

# SHEATZ HELPED MACHINE

## His Legislative Labor in the Interest of Vicious Legislation.

Voted for Press Muzzler, Kingston Water Snake and Other Iniquities During the Session of 1905.

Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 3, '07. Special Correspondence.

In his Williams Grove speech last week the Machine Republican candidate for State Treasurer declared that he had endeavored to enact revenue measures, during the last session of the Legislature, so as to provide ample funds to pay the soldiers' pensions under the Cochran act, as amended in the House Committee on Appropriations. The records show that he never uttered a syllable in favor of any revenue bill during the session. During the sessions of 1903 and 1905 he voted against the revenue bills introduced by Mr. Creasy as well as most of the other reform measures, and his speech indicates that he proposes to make a campaign of false pretense.

The truth is that Mr. Sheatz has little foundation in his legislative record for the claim that he is a reformer. He represented a different constituency from that of his colleagues, Messrs. Ripp and Call, and was obliged to be more circumspect in some matters. But the difference was more imaginary than real. He dodged some votes when they had the courage to go on record and he voted with the minority on a few occasions when his support wasn't needed by the majority. But whenever the exigencies required it he was as certain for the machine as either of the others. "A little leaven leavens the lump," it is said, and Sheatz cut his reform leaven down to the minimum.

Press Muzzler the Worst. His first service in the Legislature was in the session of 1903. The floodgates were not raised as high to facilitate the flow of corruption during that session as in the session of 1905, but it was bad enough and the Republican candidate for State Treasurer supported all the very vicious bills. In fact it was during that session that legal means were provided for the atrocious work of the later session. If the vicious legislation of the session of 1903 had been defeated the most iniquitous work of the session of 1905 would never have been undertaken. Iniquity feeds and fattens on vice and the legislation of 1903 made that of 1905 possible.

Probably the most far-reaching iniquity of the session of 1903 was the Salus-Grady "press-muzzler." The prosecution of the late Senator Quay in the criminal courts of Philadelphia, inspired that evil measure. He escaped conviction by pleading the statute of limitation. If he had been convicted a sentence to the penitentiary would have been inevitable and likely he would have died there. Small wonder that he was appalled by the peril that confronted him. He blamed the newspapers for his troubles and his dangers. If they had been less honest, less enterprising and more amenable to "those mysterious influences" through which Quay controlled conventions, there would have been no criminal prosecution of Quay for violating the laws and the constitution. When Quay emerged from the criminal court, with the shadow of the penitentiary hanging over him, he declared war on the newspapers. He publicly boasted that he would "clip the journalistic wings," so to speak, at any expense in money and trouble. The Salus-Grady libel law was the spawn of this mad passion. He and Pennypacker together evolved it from their brains, and Grady and Salus, shameless machine servants, introduced it into the chambers in which they respectively served. It was the crowning infamy of legislative history. It was so atrocious that nobody believed it would pass. Legislators regarded it as froth from the mouth of a victim of rabies. Dragging Legislators for Muzzler.

But it was no joke, so far as the machine managers were concerned. It wasn't forced to immediate consideration. Time was allowed to recover from the shock which its first appearance caused to the public conscience. Then the screws were put on. Charity appropriations were threatened. Private interests were menaced. Political hopes were blasted. Every conceivable agency was invoked to cajole and coerce Senators and Representatives to the support of the measure. Two Senators, themselves owners and editors of newspapers, made pitiable objects, as they cast their forced votes for the self-stultifying iniquity. Others blushed with shame as they obeyed the orders of the boss.

Nobody misunderstood the purpose and purport of the measure. The venerable Thomas V. Cooper, for years a trusted and safe leader of the party, in burning periods and impassioned eloquence implored the bosses to abandon their nefarious purpose. No more eloquent or impressive speech was ever delivered on the floor of the House than his protest against that iniquity. But the tide of mad passion was at flood and couldn't be stopped. Able lawyers argued with masterful logic against so wanton a violation of the constitution and the spirit of Amer-

icanism, all to no purpose. It was Quay's vengeance against civic virtue. It was the penalty which immorality puts upon morality.

