

—Strange isn't it. When a man is run down by a train it is all up with him.

—These are the kind of days that make the plumber and the coal man begin to sit up and take notice.

—Everybody and everything has been knocking on the straw hat the past few days. Even the equinox.

—Over three million pens being used daily in the world there is little wonder that the pen is mightier than the sword.

—What's the use of worrying about the weather. The Maker of it knows better what is good for us than we do ourselves.

—One of Oklahoma's new Senators to Congress is blind. It is just as well. He will be spared the embarrassment of seeing many an unseemly concurrence.

—It was ever thus. Just as the price of meat goes soaring skyward another fool doctor has to come along with the scare that vegetarianism produces tuberculosis and cancer.

—Of course it doesn't matter so much about the corn, but it would be awful if real cold weather should set in before the Athletics and Detroit get that base ball race of theirs finished.

—Lebanon has a new board of trade with an ambition to increase the city's population ten thousand in the next three years. The amount it has raised to settle with the stock has not yet been announced.

—In theory Governor STUART is very pretty but in practice we fear his fellow Republicans would never stand for the expulsion of all dishonest men from their party. The residue would be too small.

—The man who always made a flourish about tipping his Pullman porter has had all the glory taken out of it. A new rule of the State Health Department forbids the porters brushing the clothes of passengers in the aisle of their car.

—SHEATZ has not accepted HARMAN's challenge to discuss the issues of the campaign from the same platform. He will not do it either. SHEATZ is not capable of it in the first place and he is afraid to defend his side in the second.

—There is just a dollar's difference between right and wrong so far as constable CHARLEY ECKENBOOTH sees it now. A few days ago he got his official clubbets on the wrong lady and she made him pay her a dollar before she would set him right.

—Governor SWANSON, of Virginia, told the bankers association at Atlantic City a few truths on Wednesday that might not have sounded very pleasant but they were truths none the less. And down in their hearts his auditors probably acknowledged their truthfulness.

—Certainly Philadelphia should have boulevards for her wealthy residents to show splendid equipages on. Her children don't need education. They might get smart enough to know that people are getting rich in that city through means that they might question.

—LUDWIG CZESZYKIEL, a Polish priest, was recently convicted of murder in the second degree for shooting two of his fellow countrymen in a bar room brawl in Pittsburgh; but a man who has to go through the world hearing the name of CZESZYKIEL is hardly to blame for anything he may do.

—The Bethlehem servant girl who committed suicide on Wednesday because she lost her job wouldn't have had such a sad end had she lived in Bellefonte. Here she would have found half a hundred eager housekeepers waiting with open arms to take her in, give her the use of the best rooms in the house, every afternoon and evening out and beauz every night in the week.

—Some months ago state economic zoologist SURFACE was telling the gullible people of the State that he could eat cabbage worms without offending his gastronomical propensities. Now he says "when you hear stories that people have swallowed lizards just put them down as moonshine." Inasmuch as science has record of many lizards having been removed from the human stomach the public will be disposed to put Prof. SURFACE down as "moonshine." And if it does, it won't need another guess.

—The Gazette evades the question we put to it last week and tries to bolster up its weak attack on District Attorney RUNKLE by misconstruing our assertions. We said then, and we say it again, that the District Attorney is not a police officer and it is not his duty to make arrests or hunt criminals. If that is what Col. CHAMBERS is after let him apply for a job on the Unionville police force. That being the most peaceful town in the county he could probably make good there. Meanwhile the voters will re-elect District Attorney RUNKLE because they want a lawyer, not a blatherskite, in the office.

—People of Centre county who are just now trying to get their taxes "paid realize what an expensive luxury indifferent officials are. The last Board of County Commissioners, having squandered all of the surplus their Democratic predecessors left in the treasury and plunged the county head over heels in debt, it now becomes the duty of another Democratic Board to pay the bills and the only way that can be done is by increased taxation. In other words, every dollar of extra tax you are paying now you can charge up to the experiment of having elected a Republican Board of Commissioners five years ago.

# Democratic Watchman

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## Still Playing the Farce.

