

-HARRY THAW has gone into bankruptcy; possibly the sanest act of his life.

-The good men really prefer to be kept down, especially when the alternative is going up in a flying machine.

-BRYAN says "The people shall rule" and everyone should turn in to help BRYAN see to it that they do.

-The State is out of bounty money and hunters of wild cats, foxes, mink and weasles are out of a paying job, at least until next year.

-The only way that appears possible to down the Sunday drinking at Atlantic City is the good old way the Sunday drinkers have of doing it.

-The Republicans of West Virginia are fighting like Kilkenny cats and the Democrats are so harmonious that something is likely to happen in November.

-It was mighty fortunate that Mr. BRYAN was not so overcome by surprise at his notification that he could not find words to express his appreciation.

-Potatoes, the poor man's meat, are next to a failure in this county and many a man with a family is already wondering what he will do when winter sets in.

-Pimples, hives, mosquito bites, ingrown toenails, sour milk and pipp are all blamed on dog days and that is one of the reasons, at least, we will be glad to see their end.

-It is high time to reform a tariff that keeps the price of everything going up and gives wages a set-back, by stopping them entirely, just when they are in danger of getting proportionately high.

-Read BRYAN'S speech of acceptance on the second page of this issue if you want to know what Democracy means and what we stand for this fall. No Democrat is well informed unless he is acquainted with the view that our great leader takes of the issues.

-BRYAN is growing in strength in all parts of the country. When it becomes necessary, thus early in the campaign, for the Republican managers to be publishing estimates of what they expect to carry a Republican State like Ohio by, it certainly looks as though some one was getting scared.

-The pig pens at the Danville asylum are to have electric light and steam heat and specially cooked food. In a few months the papers will probably be teeming with startling stories of how the poor patients in that institution are crowded into rooms and halls like herring in a box. However, the hogs will enjoy the comforts.

-And now it has come to light that Mr. HISGEN is a fiddler and since we heard it we have been thinking a great deal about a fine distinction a friend once drew between a fiddler and a violinist. He said: "A violinist is an artist and a fiddler is a damn nuisance." And we are constrained to remark that that is about Mr. HISGEN'S position in this campaign.

-Of course it is. Telegrams sent to the daily papers from Oyster Bay, on Tuesday, said "Sagamore Hill is given over to the business of the TAFT campaign * * * and the real headquarters of the fight is Oyster Bay." From the very first we have insisted that TAFT is nothing more than a stalking horse for ROOSEVELT and here is the proof almost from his own lips. It is really ROOSEVELT, not TAFT, who is the Republican nominee.

-Now it is announced that ROOSEVELT won't take part in the New York fight. Of course he won't, on the surface, but you can bet your bottom dollar that he will do everything in his power, underhandedly, to compass HUGHES' defeat for nomination. HUGHES has made a good Governor for the Empire State, but he won't take orders, even from TEDDY, and TEDDY has no love for a man whose opinion does not bend to that of the Czar of the White House.

-The election of J. C. MEYER to represent this county in the Assembly should be a foregone conclusion. If on no other ground than that of qualification he is so far superior to Mr. TAYLOR as to leave no doubt in any one's mind as to the right thing to do. Mr. MEYER is one of the foremost lawyers, trained in debate and forensic effort, while Mr. TAYLOR can lay claim to no equipment, unless it might be a lingo so unique and original as not to be understood in Harrisburg. Centre county will need an able Representative in the next session and the fortunes of politics get one than by placing Mr. MEYER on the ticket.

-The Johnstown Democrat mildly calls the WATCHMAN to task for not recognizing the Hon. JAMES KERR as the national committeeman from Pennsylvania. The Johnstown Democrat is the paper of Col. WARREN WORTH BAILEY and we know the Colonel so well that argument is futile. In fact it would be about as easy to convince him that Mr. KERR is not the national committeeman as it would be to make us believe that he is, so there you are. But as between the Democrat and WATCHMAN the Democrat has, hence we trust our esteemed contemporary will find the heart to overlook this deviation from the way it would have us go; especially since we are of the opinion that the other way is the best for the party.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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It is Up to the People.