Among the supporters of that atrocious piece of legislation was the present Republican candidate for State Treasurer, (Legislative Record, 1903, page 909.) When Mr. Cooper pleaded for obedience to that provision of the constitution that requires every bill to be read at length on three different days, and was declared out of order by the Speaker, Sheatz voted to sustain the Chair, though he knew, if he knew anything, that he was violating his oath of office, in so doing. But the machine required that sinister service from him, and he "threw conscience to the dogs." His vote put shame and disgrace upon the State. It pilloried Pennsylvania as an object of derision to the whole world. But it secured Sheatz a re-election.

Other Work for the Machine. But that wasn't the only service which the Republican candidate for State Treasurer performed for the machine during the legislative session of 1905. The reformers of Philadelphia in their up-hill fight against electoral frauds encountered many difficulties. One which was particularly perplexing was the fact that in certain election districts they couldn't get watchers who would be faithful. To remedy this evil they appointed watchers from other districts under the sanction of one of the judges. During the session of 1903 a bill was introduced to stop this source of trouble to the machine. It provided that "watchers must be residents of the districts or divisions in which they act." The reformers protested against it with vehemence. But the machine needed it and it was passed. Mr. Sheatz voted in the affirmative.—Legislative Record, 1903, page 1030.

Mr. Sheatz was always liberal with the State's money and voted for every measure during the session of 1903 which contemplated the multiplication of offices. He voted for the bill to increase the number of Factory Inspectors, Legislative Record, 1903, page 1689; for an additional Law Judge in Cambria county, though a vast majority of the people of that county protested against it, Legislative Record, 1903, page 1982; appropriating \$1,070 for badges for a legislative junket to Philadelphia, Legislative Record, 1903, page 2685. His bitter partisanship was revealed in his vote for the infamous Focht ballot bill, Legislative Record, 1903, page 2438; for unseating Representative Blumle which present Speaker of the House Frank B. McClain denounced as a "partisan outrage," Legislative Record, 1903 page 3735. He also voted to unseat B. J. Ferry, Democrat, of Luzerne county, Legislative Record, page 2940.

The Iniquitous Water Snakes. The session of 1903 was known as the "Water Snake" session of the Legislature. That is to say during that session a number of bills were introduced chartering water companies, giving corporations authority to dam rivers and streams, authorizing the incorporation of filtering companies and seizing water power, water privileges and water sheds in every direction. These measures became such a menace that Governor Pennypacker, servile as he was, couldn't stand for them and notified the machine managers that they must not be sent to him for approval.

Harry Kingston of Philadelphia was the author of probably the worst of this bunch of iniquities. He was a shrewd lawyer in Philadelphia, free from the burden of conscience or scruples, and had himself sent to the Legislature for the express purpose of exploiting legislation. His water bill was a "cookoo." It gave the corporation which it created power to dam any stream in the State, change the bed of any watercourse and do anything else that cupid and avarice might suggest. It was among those against which Pennypacker protested and it was supported at every stage by John O. Sheatz.—Legislative Record, 1903, page 2435.

As a matter of fact Mr. Sheatz didn't even pretend to be a reformer during his first session in the legislature. He didn't dare to be as open in political immoralities as Stub, Ripp, Pahl and others. His constituents wouldn't stand for that. The Twenty-fourth ward is a pretty independent neighborhood and though the machine could nominate anybody it liked, there was no certainty of the election of a notoriously unfit man. But it can be confidently said that Sheatz went as far in the service of the machine, during the session of 1903, as he dared and that he voted with the gang whenever his vote was necessary.

The System Rather Than the Man. But after all it is less the individual than the system which is to be considered in estimating political conditions at present. If Mr. Sheatz were as worthy of public confidence as he imagines himself to be putting him into the office of State Treasurer would be a dangerous experiment. If Berry had not been in that office a year ago the public never would have known of the graft in the construction and furnishing of the capitol and the looting would be going on with increased vigor now. The plans contemplated an aggregate loot of \$25,000,000 and the full amount would have been taken. Minority representation on the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings prevented that result.

