

INK SLINGS.

—Just for the advancement of science Capt. Bert White jumped from an airplane that was five miles up. If we ever get that near Heaven science and parachutes can go to the devil. We'll pull the rip cord on our wings—and more power to them—when we make our jump from such an altitude.

—Conditions must be worse in Bellefonte than surface indications reveal. We are told that out on Linn street, where the rich folks live, even ham bones have to do double and triple duty by being passed around among as many families as care to cook their string beans with them.

—King George of England has asked Parliament to cut his salary a quarter of a million dollars a year. As the grants to Great Britain's King amount to only two million, three hundred and fifty thousand annually we imagine poor George will have to go back to wearing patched trousers, as he did as a gesture of economy during the war.

—Up to this moment our three column plea of last week has resulted in a reduction of exactly twenty-two in the list of our delinquents. Evidently we can't excite their lachrymal glands into flowing copiously enough to loosen their purse strings. When we blubber again it will be on the shoulder of John Rockefeller. Occasionally he does give someone a nickel.

—President Hoover has announced that by January first one hundred thousand men will get jobs on buildings the government is going to erect. That would be something if it were not for the fact that every penny that the hundred thousand will be paid will have to come out of the pockets of others who are probably as hard up as those who are to get the jobs. Robbing Peter to pay Paul isn't a fundamentally sound economic procedure.

—As the primary election approaches all manner of rumors are afloat as to eleventh hour realignments and combinations. One is to the effect that Keeler, who seemed sure of the Republican nomination for Sheriff three weeks ago, is slipping. Harry's eight reasons for having the position on the ticket have been totally eclipsed by a million or more reasons why he should not have it. The significant one of the latter is that Senator Scott wants the place for Mr. Mayes. Mayes can put up a lot of money for the campaign, Harry can't and the Senator won't unless he has some say as to whom it is to be spent for. A campaign without money doesn't get far these days and we are inclined to put some credence in the story to the effect that even the Pinchot crowd is dropping some of their favorites because they realize that in politics, as in everything else, bricks can't be made without straw.

—Democrats who go to the primaries next Tuesday should keep in mind that there is to be a candidate for Supreme Court Judge named Charles F. Uhl, of Somerset county, is the only Democrat seeking the nomination of his party. Judge James B. Drew, a Republican, is filed on the Democratic ticket, however, and is trying to capture both party nominations. Judge Drew is no claim, whatever, to a place in a Democratic ticket and his attempt to grab our party's nomination seems rather unworthy one seeking such an exalted position as seat on the Supreme court bench. This is the first time that any candidate of any party in Pennsylvania as undertaken such a thing in a state-wide primary and especially since our party has no representation at all on the Supreme court is an assumption of arrogance that should be rebuked by every Democrat. It is all right for Judge Drew to run in his own party's primary, but his attempt to choke off any opposition that the Democrats might elect to present to his candidacy is an exceedingly high-handed procedure.

—When you go to the primary next Tuesday don't vote to put someone on your party's ticket merely because he is a good fellow, or because you like him or because he ceases the job. No such reasons should guide a citizen who is voting or the best interests of himself and his fellows. He should select candidates for local offices with the utmost care as to their fitness, their courage to stand out against partisan attempts to exploit the people who pay the taxes and who realize that the most rigid economy in government is the thing most to be desired now. Oftentimes a most popular man is often the most parsimonious turns out to be penny-wise and pound foolish. Especially for the offices of Assessor, Road Supervisors, School Directors, Poor Overseers and County Commissioners select candidates whom you know will spend your money so that you get the most for the dollar you pay in taxes. There is so much dissatisfaction abroad in the land now that the very foundation of our government is trembling. In a large measure it is due to the devil-may-care way in which we vote or fail to take interest enough to go to the primaries.

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What Pinchot May Be Able to Do.

According to an esteemed metropolitan contemporary plans have been laid "to fight Governor Pinchot's Presidential ambitions." The other day State Treasurer Edward Martin, who is chairman of the Republican State committee, had a conference with William S. Vare at his seashore home, after which "he hurried back to Philadelphia and met former Mayor J. Hampton Moore at a luncheon in the Union League." Neither Mr. Vare nor General Martin would reveal the purpose or result of their conference, but as in other things "when two or three are gathered together," there is something doing. Our own Senator Scott and Senator Baldwin, of Potter county, were present at and participated in the luncheon.

