

# Democratic Watchman

Until July 1st, 1899.  
Terms, \$1.00 a Year, in Advance.  
Belleville, Pa., March 10, 1899.

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor.  
The Watchman Still to Be Had for \$1.00 a Year.

Out of respect for the earnest solicitation of a number of the leading Democrats of Centre county and with the hope of making the WATCHMAN the family paper of every household in this section it has been determined to continue the present low rate of \$1 a year until July 1st, 1899.

The reduction in price made last December has resulted in an unprecedented increase of subscribers, but we know there are still more who will be anxious to take advantage of this low rate proposition.

There is one thing, however, that we desire to impress upon the minds of our old subscribers. This rate of \$1 per year is POSITIVELY only for those who pay in advance. All have an equal opportunity to take advantage of it and if you do not do it you need not expect to settle at any other than the rate of \$2 per year.

The WATCHMAN has never deviated from its rule of fair and impartial treatment to all, consequently the paper will be given to no one for a dollar who does not settle up all arrearages and pay one year in advance. Don't expect to have a reduction from the old price of \$2 made for you unless you are an advance subscriber, for you will be disappointed if you do.

## The Furnace Situation.

The recent remarkable spurt in the iron market has naturally had the effect of starting all sorts of rumors about the two idle furnaces in this place.

That the WATCHMAN has already published all that there is to know in the matter and is in a position to give its readers any reliable information that future developments warrant. As is already known the Valentine iron works properties sometime ago passed into the hands of the American Bonding and Trust company of Baltimore city, to be owned and controlled by parties whose names are not to be made public. It was their intention to put the plant in operation as soon as practicable, but owing to the expense involved in undertaking such work in mid-winter it was deferred until such time this spring as seems most propitious.

Last Saturday, WALTER KENNEDY, a furnace expert from Pittsburg, was here to examine the plant and report on its condition. He was shown all about the place, but did not have time to visit the mines. We are not at liberty to give the text of his report but can say that it was favorable. What will be done as a result of it no one here can tell, because no further communication has been had with the prospective operators.

As to the probability of the Belleville furnace company's plant resuming nothing more definite is known of it than that the owners of the furnace had a meeting in Philadelphia Wednesday afternoon to talk over its business condition. Mr. KENNEDY, when he was here, also examined the Collins furnace and had quite an interview with Mr. THOS. SHOEMAKER, the former superintendent, before he left town. Mr. SHOEMAKER is now in Philadelphia.

The boom in the iron trade may be the cause of blowing in both furnaces soon, but so far as any definite assurance to such effect is concerned there is none.

## Our Government Passive.

Throughout Execution of Italian Project to Secure an "Open Door" in China.

WASHINGTON, March 6.—The United States government has remained absolutely passive throughout the execution of the Italian project to secure an "open door" on the Chinese coast through the acquisition of San Man bay and outlying islands. Some days ago United States Minister Conger at Peking, acquainted the state department with the fact that Italy had preferred a request on China for a lease of the spot selected, but he has made no report since and it is not known officially whether or not the Italian forces have been landed at San Man.

One of the highest authorities to-day said: "The government of the United States will not take any steps in regard to the Italian demand for the cession of San Man territory."

In other words our government, resisting from motives of broad policy alluring intimations from other powers to the effect that time is ripe for a raid by the United States on some part of the Chinese coast line, has definitely determined to keep hands off. But one motive could induce the government to change this policy, and that would be a desire to protect our enormously valuable commerce with China from the danger of being completely cut off through the greater extension of the leaseholds of European nations over the whole Chinese sea coast. So long as our trade is let alone, or is at least allowed fair opportunity for development and is not made the subject of discrimination, so long will the United States government refrain from any interference in Chinese affairs. Mr. Conger has reported that in Peking he was unusually quiet during the past winter. He does not undertake to say whether or not the presence of marine guards at the United States legation and at other embassies and legations in Peking had anything to do with repressing disorder, but his statement bears the affirmative interpretation.