It is now announced that the capitol grafters will be tried at a special session of the Dauphin county court to be held in December. They are to be indicted at a special session of the Grand Jury next week, the story goes, and railroaded to the penitentiary. This looks like business to the very credulous. Any man who can be persuaded that the moon is made out of green cheese would swallow this fiction at a gulp. But to reasoning minds it will appear different. Men endowed with that sort of mental equipment are apt to think that the petty cases on the court calendar might have been set aside or dismissed in order that such important cases could be disposed of promptly.

After a long period of delay warrants were issued against these "malefactors of great wealth," ten days ago. The fall term of the Dauphin county criminal court began on Monday last. If there was sufficient evidence to lodge the complaints on September 17th, there ought have been ample testimony to go to the Grand Jury a week later. But if the cases had been presented to the Grand Jury on, say September 25th, there would have been no excuse for delaying the trial until after the election. And there's the rub. The exigencies of the machine require that the trials of the culprits be held off until after the election. Similarly the exigencies of the machine require that criminal proceedings be begun before the election. It is necessary to make the public believe that a trial and conviction is really contemplated.

The truth is that this whole affair is an absurd farce. There is no intention to try or punish the treasury looters at all. The machine can't afford to prosecute and the informations, arrests, indictments and fixing a special session for trial after the election are equally fraudulent. If the authorities wanted to try the cases there is ample time before the election. Suppose, for example, that the Grand Jury begins consideration of the cases next Tuesday, October 1st, and makes its report on Saturday October 5th. A special session of court beginning Monday October 17th, would have ample time to try one or two of the cases before election and bring out the evidence incriminating those higher up. The voters could thus have been informed in time that it is the system rather than the individual that is responsible for the corruption.

But that is precisely what that machine doesn't want. It hopes to make the public believe that Mr. SHEATZ is personally honest and that necessarily, in the event of his election, being a man of integrity, he will prevent looting and compel honesty in the administration of the government. But admitting all that is claimed for SHEATZ by his most partial friends, he is no more honest than Auditor General WILLIAM P. SNYDER who has been arrested for tolerating the graft and Governor S. W. PENNYPACKER, who ought to have been sent to the penitentiary long ago. SHEATZ can't stop the graft any more than SNYDER or PENNYPACKER could have done. Minority representation in the boards is the only cure.

## Roosevelt and Oklahoma.

The public is waiting with unusual interest the President's action in the matter of the Oklahoma Statehood. Under the constitution and the law he has no alternative other than to issue a proclamation declaring the State a member of the United States of America. The people have complied with every requirement. They have adopted a constitution, elected a Legislature and Governor and completed every arrangement for assuming the dignity of Statehood. There are apprehensions in the public mind, however, that ROOSEVELT will usurp the right to withhold his proclamation. In other words it is feared that the President will punish the people for not doing what he wanted.

ROOSEVELT wanted the people of Oklahoma to elect a Republican Governor, a Republican Legislature which would choose two Republican United States Senators and five Republican Congressmen. During the campaign for the first election he sent Secretary of War TAFT out there to threaten that the territory would not be admitted to Statehood unless it did those things. That was a crime, of course, but ROOSEVELT doesn't mind that. But the people of Oklahoma do and they resented the outrage by electing a Democratic Governor, a Democratic Legislature which would choose two Democratic Senators to Congress and four Democratic Congressmen out of the five.

The constitution of Oklahoma is said to be a model document. The population of the new State is greater than that of a dozen older States, and the people are intelligent, progressive and patriotic. To deny them the privilege of Statehood now would be a most dastardly iniquity. But ROOSEVELT is capable of perpetrating such a thing. He pays no respect to law. Disappointing him is a species of treason in his estimation and he is so intense and un-

reasoning a partisan that the Democratic victory is likely to lead him to that extremity. Meantime the public waits with what patience it can summon. But if the crime is committed there will be a reckoning in the future.

## Harmony for Business Reasons.

The threatened disruption of the corrupt Republican machine of Philadelphia has been averted for the present, according to the newspapers of that city, "for business reasons." Ever since the revolt of 1905 there has been trouble between DURHAM and his friends on one side and McNICHOL and his followers on the other. Each blamed the other for the blunders which led to the exposures and the trouble and resented the injury it caused. Recently the quarrel has been threatening to take on a more active form. In the settlement of the partnership business, it is claimed, McNICHOL, who was the active partner and had the books, robbed DURHAM of a large sum of money. This incident occurred just before DURHAM went to Europe and it was expected that upon his return there would be something doing.