The inference has been drawn by our Philadelphia contemporary that the subject of discussion at both the conference and the luncheon was the Pinchot Presidential ambitions. It may be safely said that the time and energy thus employed was wasted. Governor Pinchot knows that the Republican nomination for President next year is now securely stowed away in the White House refrigerator. But it may be recalled that the late lamented Sancho Panza spent considerable time and invested a good deal of endeavor in a hopelessly futile conflict with a wind-mill, and our aspiring and self-appointed guardian of the rights of the people may consider it worthwhile to keep on the front page, anyway.

There is reason, however, in the anxiety which the regular Republican organization managers are manifesting concerning the activities of the Governor. He is a master in political maneuvering and an expert in all the devices of demagoguery. He has set his heart to the task of destroying the present leadership of his party in Pennsylvania from Uncle Andy Mellon down to the most humble adherent of the Vare machine. He can't prevent the nomination of Hoover next year but he thinks he can relegate to the political scrap-heap all the leaders and near-leaders of the force which defeated his selfish scheme to control the operations of the General Assembly during its recent session.

—The Prince of Wales also shows real sympathy for the people.

Psychology of Governor Pinchot.

The esteemed New York Times doesn't understand the psychology of Governor Pinchot. The Governor's insistence upon outside help in the work of relieving distress during the coming winter surprises our contemporary. It says "his attitude is the more remarkable because in the long run a wealthy manufacturing State like Pennsylvania would probably pay more than it received for the assistance thus rendered."

Governor Pinchot is not greatly concerned about the receipts and expenditures of the State in connection with the relief of industrial or economic distress. But he is vastly interested in political conditions at present and in the near future, and firmly believes that demagogic appeals to popular cupidity will promote his ambitions, absurd or otherwise. There is a good deal of distress in the industrial life of the State, at present, and strong indications of suffering in the future. The Governor probably believes that an insistent demand for outside help under the circumstances will meet with popular favor and redound to his political advantage.

But in his demand for the early assembling of Congress Mr. Pinchot is everlastingly right. There are questions pending that must be solved by Congress and which ought to be solved promptly. For example, the moratorium is not valid until ratified by Congress and yet Mr. Hoover is proceeding with all the assurance of a Mussolini or Stalin to administer it. The autocratic idea has taken too firm a hold on his mind, not too rugged, at best. The moratorium was an excellent temporary expedient. Mr. Young would not have suggested it if it had been without sterling merit. But so long as it remains without the declared sanction of Congress it may be perverted into an evil rather than a blessing.

The docility of the people of Italy and the experience of the Soviet government of Russia have created a sentiment in favor of government by a dictator in many minds, mainly of the feeble type. It has completely enveloped the brain of President Hoover. He imagines he can run the government without better than with the help of Congress. It is an experiment more dangerous than noble.

Mr. Beck Would Shield His Party.

Mr. James M. Beck, Vare's hand-picked Representative in Congress, is persuaded that what the country needs at this time is a coalition organization of Congress. The country has been indulging in what might be called a criminal orgie of extravagance and now that the indications point to Democratic control of the legislative machinery and incidentally to a correction of some of the abuses in that direction, Mr. Beck thinks it would be just too bad for the credit to go where it belongs. To avert that result he favors "the formation of a party coalition and the election of a fair-minded man as Speaker, as the practical way to cut public expenditures to the bone."

"There are no reasons whatever except party politics," Mr. Beck continued. "Why governmental expenditures should not be reduced from \$5,000,000,000 to \$3,000,000,000, especially if we expect, during the period of this crisis, further payments to the sinking fund." Most persons who have given thought to the subject will cordially concur in this opinion. But what reason can Mr. Beck, or any other person who has given thoughtful consideration to the matter, give as to why the process of economy had not been adopted long before. The Republican party has had control of both the executive and legislative branches of the government for a quarter of a century and more and there has been ample time in which to inaugurate such economies.

While the Democratic party had opportunity and inclination to put James M. Beck into lucrative and important offices he was an enthusiastic Democrat. When that, to him, auspicious period ended he became a Republican. Since his conversion to that political faith most of the profrugality of which he now complains was developed. Now that he sees a change for the better impending he suggests a scheme which might divide the honors of the improvement and obliterate from the public mind all memory of responsibility for an evil that cries to high heaven for redress. But his hopes in the matter will be disappointed. Democrats will control the future legislation and reap credit for the improvement.

—Dopesters on national politics lead us to believe that President Hoover will wear his fishing boots in his next campaign. They say he wants to keep dry while angling for votes in Four Per Cent Beer Creek and Light Wine Run.

Hoover Inclined Toward the Wets.