The Chinese minister called at the state department to-day and had a conference with Secretary Hay.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

## Summing Up the Entire Appropriations Made by the Last Congress, Which Aggregate \$1,566,890,016.

Increase of Expenditures—The Last Congress Easily Surpasses All of Its Predecessors in the Stupendous Aggregate of Its Appropriations—An Actual Deficiency in the Current Revenues, Amounting, on March 1st, to \$99,100,554.50.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The official statement of Representative Joseph G. Cannon, of Illinois, the chairman of the house appropriation committee, summing up the appropriation by the entire Congress of \$1,566,890,016, and for the session just closed a total of \$673,638,400, with authority for contracts subject to future appropriations amounting to \$70,000,000. Chairman Cannon's statement in full follows:

Appropriations made at the session of Congress just closed amount approximately to \$673,638,400, and show an apparent reduction of \$219,573,000 under the appropriations made at the preceding session. This is attributable to the large expenses occasioned by the war with Spain that were provided for during the preceding session.

The entire appropriations made by the Fifty-fifth Congress aggregate \$1,566,890,016.28. Of this \$482,562,083.47 is directly chargeable to our late war with Spain, or incident thereto. Deducting this charge from the whole amount of the appropriations, the remainder, \$1,084,327,932.81, represents the ordinary or normal appropriations made by the Fifty-fifth Congress.

### APPROPRIATIONS OF FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

The appropriations made by the preceding Congress, the Fifty-fourth, amounted to \$1,044,580,273.87. A comparison shows an increase in ordinary appropriations made by this Congress over those made by that Congress, Fifty-fourth, of \$39,747,000, but this apparent increase is more than accounted for by increases under eight items alone, namely: For pensions, \$4,000,000; for the postal service, \$160,000; for rivers and harbors, including work under contracts previously authorized, \$3,600,000; for new ships for the navy, \$6,000,000; for financing the work of the Twelfth census, \$1,000,000; for the Paris exposition, \$1,200,000; for new public buildings, including the building for the department of justice, and for site and partial construction of the new government printing office, about \$5,000,000, and for payment of judgments rendered against the government on account of the French spoliation and under the Bowman act, \$3,100,000.

### NATURAL AND NECESSARY INCREASES.

These very natural and necessary increases in public expenditures on account of the pension list, the growth of the postal service in response to the demands of commerce, the improvement of the great water ways of the country and for increase of the navy, the construction of new public buildings to accommodate the government service in the cities of the country, the taking of census, participation of the nation in the great exposition to be held at Paris next year and the payment of the French spoliation judgments and Bowman act cases so long considered by and pressed upon Congress, aggregating \$39,747,000 more than dissipate the entire apparent increase in the ordinary appropriations by this Congress over those made by the Fifty-fourth Congress.

In addition to the direct appropriations made at this session, contracts were authorized, subject to future appropriations to be made by Congress, amounting to \$70,000,000. Of this amount, \$44,000,000 is for additional ships of the navy, \$23,500,000 is for work on rivers and harbors, and something over \$3,000,000 is for public buildings. The contract system is, of necessity, applied to the construction of new warships, which require periods of years for their construction. In the case of river and harbor improvements and the construction of public buildings, experience has shown that the authorization of contracts tends materially to expedite and cheapen the same.

### STATEMENT FROM DOCKERY.

Mr. Dockery, of Missouri, the ranking Democratic member of the house appropriations committee, made the following statement, giving the Democratic view:

"This Congress easily surpasses all of its predecessors in the stupendous aggregate of its appropriations. It was thought that the Fifty-first Congress, commonly known as the 'billion dollar Congress,' had, in point of extravagance of appropriations, touched a limit which would not be reached or, at least surpassed by any of its successors."

"This congress, however, has far exceeded the appalling total of the appropriations then made, and it will be remembered that the billion dollar Congress was followed by overwhelming disaster to the Republican party at the ensuing election."

"Confronted with a war with Spain, requiring the imposition of additional taxation, it is obvious that rigid economy should have been applied in all other directions of the expenditure of public money. The people were willing to meet all the demands upon the national treasury made necessary by the Spanish war, but it is fair to presume that they expected their representatives, in view of their disposition manifested, to meet these added burdens, to limit the ordinary appropriations to the necessities of a wise and economical administration."

### HAVE NOT BEEN REALIZED.

"These expectations have not been realized."

"The result is an actual deficiency in current revenues, amounting on the first of this month to \$99,100,554.50. This deficiency, as shown by a recent conservative estimate by chairman Cannon, of the appropriation committee, will probably reach \$159,000,000 on the 30th of June next."