That an effort will be made to force a temporary boom in the industrial life of the country is becoming obvious. Mr. HARRIMAN, who raised a vast corruption fund at the solicitation of ROOSEVELT four years ago, appears to have been reconciled and is getting ready to "lend a hand" again. That is to say he has been placing orders for freight cars in vast quantities, in the expectation that other roads will follow, and together they will be able to create a revival in business. That it is only a question of confidence they fully understand. There is plenty of money, abundant crops, the inclination to do business and the most favorable conditions. But the industrial life of the country had been milked to exhaustion and the withdrawal of confidence completed the collapse. The panic was inevitable.

Manifestly the industrial trusts have made terms with the Republican machine and the influences and agencies which turned the tide four years ago are enlisted again. During the first half of that campaign ROOSEVELT was badly beaten. But an agreement was made with the "malefactors of great wealth." The candidate promised to be obedient and the insurance magnates, the railroad magnates and the industrial trust magnates opened the floodgates to a flow of gold. Precisely the same agreement has been made this year but it will not have the same effect. ROOSEVELT cheated his associates in the conspiracy and fooled the people. He may deceive the magnates again but he can't hoodwink the public. The voters understand. They know the causes of the trouble and will not be deceived by fictitious signs of improvement which will disappear as soon as the reasons for them have passed.

You can't systematically rob a man for a long continued period of all he earns beyond the actual cost of his living and find him financially strong at the end of the time. This is what the Republican party has been doing for a dozen years and for the purpose of impoverishing him. A man who is poor is necessarily docile and the Republican machine wanted to make men docile in order that their employers could enslave them. A man with a hungry family and no funds to feed the children will not strike, however severely he is oppressed. Overtaxation and profligant expenditures are certain to create the poverty. This is the burden which has been on the people of the United States for a dozen years and will continue to oppress them until the Republican party is defeated. The people have their destinies in their own hands.

The Fifteenth Congressional District.

The people of the Fifteenth Congressional district of this State have the path of duty plainly blazed for them. Two years ago they elected WILLIAM B. WILSON, a new man in the politics of the State. In other fields of endeavor he had proved his courage and capability and though the political complexion of the district is vastly against the party with which he is associated, he was elected. It is safe to say that no fair-minded man of any party has since regretted the result. Mr. WILSON has not only been a capable and conscientious Representative of the people but he has been an efficient one. We hazard the opinion that no Congressman has ever achieved more for the people of that district.

A community is measured in the public mind by the character of its representatives. An intelligent, industrious and capable representative is accepted as a type of the people he represents. The statement that WILLIAM B. WILSON made a favorable impression on his associates in Congress will hardly be challenged. From the beginning of his service he took high rank. After his splendid ability as a debater and his character for courage and integrity had been revealed, his influence on the floor was vastly enhanced. He was accepted as authority on labor questions and his constituents got the benefit of his increasing power even in a body in which his party was in a hopeless minority.

The next House is practically certain to be Democratic and WILLIAM B. WILSON, if re-elected, will be among the most influential men on the floor. The Fifteenth district is composed of the best people in the State. Clinton, Potter, Lycoming and Tioga counties are among the foremost in progress and intelligence. Such a constituency should be represented in Congress by a strong man. People of that character should have a voice as well as a vote in framing the legislation of the country. By re-electing Mr. WILSON they are assured of that distinction. He can be neither snubbed nor coerced from the path of duty. He knows and acts and it is to be hoped that he will be returned by an increased majority.

Many farmers in Centre county report a total failure of their potato crops and instead of having some to sell, as usual, they will have to buy for their own use.

The Paramount Issue.