No stream is purer than its source.

No man is stronger than his party. John O. Sheatz is neither mentally nor morally stronger than Pennypacker, Snyder and Mathews. They were not influenced either by cupidity or dishonesty to consent to the looting. They were told that the operation was a party necessity—that the money was needed for campaign purposes and yielded. Sheatz would have done the same and as his election will restore the partisan unanimity of the board it will be a public calamity. Good or bad, personally, his membership in the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings will work harm for the public.

Moreover his election will strengthen the Penrose machine, which is an undesirable result. Sheatz is the Penrose candidate. He was promised the office at the organization of the Legislature as Plummer was similarly slated two years ago. A few years ago the Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations had immense pecuniary possibilities. The Chairman got a "rake-off" from every appropriation and it is said that one Chairman a few years ago took home "a roll as thick as his thigh." Now the Chairman foregoes all claim on the "rake-off," and gets the nomination for State Treasurer in lieu thereof.

Penrose Plays Foxy Politics. Penrose didn't dare announce Sheatz as his candidate, however. On the contrary to conceal his purpose he declared a preference for another, having first ascertained that the other wouldn't consent. Then he allowed the country delegates to put forward his city candidate and with apparent reluctance, yielded. But he controlled the convention absolutely. He named the presiding officer, prepared the platform and even selected the Chairman of the State Committee who will conduct the campaign and control the organization. If he had been opposed to Sheatz another candidate would have been chosen. But he favored Sheatz and he holds a mortgage on Sheatz's official action in the event of his election. G. D. H.

The President's proposed naval parade in the Pacific promises to be a costly enterprise, but the public pays the expense and the Roosevelt political estate will get the benefits. The coal bill alone will amount to a million dollars and other items will advance the aggregate to four or five times that sum. It will convince the world that the big stick is a potent instrument and satisfy the people of California that Teddy is the only man fit to wield it.

Speaker Cannon declares that there will be no legislation inimical to trusts during the next session of Congress. In other words he will not allow any tariff revision or "regulation foolishness," of any description. It is about time the Speaker should reassure his clients. Considering the fact that he is liberally paid by the trusts to take care of their interests in Congress, he was entirely too indulgent with Roosevelt during the last session.

Some of our esteemed contemporaries are taking the Knox Presidential boom too seriously. The Penrose machine never intended that the Knox boom should be regarded in any light other than that of a joke. Penrose simply wanted to divert the public eye from himself and sprang the Knox boom as the most available expedient. It has served the purpose, however, and it's hardly worth while talking about it.

### New Advertisements.

**YOU HAVE NO ONE TO BLAME** but yourself if you are coaxed or persuaded into using any paint with which the dealer is unable to give you analysis and guarantee such as is placed upon every package of

**DAVIS' 100 PER CENT PURE PAINT** Ask Your Dealer. 52-35-11

**WANTED.**—Pupil nurses for female ward at the State hospital for the insane, Danville, Pa., can have immediate engagement. Good English education, moral character, and preferably between 20 and 30 years of age. Apply in person or by letter for scale of wages, requirements, etc., of

**CHARTER NOTICE.**—Notice is hereby given that an application will be made by James Harris, J. C. Smith, E. M. Huyet, D. Buck and Edward L. Hoy, to the Governor of Pennsylvania, on Monday, the twenty-third day of September, 1907, at ten o'clock a. m., under the provisions of an Act of Assembly entitled "An Act to provide for the Incorporation and Regulation of certain Corporations," approved April 29th, 1874, and the supplements thereto, for a charter for an intended corporation to be called BELLEFONTE LUMBER COMPANY, the character and object of which is buying, manufacturing and selling lumber and all kinds of building materials, and for these purposes to have, possess and enjoy all the rights, benefits and privileges by said Act of Assembly and the supplements thereto conferred.