"It is impossible to estimate with accuracy the treasury deficiency for the coming fiscal year. The secretary of the treasury in his annual report, made in December last, estimated it at about \$31,000,000, but it is now apparent that it will not be less than \$100,000,000. It is almost certain, therefore, that the government will be compelled during the calendar year, 1900, to face an actual treasury deficiency. The \$462,000,000 of income arising from the sale of bonds under this administration and that of President Cleveland will then have been exhausted and the treasury will pass from the condition of borrowed surplus to an actual deficit. Such a condition must be met, either by increased taxation, or by the issue of treasury certificates or by an additional bond issue."

"Notwithstanding this deplorable treasury situation, which has been called over and over again to the attention of Congress and the country, appropriations have been made which in many cases have not been warranted by the interests of the public service, or which, if proper in themselves, should have been postponed until the national income should be ample to meet all its liabilities without the necessity of bond issues."

## MIGHTY AGGREGATE REACHED.

"The appropriations of the original 'billion dollar' Congress, amounted to \$1,035,680,109.94. The appropriations of the Congress just ended reach the mighty aggregate of \$1,566,890,016.28. It is fair to deduct from this total \$482,562,083.47, necessary to meet the liabilities incurred by the Spanish war. So if we deduct from the grand total the liabilities on account of the war with Spain, it appears that the appropriations for the ordinary expenses of the government are \$1,084,327,932.81. The appropriations of the Congress just ended to meet the ordinary government expenses exceed those of the preceding (Fifty-fourth) Congress by \$39,747,000. Not only this, but the contract liabilities authorized by the Congress just expired for new ships and their armament, public buildings, rivers and harbors and miscellaneous items, amount to \$70,002,524. If, therefore, to the ordinary appropriations are added the liabilities on account of these authorized contracts, we ascertain that the appropriations and contract liabilities amount to the tremendous total of \$1,154,930,456.61."

"These increased appropriations have gone for French spoliation claims, public buildings, rivers, harbors, Bowman act claims and hundreds of other projects, some meritorious, but many of them not entitled to recognition by the national government. In every branch of the civil service of the government there has been an increase of appropriation."

"The time has come to reform the scale of national expenditures. The reckless improvidence of the outgoing Congress will at least serve the good purpose of arousing attention and causing them to send Representatives to the national capital who will reduce the burdens imposed by riotous appropriations."

## Gen. Otis to End Rebellion By One Master Stroke.

Preparations are being made to proceed With an Aggressive Campaign Against the Filipinos. Will Try to Crush Them Before the Wet Season. Anticipating the Advance, Insurgents are Throwing up Intrenchments and Levying Supplies.—Washington Expects News.

MANILA, March 5, 4 p. m.—The troops which arrived Saturday on the transport Senator and those that arrived yesterday on the transport Ohio are disembarking, and all the preparations are being made to proceed with an aggressive campaign before the wet season sets in.

The rebels have been concentrating in the vicinity of the reservoir. To-day a patrol of Company G, Second Oregon volunteers, was taken in ambush. Two men were wounded, but the Oregonians held their ground under a heavy fire until the remainder of the company, assisted by two companies of the First Nebraska regiment, flanked the enemy, killing 30 and wounding several more. Two battalions of the Twentieth regular infantry have reinforced Gen. Hale's brigade.

All the native huts have been destroyed at San Juan, and the country there is pretty well cleared, and the rebels were returning in small bodies at sundown. Apparently they have secured a new supply of smokeless ammunition recently, as there has been a noticeable difference the last few days.

The Spanish commissioners who are endeavoring to secure the release of the Spanish priests and the hands of Aguinaldo, have returned to Malolos for \$2,000,000 for their release. As Aguinaldo has been demanding \$7,000,000, it is not likely that their mission will be successful.

The rebels, anticipating the American advances, are busy in throwing up defenses in every direction, and it is reported they are levying men and supplies in every province. As a result great dissatisfaction prevails among tribes ordinarily unfriendly to the Tagalos, particularly among the Ilocanos, who assert their desire to assist in conquering the Tagalos if furnished with arms.

The civil members of the United States Philippine commission, who arrived Saturday, landed to-day and are now installed in quarters on the Malate water front. While awaiting the arrival of Colonel Charles Denby, former United States minister to China, the members will devote their time to sight-seeing and getting familiar with the country. Until Colonel Denby arrives the commission will be incomplete and can do nothing officially.