DURHAM got back last week but no hostilities have occurred. On the contrary it is reported that a peace has "been patched up." The late partners have not renewed the confidential relations which existed during the halcyon period of machine serenity. The affection which at one time bound them as brothers is absent. But the cohesive force of public plunder brings them together in what might be characterized as a temporary alliance. A certain banker, according to an esteemed Philadelphia contemporary, has pointed out to DURHAM and McNICHOL "the great possibility of making money and promoting business interests if harmonious relations shall be maintained," and both the lions are turned into lambs. Politics makes strange bedfellows and cupidity leads to curious partnerships.

When the late Senator QUAY was in power as the principal boss the DURHAMS and McNICHOLS were content with the spoils of the municipal government and the graft from the state administration went to him. Now that QUAY is dead, however, the Philadelphia looters covet the state graft as well as that of the city. That fact accounts for the nomination of SHEATZ for State Treasurer and the "armistice" between the factions is as much to promote the election of SHEATZ as to open up the way for municipal contracts. Banker WOLF wants to get a grip on the treasury surplus and the "farming" of the state deposits is a large part of the "business interests" to which he referred. If the people are wise, however, the expectations of these conspirators will be disappointed by the election of JOHN G. HARMAN.

## Owen Wister on Graft.

In the current number of Everybody's Magazine OWEN WISTER, of Philadelphia discusses the capitol graft scandal with great force and frankness. Mr. WISTER, a native of Pennsylvania, a distinguished author and accomplished diplomatist, qualified himself to write on the subject by attending nearly all the sessions of the Investigating Commission and listening attentively and intelligently to the testimony. He is not given to what President ROOSEVELT characterizes as muck-raking and there is a tone of sadness in his narrative. But he spares neither the system nor those who practice it as he holds them up mercilessly to popular execration.

Mr. WISTER reveals the rottenness in its most repulsive form and lets a good deal of light into the discussion. He digests the evidence sufficiently to make a concise but clear summary of the outrages perpetrated and the amount of the graft drawn from each particular fraud. Having achieved that he proceeds to expose the cause of the evils and in that he is as accurate as he is scathing. "Pennsylvania is to-day," he declares, "a government of knaves at the expense of fools," and in explaining the complacency with which the fools submit he adds "Pennsylvanians are not self-respecting." He goes further than LINCOLN STEFFENS who was content with anatomizing Philadelphia as "corrupt and contented."

Of course all this is traceable to the demoralizing influence of the tariff. Immensely rich men get unearned bounties and exploit their ill-got wealth to the envy of others less favored. To continue their graft they put dishonest men in office who in turn loot the public wherever it is possible. They, too, must put on a profitable front and when salaries fail to meet the expense they overcharge or prostitute the functions of their offices to make up the deficits. Mr. WISTER ascribes part of the faults to racial causes, for he declares that men "could not be brought so low unless they wanted to be low." But it is not a question of race. It is a matter of habit.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

## Pennsylvania Politics in the Lime-light.

The resignation of W. E. CHANDLER, of New Hampshire, from the chairmanship of the Spanish Claims commission brings under the lime-light another of the QUAY servants in this State and the intricacy of politics and politicians, generally speaking. CHANDLER is one of those peculiar men who hold old-fashioned notions of official ethics. He has been in office for a long time and enjoyed all kinds of opportunities. But he never got anything out of the offices he has held except the salaries and he is poor to-day. He is independent, just the same, and a couple of years ago took his official life in his hands by proving ROOSEVELT a liar.

Recently a vacancy occurred on the commission of which he is the head and the machine politicians of Pennsylvania urged the appointment of HARRY K. DAUGHERTY, of Mercer county. They owe something to DAUGHERTY and probably wanted to square accounts. When QUAY had his big fight on re-election DAUGHERTY was a Representative in the Legislature. His opponents were against QUAY but he voted for the "old man" and all his measures. The result was that notwithstanding his ability and cleverness he was retired by the people. PENNYPACKER tried to make him counsel for the Agricultural Department but he was ineligible at the time and ROOSEVELT made him counsel for the government in the Spanish war claims cases.