The silliest complaint that has been made against Mr. BRYAN thus far in this campaign is that he is inconsistent because in 1896 he declared that the coinage question was the paramount issue while now he is of opinion that the most important question is "shall the people rule?" As a matter of fact there is nothing inconsistent in that. Twelve years ago the coinage question was not only present but urgent. In fact there was no issue which touched the interests of the people so closely. But that question has been settled by circumstances. New and abundant discoveries of gold, enlargement of the use of credits through the medium of checks and drafts disposed of it finally and forever.

Fifty years ago the dominant issue in the politics of the country was slavery. Advocates of abolition, supporters of expansion into the territories and conservatives who insisted on tolerating the evil because they knew of no lawful means of abating it kept the country in constant and almost feverish agitation. The very papers which now accuse Mr. BRYAN of inconsistency because he declines to waste energy in discussing a dead issue, led in the controversies of that time on that subject. But the slavery question is dead as a door nail. It has been dead longer than the coinage question but it is no deadlier on that account and nobody thinks of accusing our contemporaries of inconsistency because they no longer insist on disputing over slavery.

But there are reasons for the present discussion of the question as to whether or not the people rule. For three years President ROOSEVELT has been ringing the changes on that proposition with the result that the people, or those of them who think, are thoroughly alarmed over it. It has been charged and practically proved that predatory corporations and plundering trusts have usurped the powers of the courts and are dictating the policies of executives. If this state of affairs continues, the government of the people cannot endure and it is the patriotic duty of every man who loves his country to inquire. Under the circumstances Mr. BRYAN is neither inconsistent nor premature.

An Enemy of Bryan.

In both his previous campaigns the esteemed Philadelphia Record openly opposed the election of Mr. BRYAN. It justified its course by denouncing as rank heresies the views he expressed on the currency and coinage questions. We did not concur in the opinions of our esteemed Philadelphia contemporary then and do not yet. But we recognize the right of every man and journal to his or its own views with the full privilege of expressing them in an open and manly way. Our contemporary is not equally liberal, but that is its affair. It denies the right of choice before the nomination as well as after and stultifies itself by its course. It looks to us as if the Record is again opposing the election of Mr. BRYAN, though this time it is proceeding covertly instead of openly. That is to say it is employing all its mental and physical energy in an effort to disrupt the Democratic party of the State through the medium of building up a faction. This is less honorable and more reprehensible than its course in the previous campaigns. It is an absurdly false pretense as well as dishonest. It has a tendency to mislead men who are earnest but credulous. It is cowardly and contemptible, moreover. An open enemy is less dangerous than a false friend.

The Record probably reasons that no matter what it does or says the electoral vote of Pennsylvania will go to the Republican ticket and that for that reason the present is a suitable time to create trouble in the Democratic party. But in pursuing that course it sacrifices Democratic candidates for Congress, the General Assembly and local offices. It knows, if it knows anything, that with a united and militant Democracy we are practically certain to gain one or two Congressmen, as many State Senators and several members of the Legislature. But divided into factions we are likely to lose rather than gain.

Be Prepared.

There is no one—at least no one worthy of citizenship—who will not desire to vote at the coming election. The privilege of doing so, of having a voice in selecting those who are to administer the affairs of the government, is one of the highest and most important that can fall to the lot of any mortal being. It is not only a privilege but it is a duty, and a duty that we should all discharge. To vote, however, requires some preparation. First you must be registered, and this cannot be done after the second day of September. So you had better see about it now when you think of it. If you put it off, the matter may slip your memory, and the time go by for this preparation. The time to do a thing is when it should be done, and the time to be registered is NOW. Don't put this off.

History Offers a Lesson.

The last attempt of a President to dictate the candidate of his party for Governor of New York cost the Republican party a national defeat and gave the country one of its best Presidents. President ARTHUR was a candidate to succeed himself in 1884 and as a preliminary step undertook to force a member of his cabinet into the office of Governor of the then pivotal State, in 1882. He succeeded in securing the nomination for him and the Democrat nominated GROVER CLEVELAND as the opposing candidate. At the election which followed Mr. CLEVELAND had an overwhelming majority. Two years later CLEVELAND was nominated for President and ARTHUR failed of that result and CLEVELAND was elected.