The Arizona will sail for San Francisco with all the sick March 9th, the Newport with all the returning officers and their wives March 10th, the Scandia with discharged soldiers March 11th and the Morgan City, March 12th.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—There is reason to expect important news from Manila within the next fortnight. General Otis has practically completed his plans for a grand onslaught on the insurgents to deprive them of offensive power at least. He will form a large portion of his force into columns as soon as his reinforcements are all at hand and will push these in parallel lines through the jungles, clearing out the insurgents in every direction as the troops go forward.

The American troops are getting restless and nervous under the petty but annoying sharpshooting of Filipinos and are so anxious to put a stop to this that General Otis has yielded to their desire.

## Fighting at Manila.

Insurgents are Ready to Fight at Any Time Especially Now.

MANILA, March 8.—10:20 a. m.—The rebels are busily preparing their defenses at various points and are more aggressive near San Pedro Macati where their sharpshooters maintain a persistent annoyance. Scott's battery on the hill top, is the centre of fire from both sides of the river. General Hale withdrew his outposts from the left bank of the stream and is now occupying his original position.

Further trouble is probable in the vicinity of the water works when the rebels rally, but it would be almost an impossibility for them to interfere with the water supply, owing to the strength of our position.

The weather is several degrees hotter to-day.

6:45 p. m.—The enemy is still in front of General Whelan's line. Near San Pedro Macati they have been actually attempting to make the positions of the Sixth artillery on the hills untenable, their sharpshooters keeping up a constant fire all day.

This morning the enemy in front of General Overhine's line sent out a flag of truce, but returned when Lieut. Koehler, with two men, advanced to meet it. This afternoon they again showed a white flag and a general, with two officers and an interpreter, advanced. When the Americans were within 2,500 yards of the rebel party, the latter dragged rifles from behind their backs and opened fire upon them, but fortunately without effect.

Hasbrouck's battery fired two shells killing several of the enemy.

## SCANDAL AT THE CAPITAL.

Quay's Bribery Committee Holds up the Investigation Into Charge—Almost a Frauds in the House—Colonel Guffey Defeats Sibley, Who at Last Comes Out Squarely for Quay—Quay Calls on Sibley—Colonel Guffey's Great Generalship.

Harrisburg, March 6.—No week like that which has just been closed has ever been witnessed in the Pennsylvania legislature. There was a threatened riot and an indignation meeting and a general turmoil participated in by the house, and all because Speaker Farr's committee charged to investigate the attempts at bribery all but refused to investigate.

When the charges were published that members of the house had been offered money for their votes on the McCarrill bill the Quay faction poohpoohed the suggestion. When the Philadelphia Press gave instances then the house took up the charge. The speaker appointed a committee to investigate. It consisted of Representatives Kreps (Quayite) of Franklin, Voorhees (Quayite) of Philadelphia, secretary; Tighe (Quay Democrat) of Luzerne, Skinner (Quay Democrat) of Fulton and Kooz (anti-Quay Republican) of Somerset. The day following the appointment of the committee a number of newspapers, including several Democratic journals, made an attack on Mr. Skinner, of Fulton, on his record, with the result that he declined to serve upon the committee. Speaker Farr refused to accept the resignation, and the place remained vacant.

On Tuesday the committee met and organized, with Kreps as chairman and Voorhees as secretary, and adjourned until Thursday night to hear witnesses. In the meantime five persons had been summoned, viz.: G. Nox McCain and J. P. Dwyer, of the Philadelphia Press, and Representatives Criste of Northumberland, Smith of Cameron and Engler of Lycoming, all of them Democrats.

## DEMOCRATS REFUSED BRIBES.

These were the men who, it is believed, were offered bribes and indignantly refused them, but the committee refused to hear their witnesses on Thursday because, at Mr. Voorhees's suggestion Kreps and Voorhees, with Tighe voting with them, adopted a series of rules which General Kooz claimed would keep out instead of admit testimony.

A bitter fight was waged in the committee that night. Kooz declared that resolutions were an outrage, and that he would appeal to the house for redress. He said that he had witnesses present and ready to be sworn and the committee would not hear them under the rules. The committee meeting broke up with hard feelings on both sides and with Kooz still declaring that he would appeal to the house.