When it was proposed to appoint him to a seat on the commission, Mr. CHANDLER protested that it would be scandalous. He had been concerned as counsel in most of the cases to be decided within a year, anyway, and the president of the body thought it would be improper to make him the judge of the cases in which he was interested as lawyer. But ROOSEVELT took a different view of the matter. He wanted to help QUAY's friend DAUGHERTY and oblige DAUGHERTY's friend PENROSE, and what is propriety "among friends?" The incident serves another purpose, however. It shows that PENROSE is not against ROOSEVELT's candidate for President whether it be ROOSEVELT or TAFT.

## Democratic Activity and Confidence.

The confidence and activity of the Democratic leaders is revealed in the fact that campaign headquarters have been opened at the hotel Walton, Philadelphia, and will be kept open until election day. Chairman DIMKING and his capable and energetic staff of assistants will direct the campaign from that point hereafter.

The outlook is most auspicious. Reports from the various sections of the State are encouraging beyond expectations. Democrats who have been indifferent heretofore are earnest and active now. The revelations of fraud in the construction and furnishing of the State capitol has awakened both the conscience and civic pride of the people and they will assert their resentment at the polls.

We sincerely hope that the Democrats of Centre county will not be lethargic when there is so much activity in every other county in the State. Let us deserve a share in the honor of finally exterminating the machine which has so long and mercilessly plundered the people. The election of Hon. JOHN G. HARMAN will achieve that result.

## "The Letter that Never Came."

Machine Republican candidate SHEATZ has not yet answered Mr. HARMAN's challenge to discuss the issues of the campaign in joint debate. The challenge was issued more than two weeks ago and the receipt of it was acknowledged by telegram two weeks ago yesterday. But the promised formal reply has not materialized as yet.

Probably State Chairman ANDREWS has forbidden the fulfillment of the promise by candidate SHEATZ. Declining such an obviously fair proposition would be bad and accepting it infinitely worse for PENROSE and ANDREWS' interest is all in PENROSE. The defeat of PENROSE would put ANDREWS out of a job and the gum shoe statesman "needs the money."

Mr. HARMAN needn't despair, however. This is not the only "letter that never came." Besides the people will answer his proposition affirmatively and by a large majority on election day. Minority representation exposed the frauds in the capitol construction and the people want it continued.

—Col. Emanuel Noll attended a reunion of the 131st regiment Pennsylvania volunteer infantry at Lewisburg last Friday, at which over eighty old comrades were present. Though they have lived so close together as Bellefonte and Tyrone Col. Noll, of this place, and Abraham Gunter, of Tyrone, had not met since they laid their arms at the close of the war until at the reunion last Friday, and of course, it was a warm greeting they had for each other.

## Entangling Alliances.

Judge Parker's speech at Jamestown on the new federalism is an able analysis of the causes of the present popular unrest, and a just arraignment of the Roosevelt plans for its relief and cure. He shows what is unquestionably true, that through dealings with leaders and party bosses, corporations have enjoyed favors and immunity from law and administration. We do not need a new constitution and new laws to break up such an alliance.

Whether certain of the corporations first offered to finance the party war chest, or whether the party leaders themselves inaugurated this genteel art of political fat frying at the expense of protected trusts and indolgent law-breaking corporations, is not a matter of importance now so much as to dissolve this corrupt, debasing relationship. Certain it is that many business interests against which there is now much public hostility and suspicion. That we have law enough for the lawless now is shown in the fact that the powers the Federal Government is belatedly and with good effect exercising have long been in its hand unused.

Not until we have faithfully exhausted every resource, not until we have tried to secure that co-operation of Nation with States that the constitution provides, not until our politics has itself abjured and broken off from the secret relations of political blackmail which it yet maintains with tariff and trust promoted monopoly should this Roosevelt plea for new federalism be given even a hearing by us. It is the poor workman who finds fault with his tools, and it is the shallow executive who is always wanting more law to make up for his own limitations.