Some of the well-informed Washington political news writers are predicting that President Hoover is inclined to change his mind on the question of modifying the Volstead law. For some months it has been apparent that the influential leaders of the party are drifting away from the policies of the Anti-Saloon League. But Mr. Hoover has thus far continued adherence to the Bishop Cannon faith, though he has never professed to be an out-and-out Prohibitionist. But such party leaders as control in the eastern States are persuaded that the Bishop Cannon type of Prohibition not only invites but compels disaster. These writers imagine that Mr. Hoover is coming to that opinion.

President Hoover has never had what is commonly known and justly esteemed "pride of opinion." He never hesitates to express one day a view on an important subject which he condemned the day before. He is controlled by emotions of self-interest which habit of mind led Senator Watson to remark that, "a man has to have St. Vitus' dance to stand behind this President." In wet States he supports wet candidates like Senator Morrow, in New Jersey, while he is equally attached to Senator Fess, of Ohio, a bigoted Prohibitionist. His last public utterance on the subject was an emphatic declaration of fidelity to the Anti-Saloon League's system of prohibition enforcement but nobody knows what's next.

Elliott Thurston writes the Philadelphia Record that "New York Republicans, organization leaders in New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and other eastern, as well as western, States have warned Hoover that his chances of re-election, none too bright at best in times of depression, are close to hopeless unless he heeds the public clamor for reform," meaning, of course, the modification of the Volstead law. The consensus of opinion among the well-informed in Washington is that he will yield in this as in so many other matters to expediency, and in the end pursue the course chosen for, and not by, him.

Judge Strauss Rebukes Corruption.

Judge Frank H. Strauss, president of the Northumberland county courts, has expressed courage and conscience in refusing to submit to the demands of hungry and corrupt politicians. Judge Strauss is one of the outstanding jurists of the State. He is completing a full term of honorable service on the bench and had announced his candidacy for re-election. But the expectations of the politicians have been so great that he was compelled to withdraw from the contest. He has announced, according to newspaper reports, "that he could not see the bargain in paying from \$30,000 to \$40,000 to the county's Democratic shysters for a \$10,000 a year job."

Campaign expenses have become so enormous in Pennsylvania that no man, however wealthy, can hope for nomination and election without violating every principle of justice and a good many of the provisions of the election laws. The result is that in many sections of the State the official life has become a pool of corruption. When a candidate pays as much, or nearly as much, for the election as he will receive in salary the only means of reimbursement is the practice of fraud, and that method is usually adopted. In the nature of things this system becomes a rule in the community until the entire official life is debauched and the people acquiesce without complaint.

It may be worth-while to recall the fact that the first offender in this grave evil of politics in Pennsylvania was Gifford Pinchot, who pretends to represent the righteousness of official life. In 1922 he, and other members of his family, spent upward of a quarter of a million dollars for the nomination for Governor. It was an unheard-of figure up to that time. No candidate had ever dreamed of such profrugality before that year. But since then such figures have become the rule rather than the exception, and nobody is able to devise a plan to stop it. But Judge Strauss, of the Northumberland county courts, has pointed the way. If other candidates pursue the same course that evil will soon end.

—Senator Borah says "if the public dole system is established in this country it will be forced by those who, having the means, refuse to do their part in feeding the hungry."

Demagogues in Disagreement.

There never was much love exchanged between Governor Pinchot and Senator Dave Reed, of Pennsylvania. They only come together when the exigencies of politics requires the complete repression of every element of honesty. It is not surprising, therefore, that Senator Reed should take issue with Governor Pinchot on his plan to relieve the unemployment paralysis. The Governor's appeal to President Hoover gave the Senator an excellent opportunity to denounce flagrant demagoguery and he just naturally availed himself of it at the expense of Pinchot.

Of course Mr. Pinchot's purpose in asking the President to assemble Congress in extra session was not to provide employment to labor or relieve economic depression. It was to embarrass Hoover by organizing labor against him for selfish interests. Mr. Pinchot is free with lip service to labor but parsimonious in rendering any more substantial assistance. He has already repudiated most of the promises made during his campaign for Governor, last year, and is trying to divert public attention from his delinquency by putting Hoover in a hole.

But Senator Reed is no more sincere in his plan for industrial relief. He knows that the General Assembly of Pennsylvania has no power to appropriate money to provide employment for idle but willing workers, and that even if it had such authority it would be impossible to exercise it in time to avert the suffering already casting its shadow over the State. As a matter of fact both these Republican office holders are trying to fool the people, one by besmirching the President and the other "to save his face."

—King George, of England, shows that his heart is in the right place by voluntarily surrendering a big slice of his salary as a help to solve the industrial depression.