That night the Quay ring mapped out a scheme to keep Kooz from making his speech to the house the next morning. Kooz also intended to ask for the appointment of four new members on the committee, and the names given for this were those of Representatives Fow (Democrat) of Philadelphia, Dixon (Democrat) of Elk, Young (Republican) of Tioga and Moore (Republican) of Butler, the latter being of the anti-Quay faction. The Quayites filibustered until 11 o'clock, when Speaker Farr, under a new rule, declared the house adjourned. In an instant an appeal was taken by a large number of Democrats and Republicans from his decision, but he refused to listen to the appeal and ran away from the chair.

## SCENES OF EXCITEMENT.

A scene of the greatest excitement followed. Democrats and anti-Quay Republicans clamored vigorously for Farr to return, but he would not return, and so Hon. Ward B. Bliss, anti-Quay Republican, was named as temporary speaker. Representative Fow, Democrat of Philadelphia, made a ringing clerk. The roll was called and 103 Democrats and anti-Quay Republicans answered to their names. A committee was appointed to investigate Speaker Farr's outrageous and arbitrary action, consisting of Representatives Clarence (Republican) of Philadelphia, Dixon (Democrat) of Elk, Palm (Democrat) of Crawford, Young (Republican) of Tioga and Kooz (Republican) of Somerset.

This committee will report to a meeting of the majority on Tuesday night next. It is believed that Farr will be severely censured. It is the consensus of opinion of Democrats and Republicans that it is not well to do any revolutionary act, and Mr. Farr will in all probability be given another chance. Another break on his part will undoubtedly result in the election of some leading Democrat, like Dixon of Elk, as the speaker of the house.

## COLONEL GUFFEY'S STATEMENT.

Colonel Guffey said:

"The distinguished Democratic United States senators and representatives, who are foreign to Pennsylvania and not in touch with her political conditions, mean well, and no doubt are honest in their expressions, but have heard only one side of the question about which they write."

"The Democrats of Pennsylvania are honest and fully capable of dealing with the senatorial situation themselves. They are familiar with both Republican factions, their strong and weak points, and as for themselves their course was distinctly outlined in the Altoona platform, on which the campaign was fought. That platform made it possible to elect the 87 members of the legislature who now play such a prominent part in the senatorial struggle, and who will continue to do so, and that, too, strictly within the lines and in full accord with the Democratic platform and the campaign."

"The Democratic party of Pennsylvania, through its representatives in the legislature, and as now organized and conducted, is an honest body and will be responsible to the people for their action and the outcome of the senatorial contest."

## GOOD THING FOR DEMOCRACY.

Nothing better perhaps could happen to the party than to have the issue go before the people. The 87 Democrats in the legislature have demonstrated to the people that they are for better government and against corruption. They have refused bribes and threats, and as the state is about due for another Democratic administration the party leaders are alive to the situation. There is every prospect of a bitter Republican factional fight in the state for the next two years by which the Democracy cannot but help to be benefited. The heat of the strife is so great that independent Republicans would rather vote for a clean Democrat in close counties than give their support for a moment to a Quay Republican. Thus the situation stands, and it is all to the benefit of the Democratic party, the party of the people and of pure principles.

—Nebraska has ended her senatorial deadlock by electing MONROE L. HAYWARD, a sound money Republican, to succeed Senator ALLEN, Populist. This action leaves but one Populist, BUTLER, in the Senate. At least he is the only simon-pure one. There are a lot of half-breeds like STEWART, TURNER, HARRIS, and HEITFELD.

## ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

—The Mt. Eagle glee club is scheduled for a concert at Yarnell to-night.

—A shooting match will be an attraction for sportsmen at Fillmore to-morrow.

—The venerable Robert McKnight, of Fillmore, is reported to be in very poor health again.

—It is said that one-fourth of the twenty-eight houses in the village of Mt. Eagle are empty.

—Recorder J. C. Harper is able to be in his office again, after several weeks confinement with rheumatism.

—Word has been received that Mrs. J. L. Spangler, who went to Philadelphia last Friday is quite ill with catarrh of the stomach.

—L. B. McEntire is hauling the lumber onto his newly purchased property on Willow-bank street, where work will be begun on his store building on Monday.

