison Lund, Erie attorney is at liberty on \$5,000 bond pending further hearing next Saturday in connection with charges that he is a member of an arson ring which is alleged to have operated in that county. After a hearing before an alderman, Lund was bound over to the fall grand jury. Attorneys for Lund, however, immediately filed application for a writ of habeas corpus staying the action of the committing magistrate. Attorneys for Lund, in applying for the writ, alleged insufficient evidence.

—Construction on the mile-long dam of the hydro-electric development of the Safe Harbor Water Power corporation has reached the York county or west shore of the Susquehanna river. The power house substructure and the concrete dam are two-thirds completed and with the final cofferdam in place the last area of the river bed will be "unwatered." The power house is located on the Lancaster or east side of the river and construction began there. Original schedule called for placing the Safe Harbor development in service in 1932. Construction is so far ahead of schedule that the first units will be placed in operation early next winter, power company officials say.