## Pennsylvania is in Earnest.

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

There is good news from Harrisburg. The long-delayed action against the men accused of the big statehouse graft has begun. Governor Stuart has made good thus far, and the Attorney General has apparently not only got his nerve up to the sticking point, but has collected the necessary evidence for the prosecution. Now that the warrants have been issued for the arrest of the alleged bondholders, there can be no turning back. Even Pennsylvania may eventually be purged of its corruption, and the regime of Quay and his parasitic friends may be looked back to with horror, through an atmosphere of clean politics.

The roll of dishonor which now becomes a part of the State's criminal records is such as to give satisfaction to the most rabid political purist. Some heads that were heretofore have been long expected. The list of the stricken is notable. These are the men who are held accountable for the theft of at least \$5,000,000 out of the \$9,000,000 spent in furnishing the capitol, and a graft relatively unimportant in the erection of the building itself. Such arrests have been long expected. The people of Pennsylvania and of the entire country will eagerly await the trial. Every honest American cannot but feel a deep interest in the punishment of whatever men are guilty of such crimes. The perpetration of the most colossal graft in the history of the United States leaves no loophole for sentiment. If these men are guilty they are enemies of the Republic. The principles involved intimately touch every State and every community. The adequate punishment of the guilty parties will lift a burden from the conscience of the nation.

## Lending Dignity to the Campaign.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Candidate John Oscar Sheatz is to be heartily congratulated upon the acquisition of an advocate whose logical treatment of the issues involved in the State Treasurer'ship fight, coupled with an incomparable dignity of expression, will distinctly elevate the tone of the campaign. "The Record" refers, of course, to General St. Clair Mulholland, who on Saturday night so successfully refuted the charge that Mr. Sheatz had anything to do with the defeat of the Cochran pension bill in the Legislature. The sufficient answer of General Mulholland to the authors of this allegation—whoever they may be—is that "they are guilty of an outrage, and I have no hesitation in saying that they are false, flimsy and damned liars."

This sort of argument is invincible. It will promote the candidacy of Mr. Sheatz as surely as will the equally temperate attack of the speaker upon the Democratic Senator Cochran, who introduced the Pension bill in the Legislature. It will detract nothing from the strength of General Mulholland's dispassionate denunciation of the "damned liars" that he was not always an Organization man—that he was, if memory serve us right, a Democrat under a Democratic Federal Administration, and became a Republican at about the time the Republicans came into power, thereby retaining his position as Pension Officer. It suffices that he is a regular now; that he knows a falsifier and a "damned liar" when he sees one, and that he isn't afraid to speak out, civil service rules to the contrary notwithstanding, when his measured utterances seem likely to be helpful to the party from which he derives his bread and butter.

—The fall meeting of the Presbytery of Huntingdon will be held in the church at Spruce Creek next Tuesday and Wednesday, the first session to be held at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning. At that meeting commissioners will be chosen to represent the Presbytery in the Synod of Pennsylvania which will meet in Philadelphia on October 17th.

—J. H. Robb, Hugh Crider and Louis Daggett were a trio of Bellefonte gallants who spent Wednesday night in Snow Shoe; attracted there by a party given by the Misses Buddinger. Dancing, bridge and splendid refreshments were the features of the evening's entertainment.

## Spawls from the Keystone.

—George W. Foote, editor and publisher of the Millburg Times, died at his home in that place Wednesday night between 11 and 12 o'clock of paralysis, in the 67th year of his age.

—I. C. Smutz, a wealthy business man of New Haven, Fayette county, has been sued for \$50,000 damages for alleged breach of promise to marry, by Miss Mercedes Gladden, daughter of a clergyman, of Youngstown, Ohio.

—Frank Adams, aged 19 years, who declares that three weeks ago he was forced to join the Black Hand society at Watson, a mining town near Punxsutawney, was captured on Saturday night while attempting to dynamite a house.

—While N. M. Zimmerman was drilling a well on Isaac Weaver's farm, near Terre Hill, Lancaster county, a few days ago, he struck a vein of coal at a depth of forty feet. It is believed the vein is too small to be of any value, but an investigation will be made.