—New York's Mayor's sojourn abroad may be restful to him but the newspaper stories of it make the rest of us Americans tired.

—The farm board is disposing of its wheat in sizable job lots but the transactions are not helping the farmers a great deal.

Hoover Philosophy—Roosevelt Action

From the Philadelphia Record. While President Hoover co-ordinates, Governor Roosevelt initiates. Mr. Hoover gives the distressed public philosophy. Mr. Roosevelt gives it action.

The New York Governor's plan may not be perfect. It may not even be the best possible. But it is a plan, it promises to start the machinery of real relief—and it bucks us up to know that someone in high office is in earnest and not afraid to take a chance.

The Governor proposes a State tax on incomes to provide funds for State help to the unemployed. "Socialistic, paternalistic." That will be the cry from those who place property rights above human rights.

But Governor Roosevelt thinks in terms of human welfare. What he proposes is an emergency measure disregarding conventional restrictions for the sake of safeguarding the public against disorders threatened by another winter of distress.

For single persons the tax would start at incomes of \$3000, whose possessors would pay \$2.50. For heads of families, with two children or other dependents, it would begin at \$5000 with a tax of \$1.

In practical effect, the suggested legislation would simply put State authority back of the appeal to the public—the appeal to those who have money to help those who have none. The tax would equalize the burden—and all the great social and economic problems of America today pivot on the idea of equalization.

For New York State the Governor boldly proposes a course which President Hoover has rejected for the nation.

Two political philosophies in dramatic contrast. Hoover preaches "rugged individualism," dreads the dole and says relief must come through private agencies. Roosevelt recognizes the duty of Government to protect the people, and translates his conviction into definite, positive action.

If Governor Roosevelt's plan is accepted—and only partisan opposition is to be expected—a \$20,000,000 appropriation will start the ball rolling. An emergency relief board to be appointed by the Governor will administer the fund. Furthermore, a five-day week will be established for men employed on State or municipal works. Cities and counties will be authorized to raise relief funds through bond issues.

The Governor steps out boldly with presentation of the contrast between his action and that of the Federal Administration. "It is idle to speculate on actions the Federal Government may take," he says. And: "The time for platitudes has passed." Hoover leadership is increasingly under challenge. Franklin D. Roosevelt's leadership in his party becomes constantly more conspicuous.

He stands foremost among government executives as one ready, willing and able to inaugurate practical methods of relief.

He recognizes and faces realities.

Fordian Philosophy

From the Danville Morning News. Henry Ford has blossomed into print with a typically Fordian pronouncement. All employees in his automobile factories must furnish food for their tables from their own back yard or lose their jobs.

This plan, he declares, will end the depression by requiring every man to help himself. Eventually, he thinks, other manufacturers will promulgate similar requirements under the command of Captain Ford.

It really is a splendid idea. If every wage earner grows his own produce half the farmers in the country will be impoverished, and everybody knows what a good thing that would be for industry. Doubtless it would have a splendid effect upon the sale of Ford automobiles if the farmers were to lose their market for their crops.

Mr. Ford should go farther and make a similar suggestion to farmers. There is really no reason why they shouldn't help themselves, as the Ford employees are about to do. If they had any gumption, they would use their spare time to build their own automobiles. That, too, would help the depression. It would create so much more spare time for the Ford employees to devote to their gardens.

Besides, it all gets us back to those good old days which Mr. Ford admires so much, the days when every family raised its own food, spun its own clothes, built its own houses, and made its own tools. Pretty soon we won't need any Ford factories or any farms at all and depressions will be at an end.

It's really marvelous how simply the great economic problems can be solved if somebody like Mr. Ford gets around to attending to them.

—Just like other people Lindy finds that an earthquake offers a "rather odd, queer sensation." To some victims it is even worse than that.

—Judging by the Philadelphia papers that city lost its most distinguished citizen when Mickey Duffey "passed away."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Thieves breaking into the William Kightlinger residence in Pleasantville, Crawford county, carried away a safe weighing 150 pounds, and took it into Warren county where they rifled it of its contents. Valuable papers and jewelry were stolen.

—A ton of sugar has been received by police chief H. S. Byers, at police headquarters in Chambersburg, from a benefactor whose name was withheld at his request. The sugar will be distributed among needy families and a portion will be given to welfare workers preserving peaches for winter consumption.

—The Crawford county School Director's association has asked school boards of the county to refuse employment to men and women teachers who smoke cigarettes. The Rev. J. Alvin Hazlett, United Presbyterian minister of West Fallowfield township, introduced a resolution at the annual meeting condemning the use of cigarettes by teachers.