In this bit of political history there is concealed a useful lesson for President ROOSEVELT. That incident was not exactly analogous to present conditions. In other words President ROOSEVELT is not a candidate himself except by proxy. But ARTHUR wasn't a candidate either, after the nominating convention, and in other particulars the conditions are alike. That is the President having made a member of his cabinet the nominee of his party for President is now preparing to prevent the nomination of a fit and popular candidate for Governor for the reason that he has not been entirely submissive in the past. Governor HUGHES is to be disciplined because he couldn't agree that ROOSEVELT'S caprices are above the fundamental law.

The people of this country will not long submit to the dictates of a boss. They are willing to follow a wise and reasonable leadership to almost any extent, but ROOSEVELT is neither wise nor reasonable. He was imperious in his demand for the nomination of TAFT and encouraged government officials to participate in political contentions to promote the result. That is not leadership. It is corrupt bossism and deserves the severest rebuke, for it is impairing rather than expressing the will of the people. In 1884 the action was resented by the defeat of the Republican party. In 1908 it will be similarly rebuked.

Roosevelt's Latest Idiocy.

President ROOSEVELT has appointed a commission "to make suggestions for the bringing about of a better social, sanitary and economic condition of the American farms." His excuse for this is that the farmers are a wretched and helpless lot and he proposes to suggest legislation for their comfort and convenience. He wants them to regard him as "the great father," as the uncivilized Indians do now, and he starts the agitation at this time to induce the farmers to vote for TAFT as an evidence of their appreciation of his fatherly interest in them. At least that is the ostensible reason, the one he gives to the public.

It is not the real reason, however. ROOSEVELT'S insatiable thirst for power is what moves him to appoint his absurd commission. The farmer is the only element in the life of the country which he has not undertaken to regulate and he never could devise an excuse before for butting into their affairs. He has paralyzed the manufacturing industries of the country by his impudent interference in their conduct, but the agricultural interests were moving along in spite of him. That immunity from his mischievous meddling annoyed him and he has finally hit upon a scheme which will enable him to attack the farmer. His first step is to put the aspersions of imbecility upon them.

If the farmers are sensible they will kick ROOSEVELT'S impudent commissioners away from their doors the moment they appear. In this State at least the farmers are not only prosperous but they are the highest order of intelligence and thoroughly capable of taking care of themselves. Their wives are well dressed and their sons and daughters accomplished and contented. What is the use in interfering with such a condition of affairs? If the President will attend to his own business and family affairs the farmers of the country will be able to do quite as well. We are tired of impudent meddling.

Mr. Bryan's Speech of Acceptance.

To Mr. BRYAN'S speech of acceptance, published in full on the second page of this issue of the WATCHMAN, the attention of the reader is particularly directed. We want every man, woman and child who gets hold of a copy of the paper to read it. It will do them good. It will enlighten them. It ought to interest them and, above all, it should convince them of the need of a change. To fair minded Republicans especially it is recommended. After it has been read and thought over carefully, the next thing to be done by them is to make up their minds about voting, and if the indisputable truths he asserts; if the acknowledged condition he refers to; if the honesty, the ability and the earnestness of the man does not convince them that it would be well to have a change of

administration, and to have a friend of the people, as Mr. BRYAN has proven to be, conduct the affairs of the Government for a while, then they are beyond political hope.