**LAST YEAR'S RECORD.** Every out of city graduate located in a satisfactory position. We can place you. Write for "PROOF."

### Reduced Rates to Saratoga Springs Account G. A. R. Encampment.

For the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., September 7 to 14, 1907, the Pennsylvania Railroad will sell excursion tickets to Saratoga Springs from all stations on its lines September 7 to 9, inclusive, good returning to any station on the Pennsylvania Railroad from 9 to 17, at reduced rates. 2000 covers at New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington will be granted, daily, commencing September 7, 1907. Tickets via New York will be honored by Hudson River Boat Lines between New York and Albany or Troy.

By deposit of ticket with Special Agent at Saratoga Springs and the payment of \$1.00 an extension of the return limit to October 6 may be obtained.

For full information regarding stopovers, rates of fare, conditions of tickets and train service consult Ticket Agents. 32-32

### New Advertisements.

**EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.**—In the matter of the estate of Daniel J. Tressler, late of Harris township, deceased, in the Orphan's Court of Centre county, Pennsylvania, the undersigned, executor of the estate of Daniel J. Tressler, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted to the decedent are hereby notified to present the same without delay, duly authenticated, for payment.

JONATHAN L. TRESSLER, Executor, Linden Hall, Pa. JAMES A. B. MILLER, Attorney. 52-34-04

**PROF. J. ANGEL** EYESIGHT SPECIALIST AT THE BROCKHOF HOUSE From Wednesday morning until Thursday evening, Sept. 11th and 12th.

Prof. Angel the well known eyesight specialist of Williamsport, who has successfully treated for weak eyes and for headache for many years here, will be at the above hotel from Wednesday morning until Thursday evening September 11th and 12th. 52-34-21

**FOR SALE.**—A fine top buggy, almost new. Inquire of W. P. HUMES, Bellefonte, Pa. 52-29-47

**WANTED, A BOY.**—A good home in the country with an opportunity to go to school and small wages can be had for a boy who knows something about farm chores and has ambition enough to do them. Apply at or address this office.

**NOTICE.**—Notice is hereby given that sundry citizens of Centre county will on Monday, the 23rd day of September, A. D. 1907, present their petition to the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace in and for Centre county, representing that the "Boalsburg & Bellefonte Turnpike Road" leading from the village of Lemont, in Centre township, to its junction with the Centre and Kishacoquillas Turnpike Road, at or near what is known as Humes' Mill in Spring township, which is wholly located in Centre county, and that it would be for the best interests of the people of the county that the said turnpike should become a public road, free from tolls and tollgates, and praying the Court to appoint, as well a Master as a jury of five reputable citizens of the county, to view and condemn the above mentioned turnpike road, for public use, free from tolls and tollgates, and to assess the damages, if any, to which the owners of said turnpike may be entitled, agreeably to the provisions of the act of Assembly approved June 2nd, A. D. 1887, and any supplements thereto.

FORTNEY & FORTNEY, Attys. for Petitioners. 50-32-41

**NOTICE.**—Notice is hereby given that sundry citizens of Centre county will on Monday, the 23rd day of September, A. D. 1907, present their petition to the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace in and for Centre county, representing that "The Agricultural College and Junction Turnpike Road," from its connection with the Boalsburg and Bellefonte Turnpike, in the village of Lemont, township of Centre, to its termination in the borough of State College, is wholly located in Centre county, and that it would be for the best interests of the people of the County, that the said turnpike should become a public road free from tolls and tollgates, and praying the court to appoint as well a Master as a jury of five reputable citizens of the county to view and condemn the above mentioned turnpike for public use, free from tolls and tollgates, and to assess the damages if any, which the owners of said turnpike may be entitled, agreeably to the provisions of the act of Assembly approved June 2nd, 1887, and any supplements thereto.

FORTNEY & FORTNEY, Attys for Petitioners. 50-32-41

### CLAIM OF \$123.46 FOR SALE!

DO YOU WANT IT?