—When honor certificates are awarded at the National Dairy Exposition in St. Louis, October 10 to 14, the names of 1037 Pennsylvania dairymen will be announced. E. B. Fitts, in charge of dairy extension work at Pennsylvania State College, has announced. The awards will be made to members of dairy herd improvement associations who obtained an average of 300 or more pounds of butterfat per cow for the year ending June 30.

—Elsie Devine, arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct, attempted suicide three times on Monday in a cell at the city hall, in Pottstown. First she opened a vein in her left wrist with a nail, then swallowed the nail, and finally ground up an electric bulb and swallowed the glass. Chief of police Sheets, who found her in the cell, took her to Pottstown hospital. She was arrested early in the evening when she was found asleep in a parked car.

—Within a few minutes after he had the gasoline tank of his machine filled and traveled only a short distance on the highway, an automobile, owned and driven by Henry Reister, of Chicago, and occupied by his wife and two other women, was destroyed by fire. The accident occurred a short distance west of Water Street at 6:30 p. m. Monday. The occupants had a narrow escape from injury. As the climax traffic on the highway was tied up for a considerable period of time.

—A weary, aged coal miner, his visions of a happy cruise to Italy shattered, plodded through Pittsburgh offices last Thursday in a futile search of an envelope containing his life savings. Thirty-five years ago Lawrence Covi, now 60, began working in mines at Hermitie, near Irwin. He saved \$14,500. The coal strike threw him out of work, so he planned to go to his native land. He went to Pittsburgh, got his savings, \$14,500, and went to the federal building for necessary papers to sail. When Covi returned home the envelope containing the \$14,500 in \$50 bills was gone.

—A stranger, well dressed and drunk, entered the City hotel, at Sunbury, at 7:30 o'clock Sunday morning and after loitering in the lobby for a few minutes, walked to the cigar lighter and held a twenty dollar bill over the flame until the "yellow back" was entirely consumed. He then reached into his pocket and drew out a one dollar bill and was about to follow the same stunt when Charles Fenstermacher, the clerk, and James Coultas, the bell boy, recovered from their astonishment, grabbed his arm and pulled him away from the lighter. After grumbling a few words he returned the dollar to his pocket and left the hotel.

—Final plans have been completed for the dedication on September 16, of the new Milton armory, erected to the memory of Captain A. L. Corbett, who was killed in an accident several months ago. Company L and the same stunt when under the command of Captain Snyder and Lieutenant Clyde Campbell will have charge. Invitations have gone out to high officials of the National Guard. Auditor General Martin, commander of the Fifty-fifth infantry brigade, has announced his desire to attend and is expected. Battalion commander, Major E. L. Davis, Berwick, and Colonel Robert Vail, regimental commander, of Scranton, will probably attend.

—A baffling mystery confronted Lebanon police, on Tuesday, in determining the circumstances of the death of Vincent Williams, 14, Chester, Pa., found fatally wounded in a farm house near Lebanon where he spent the summer. Albert Hamilton, Chester, found the body in an upstairs hallway. A physician decided that death was due to a hemorrhage. He shipped the body to Chester for burial. There an undertaker found a wound over the heart. He shipped the body back to Lebanon for examination. Authorities reported finding a .22 caliber rifle near the spot where the body lay. They said it was not within "reaching distance" of the boy, thereby discounting a suicide theory.

—Punished by his father, John Dito, for staying out all night, Irvin Dito, 10 years old, of Reading, shot and killed himself Monday evening because of pique. A policeman found him sleeping in a hallway Monday morning and took him home, where the elder Dito gave the boy a severe whipping. That afternoon the boy went to a movie, but refused to take supper when he went home in the evening. Later members of the family found the boy unconscious in his bedroom, a revolver clamped in his hand and a wound over the heart. He died soon after being admitted to a hospital. The parents said they did not know how the boy came to have the weapon, as it did not belong to his father.

—The number of deer killed by Pennsylvania farmers to protect crops was eighty-five fewer during August, 1931, than during the same period last year. Charles G. Stone, executive secretary of the Game Commission announced on Monday. Eighty-two deer were killed during the month of August, 1931, as compared with 167 during August, 1930. The principal damage was to oats and buckwheat, with less damage to potatoes and garden produce. Practically all of the deer were retained for food. There has been little deer damage so far this year, due principally to the abundance of natural food. Sometimes a bear will form an individual flesh eating habit, Stone said. The Game Commission received two claims for bear damage during the month of August, one from Elk county, covering two cattle and another from Lycoming, covering two lambs.