—Rabbi J. Leonard Levy is to lecture in the court house in this place Wednesday evening, March 22nd. He is one of the most eminent expounders of the reformed Hebrew doctrine in the world.

—Mrs. Rebecca Crouse and Mr. and Mrs. John Yarger are three Aaronsburg residents who are seriously ill. The former with lung fever, Mr. Yarger bruised and injured by a fall and his wife suffering with pneumonia.

—Our "Fancy Patent" is equal to the best grades of spring wheat flour and costs less. Muslin sacks. Try it. Phoenix Milling Co.

—Mrs. A. Katz slipped and fell in front of their store, the Globe, on Allegheny street, yesterday afternoon, and at first was thought to have been seriously injured, but fortunately the first alarm proved a mistake.

—Misses Jane and Katharine Shugert entertained a number of their old fashioned acquaintances at their home, on West Linn street, last evening. There were some rare specimens of antiquity among the guests.

—While hauling wood one day last week William Gilbert, who works for H. T. Struble, at Zion, met with an accident that has made it impossible for him to walk since. The load on his sled rolled off and pinned him fast to a tree, badly smashing his heel.

—Benj. Gentzel, of Spring township, shipped eighteen horses to Buffalo, N. Y., last evening, there to be sold at the famous Crandall market auctions. There were all kinds of horses picked up in the county. One week Ben brings a load of Illinois horses to Centre county and sells them and the next he takes a load of Centre county horses off to Buffalo. Strange, isn't it?

—Don't get it into your head that you can settle up back subscription accounts at the WATCHMAN office at anything less than the regular rate of \$2 per year. The WATCHMAN doesn't have a half dozen different prices. It is the same to everybody, and you will be doing us a kindness by not asking for any deviation in your behalf. Your best plan is to pay up to the present time and then take advantage of the advance rate of \$1 per year. Under no circumstances will the paper be less than \$2 per year, unless paid in advance.

—Miss Blanche Eckenroth and Mr. George A. Calhoun were married on Wednesday last week at the home of the bride's father, Thomas Eckenroth, near Unionville. Clifford Calhoun, a brother of the groom, and Miss Carrie Eckenroth, a sister of the bride, attended them during the ceremony, which was performed by Rev. Geo. E. King, of the Milesburg Methodist church, in the presence of a party of relatives and friends. A wedding breakfast was served immediately afterwards.

Both are well known young people in Union township and have a host of friends who will wish them happiness and success.

TWO ASPIRANTS FOR FRATERNAL HONORS.—Belleville has two men who are ambitious to be elected to high rank in the respective fraternal organizations in which they are interested.

J. C. Meyer Esq., past grand of Centre lodge, 153, I. O. O. F., of Belleville, hopes to be made grand warden of the Pennsylvania Old Fellows, at the next meeting of the grand lodge, which will be held in March.

W. I. Fleming is an aspirant for the rank of grand junior warden of the Knights Templar of Pennsylvania. At the state encampment in Altoona in May the position will be filled and Mr. Fleming's prominence in Masonic circles will make him a strong candidate. If he succeeds in this aspiration he will be in line for the exalted position of grand eminent commander of the Knights of Pennsylvania.

Both gentlemen are in every way equipped to grace the offices to which they aspire with honor and dignity. Of pleasing address, they are exceptional types of what successful leaders of fraternal-social organizations should be.

—Ask your grocer for our flour. "Finest" and "Fancy Patent" brands lead all others.—Phoenix Milling Co.

## TO VOTE ON BONDING THEIR BOROUGHS.

—One week from to-morrow the voters of State College are going to decide by ballot whether they will bond their borough in the sum of \$15,500 for the purpose of either buying the plant and franchises of the citizens water company of that place or installing a separate plant; according as the price of the former proves satisfactory.

While no one is able to tell what the outcome of such an expression of opinion through the ballots will be it might be well for State College people to look before they leap in this question. We know nothing of the conditions that have precipitated unfriendly relations between the borough and the present company, nor are they a matter of any concern to persons other than residents of the borough, but judging from the experience Belleville has had every other municipality should try to keep as free from debt as possible.

There has been no other agency that has had as deteriorating an effect on Belleville as high taxes. High taxes make high rents, high rents make empty houses and empty houses decrease the number of taxpayers.