The Foolish Joy of the Wicked.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer. The eagerness with which our Republican contemporaries give prominence to the repeated reports that financial problems are bothering the managers of the Democratic presidential campaign, can hardly produce a favorable impression upon their more intelligent and open-minded readers; We have been making some progress towards plutocracy, or the rule of money power, but hardly enough to make this attitude quite safe or politic; hardly enough to warrant a gleeful attitude of triumph over evidence that an opposing party lacks management of a campaign, but it is not well to brag about them, or to comment upon a lack of them, as though they supplied the place of a right cause, or of courage and determination, or of strong leadership and claims upon popular support.

Such an attitude cannot fail to mark plainly for all observers the party of sinister and menacing predatory wealth; the party that would rule by the help of contributions from interests who will only give that help with satisfactory guarantees that they will get value for it in the administration of the government in their own interest, rather than in the interest of the people.

It is undoubtly true that the opening of the campaign finds the Republican party management evidently quite at ease as to finances. It is also true that the Republican platform is silent about the publication of the names of large contributors to its fund, although the Republican candidate has given assurance that they will be published "after the election," while the Democratic platform and candidate promise publication before the election. These circumstances leave no doubt as to which party has the support of that element of money power which seeks control of government.

This situation presents no reason at all for Democratic despondency or misgivings; but, on the contrary, the greatest encouragement, for there can be no doubt that truer and stronger sinews of war will respond to an awakening sense of peril to popular government—that money in property limited, but ample volume for every right use, will be forthcoming, but that the need of it will diminish, if it does not altogether disappear, before the passing over from the side of the money power to the side of the sovereign people, of many thousands of votes moved by an intelligent perception of the danger of our institutions. The glaze of our friends' dissimulation, over Democratic poverty and their own strangely ample wealth must not go far to awaken this intelligent perception of the nature of the support commanded by Mr. Roosevelt's proxy, notwithstanding Mr. Roosevelt's parade of antagonism to such influences.

Constitutional Amendments.

From the Altoona Times. At the November election the voters of Pennsylvania will have an opportunity to vote for or against several proposed amendments to the state constitution that are of the utmost importance and demand the earnest consideration of every citizen. These amendments were approved at the last session of the legislature, and are submitted to the electorate prior to final consideration by the next general assembly.

One of these amendments, and possibly the most important, in that it will affect a great economy and make elections less frequent, proposes to abolish the spring election entirely. If it is approved and becomes a part of the fundamental law, in the even numbered years in November the state and county officers shall be chosen, and in the odd years the municipal elections shall be held in November also. Of course, the presidential elections will occur in the even numbered years. Offices the terms of which are three years are made four years, while those that are now five years are increased to six years. Election officers who are chosen for one year, under the present plan, would then serve for two years.

As to the state officers, the auditor general, who is now elected for three years, would serve four years, and the state treasurer's term would be increased from five to six years, and all county officers, councilmen and school directors would serve four years. The change would wipe out the February election, reduce the primaries from two to one each year and provide for only one personal registration.

The second of the three proposed amendments provides that municipalities may contract indebtedness to the amount of 10 per cent. of their total assessed valuation. The present constitutional limitation is 7 per cent.

The third of the proposed amendments consolidates the courts in Philadelphia and Allegheny counties, so that there shall be but one court each.

There is little objection to any of the amendments except possibly the one authorizing an increase of city debts. There are some scruples against relaxing this restraint. The other two amendments are, however, fairly certain of popular approval.

May Be in the Same Boat.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. It is the fond hope of high protectionist editors that Southern manufacturers will not feel kindly toward Mr. Bryan because they may want to be entered in the privileged class which has been enabled by high tariff taxes to create a monopoly of the home market. But many manufacturers have come to the conclusion that exorbitant tariff duties injure their business and have petitioned Congress to reduce such duties. Southern manufacturers probably have similar views.

News from the Keystone.

-The chemical works at Nanty-Glo, Cambria county, the leading industry of the town, were destroyed by fire last Thursday night, entailing a loss of over \$8,000.

-J. I. Holly, a railway mail clerk, was arrested at Harrisburg on a charge of robbing the mail, after having been caught by a decoy letter. He is held under \$1,000 bail to appear before court.