—During the past year the Lancaster trolley, telegraph, telephone and electric light companies have been robbed of many hundreds of pounds of copper wire. On Saturday John Reese and George Brenner, believed to have been leaders in the thefts, were arrested.

—Bequests of \$1,500 to each of three Reading hospitals, \$500 to two churches and \$500 to two charitable institutions, made by Mrs. Kate Hawley, widow of Jesse G. Hawley, the millionaire publisher of the Reading Eagle, are void because the testator had not subscribing witnesses to the will.

—Four hundred workmen are now engaged at Lancaster on the erection of the largest linoleum plant in the world. When completed there will be twenty-two buildings, from one to seven stories high, all built of brick and having a roofage of six acres. The cost of the plant will be \$2,000,000.

—Just after shaving himself on Thursday, Thomas White, of Jersey Shore, aged 70 years, shot himself in his room at the home of his son, Fred White, a New York Central conductor. The ball entered his nostrils and when found he was lying on the floor bleeding profusely, with the pistol in his hand.

—Young Burns, of Clearfield, who was on trial last week at Indiana for murder, was acquitted by the jury late Wednesday night. The commonwealth did not have a very strong case, and it was proven that the fracture of the skull that killed the man was caused when he fell on the rail of the railroad.

—A sensation was created at Kittanning on Friday night by the arrest of John Wick Jr., on two charges of forgery, on complaint of J. G. Vallier, of the Colonial Trust company, Pittsburgh. The alleged forgeries are notes amounting to \$34,954.02 executed by John Wick Jr., as president of the Ford China company.

—While Irwin Bennett, an employee of C. S. Russell, of Clearfield, was chopping wood last Wednesday, he accidentally almost entirely cut off one of his fingers, as it was only hanging on by the flesh. Believing the finger would be of no further use to him, he took the hatchet and cut it off entirely, then went to a physician to have it dressed.

—Harry Enders, a farmer of Conewago township, York county, who lives half a mile from the public road, has rigged his mail box to an endless chain which carries the box by gravity from the house to the road. Whenever the rural carrier deposits any mail in the box he gives a signal when the box is pulled in, thus saving a long tramp.

—The commissioners of Northumberland county are making a bond issue of \$250,000 to cover current expenses, floating indebtedness and to pay for old bonds which are now due. The reason for the issue is that on its standing debts the county is now paying 5 to 6 percent interest which is 1 to 2 percent more than it would have to pay if the debts were in bond form.

—After forty years of separation as lovers, Charles Noble and Mrs. Sallie Engle were married at Pottsville on Sunday. They were refused permission to marry in their youth because their parents said they were too young. Noble then went west and hearing afterwards that his sweetheart was dead, only to discover when he came back recently, that he had been misinformed, as she had been married and was a widow.

—Superintendent of Public Instruction Schaeffer has fixed Friday, October 18th, as autumn Arbor day, and requests that all schools observe the occasion by planting trees in their yards, and by exercises designed to impress upon young minds the value of trees, the importance of tree-planting, and the best way to foster the growth of trees and to protect them from noxious insects and other enemies. This request should appeal especially to rural schools which are not in session during either of the Arbor days in the spring of the year.

—One of the biggest coal deals that has been transacted in Somerset county since the fields were opened was concluded last week when D. B. Zimmerman, of Somerset and some eastern capitalists leased from the Kennerly Coal company the latter's coal tracts in Jenner and Conemaugh townships. According to the terms of the lease the lands will be operated on the royalty basis and the purchasers are given the right to buy the property outright at the end of three or four years for a figure in the neighborhood of \$750,000. There are about 3,000 acres in all.

—Westmoreland county's \$1,500,000 court house is almost completed, but the date of its occupancy is still a matter of doubt. The huge pile of granite is without a heating apparatus, and it is possible that it will stand untenanted through the winter. When the original plans were submitted to the court for approval, they provided for a heating plant in the sub-basement. The plans were afterward changed, with the intention of erecting a separate building for the heating apparatus, but there is no ground owned by the county on which to build the proposed building and there is opposition to adding more expense to the county to buy expensive ground. The boilers are ready to be placed but cannot be put in the basement now without tearing out part of the wall, so that the authorities are in quite a dilemma.