State College has already an indebtedness of \$8,000 on school property. The success of this proposition would increase the debt to \$23,500 or about one-tenth of the total assessed valuation, which is \$235,706. Here in Belleville we have a valuation of \$1,586,575 and the burden of debt is almost unbearable, yet we have only one-fifth of our valuation in bonded obligations.

We believe that municipal ownership of water supplies is a good thing. But that is not the question. Can State College afford to bond herself to the limit at this time, just when she has assumed the dignity of a borough and will have many other expenses falling every year until her streets and sewerage and lighting systems are creditably arranged?

No village can grow when enormous taxes confront every prospective resident.

The members of the State College council and the directors of the water company had a meeting in this place yesterday afternoon, when, it is reported, an amicable understanding was agreed upon. The principal grievance of the citizens being that the town has no fire protection, thus making insurance rates a maximum. It is believed that the water company agreed to put in fire plugs.

THE UNITED EVANGELICAL CONFERENCE.—The Central Pennsylvania conference of the United Evangelical church concluded its sessions at Lewisburg on Wednesday morning, after having transacted the following business:

A motion to divide the conference into three districts, instead of five, was not favorably received.

Several ballots were taken before all the presiding elders were chosen. After all had been elected, the elders were stationed as follows: York, Rev. U. F. Swengle; Carlisle, A. Stapleton; Centre, S. P. Young; Williamsport, E. Crumbling.

Bishop Dubbs delivered an address on the effort to raise \$100,000 in 1900 as the opening of the twentieth century.

The treasurer reported: Balance in treasury, \$703; received, \$601; for deficit in bishop's salary, \$342. The collections for the charitable society amounted to \$118.75.

Rev. W. E. Detwiler, agent for the endowment fund of Central Pennsylvania college, reported \$40,806 raised, but this amount was reduced by claims and expenses to \$31,800.

License to preach was granted to A. F. Weaver, Hiram C. Farley, W. E. Peffley, J. I. Cranl, I. S. Dayton and H. E. Voss. The following were ordained elders: W. C. Hauck, Goodwill, Md.; A. O. Gramley, Bellwood, Pa.; W. M. Fulcomer, Fishing Creek, Pa.

The following were ordained deacons: W. H. Brown, Spring Mills, Pa.; N. J. Dubbs, Dorsey, Md.; and C. W. Gunther, Wayland, N. Y.

A resolution against the Fow Sunday employment bill, now pending at Harrisburg, was passed by the conference. Rev. A. Stapleton, of Carlisle, and Isaiah Bower, of Berwick, were elected trustees of Central Pennsylvania college for a period of three years each.

The following officers of the education society were elected: President, U. F. Swengle, York; secretary, E. Crumbling, Williamsport; treasurer, H. Buck, Lewisburg. The conference next year will meet at the First Evangelical church, Williamsport, Rev. H. A. Benfer, pastor.

THE APPOINTMENTS FOR THE CENTRE DISTRICT.  
Centre District.—S. P. Remer, presiding elder; Altoona, J. A. Hollenbaugh; Bellwood, A. D. Gramley; Belleville, J. Womelsdorf; Milesburg, W. J. Dyer; Howard, I. N. Bair; Nittany, H. T. Searle; Rebersburg, N. J. Dulse; Centre Hall, W. W. Rhoads; Spring Mills, W. H. Brown; Millheim, H. W. Buck; Sugar Valley, C. F. Garrett; Millmont, J. M. Price; Buffalo, A. S. Baumgardner; New Berlin, J. F. Shultz; Penn's Creek, G. Leidy Lovell; Middleburg, J. Shambach; McClure, L. Dyer; Port Trevorton, W. E. Brillhart; Lewisburg, C. H. Goodling; Patterson, S. E. Kooz; Professor A. E. Goble, D. D., of Central Pennsylvania college, and R. E. Wilson, member of New Berlin quarterly conference; George Joseph, member of Lewisburg quarterly conference.

It will be observed that Belleville has lost Rev. Goodling who has been sent to Lewistown. Of the former Belleville pastors S. E. Kooz goes to Patterson.

—William Husey, a Pittsburg evangelist is scheduled for a series of meetings in the court house in this place some time in the spring.

—Eat native wheat and ask your grocer for Phoenix Milling Co's "Finest" flour.