This office offers to the highest bidder an unpaid balance against the estate of the late Governor D. H. HASTINGS, for the sum of ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIX DOLLARS and thirty three cents, less \$12.87, for which judgment has been obtained. The claim is an honest and undisputed account for advertising, job work and subscription to this paper. There are no allegations that any of the items are overcharged, nor is there any plea that the work was not ordered done, or not done. So that every citizen of the entire county will be guaranteed correct.

It is due, however, to those who may be inclined to become bidders, that they should know that while the justness and correctness of this claim is admitted and the estate alleged to be the work is admitted from a quarter to a half of one dollar; yet the administrators—who are also its heirs and beneficiaries,—have refused payment, simply because they could plead limitation and thus avoid the payment of an honest debt.

The above amount may not be worth much as a cash asset. It may be of some value, perchance, as a reminder that there are others than the ordinary "dead beat" and "debt jumpers," who seek the technicalities of the law to save the payment of just obligations.

No bond will be asked from bidders. Any "old thing," will be considered good when compared with a wealthy estate that won't pay a just debt.

Address, WATCHMAN, Bellefonte, Pa. 52-29-47

### AN ORDINANCE.

Approving and authorizing and directing the execution of certain Articles of Agreement between the Borough of Milesburg and Charles F. Schad, relative to the granting and conveying of the right to construct certain roadways over the land appropriated by said Borough in Kitchen's Gap for water supply.

Be it ordained and enacted by the town council of the Borough of Milesburg, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by authority of the same, that the Articles of Agreement between the Borough of Milesburg and Charles F. Schad now presented to the said council, relative to the granting and confirming to the said Charles F. Schad, his heirs and assigns, of the right to construct two roadways over portions of the land in Boggs or Boggs and Spring townships, Centre county, Pennsylvania, in what is commonly known as Kitchen's Gap, as appears by draft attached to said Articles of Agreement, are hereby approved and accepted by the said Borough and the President of the town council of the said Borough and the Clerk thereof are hereby authorized and directed to attach the corporate seal of the said Borough to the said Articles of Agreement and to sign their names thereto, in due attestation of the execution and delivery thereof, and the said Clerk is hereby authorized to acknowledge the same as the act and deed of the said Borough to the intent that the same may be recorded as such, the said Articles of Agreement to be executed and delivered in duplicate, one counterpart to each of the parties thereto.

Ordained and enacted into an Ordinance the Fifth day of August A. D. 1907. W. B. MILES, President. Attest: P. H. HAUFF, Clerk. Approved: C. H. ELISE, Chief Burgess. Milesburg Borough. 52-33-21

### New Advertisements.

**WE WANT YOUNG MEN!** The Canada Life Assurance Company, with an unparalleled record for sixty years, wants you. Our agents earn thousands, it all depends on the man. There is a bright future for you in this Company. We will help you. Apply at once, CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Box 170, Harrisburg, Pa. 52-4-41

**ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.**—Let- testamentary on the estate of Wm. T. HUBBARD, late of the borough of Bellefonte, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate settlement thereof and those having claims to present them properly authenticated, for payment.

GEO. R. MEEK, Administrator. Bellefonte, Pa., 52-30-01

### New Advertisements.

**FOR SALE.**—Finely equipped Pool tables and Billiard parlor at State College. Two pool tables, one billiard table. Well patronized by the 800 students and general public. Terms right. Apply to W. W. STEPHENS, State College, Pa. 52-9-47

**LEGAL NOTICE.**—Notice is hereby given that the following accounts will be presented to the court for confirmation on Wednesday, September 25th, 1907, and unless exceptions be filed thereto on or before the 2nd day of the term, the same will be confirmed. First account of W. W. Andrews, Gdn. of John Shriver. First and final account of P. W. Bullock, Gdn of Jane ARMOUR. August 21st, 1907. A. B. KIMFORT, Prothonotary. 52-33-34

### Pennsylvania Railroad Low-Rate Excursions.

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