-There are 580 inmates at present in the Huntingdon reformatory, the greatest number since the institution was opened. On Saturday roasting ears were given them for dinner and it took 3,000 ears of corn.

-A theatrical entertainment given in Ebensburg on Thursday night for the benefit of the fever stricken town of Hastings netted over \$150 and in addition to that citizens have made contributions amounting to about \$600.

-An inspection of the potato crop on twenty farms in the southern part of York county indicates that the yield will only be about thirty-five per cent., or little more than one-third a full crop, owing to the late drought.

-After traveling for a month and covering nearly fifty miles, the greater portion of the flock of turkeys which left the barnyard of David Narrigan, of Mount Hope, Washington county, was recovered in Beaver county, on Saturday.

-Salvatore Di Sandola, a banker, 60 years of age, of Hazleton, who had the custody of about \$50,000 of the savings of foreigners, has disappeared leaving little if anything for his creditors, his property being mortgaged to almost its full value.

-A popular subscription fund to raise the amount necessary to conduct the public schools in Huntingdon nine months instead of eight has been proposed and borough engineer J. Murray Africa says he will head such a fund with a contribution of \$50.

-A company has been organized in Johnstown for the establishment of an iron foundry, which will add another important industry to the city's activities. A building 40 by 120 feet is to be erected and employment will be given to quite a number of men.

-George B. Beck, of Reading, a native of Millifin county, has agreed to furnish a ward room in the Lewistown hospital in a complete and up-to-date manner. He has ordered four beds of the most approved pattern and other necessary furniture to complete the room.

-Early Friday morning the safe in the office of the Bellwood grist mill, near Bellwood, was dynamited, and \$4000 and cash to the amount of \$400 stolen. All the furniture in the office was wrecked. The robbery is supposed to have been committed by traveling men.

-After one hundred and ten ballots were taken by the school directors of Altoona, Prof. H. H. Balch, of Altoona, was elected superintendent of the school of that city on Friday night to succeed Prof. H. J. Wightman, resigned. The salary was reduced from \$2,400 to \$2,000 per year.

-Dirt is now flying on the construction of the five-mile stretch of new state road that will complete the macadamized highway from Alexandria to Huntingdon, work having been started in earnest Wednesday at the end of the bridge across the river by contractor John McMenamy, of Philadelphia.

-Wm. H. Staake, as trustee of the Saxton Furnace company, a bankrupt, has brought suit against the Lehigh Valley Railroad company to recover \$18,000 and against the P. R. R. Co. to recover \$9,975, the value of certain shipments of iron ore which it had tendered the commission firm of Drake, Barlow & Co. transferred to the Saxton Furnace company.

-According to the statistics compiled by Secretary Frank H. Siner, of the Johnstown board of health, fifty-two children under the age of 7 years died during the month of July of cholera infantum and other infantile ailments. This is the largest number of deaths for children under that age in any one month in the history of the city. The largest proportion of these deaths was among foreigners. The total number of deaths was eighty-two.

-The bean stalk which plays a prominent part in the fair tale of Jack the Giant Killer has a rival in Lewistown. Not only is the local vine growing fast, but it contains beans as well. This immense plant is found in the yard of F. M. Wetzel. The vine has already reached a height of eighteen and a half feet and is still growing at the rate of three and a half inches every day. Mr. Wetzel estimates that more than three and a half bushels of beans will be taken from the vine.

-John Cotic, a Slavish miner, is despairingly digging in a mine heading of the No. 1 mine of the South Fork Coal Mining company at Johnstown in an effort to find about \$1,000, which he placed there several months ago for safe keeping. The other day he had occasion to use a part of his savings and went to the place where he had left the money. The marker which he had placed was gone. Frantic, the man commenced to dig. This was the early part of last week. When discovered the man had nothing to eat, nor had he slept for two days.

-Well, I guess the best way to settle this matter is to say goodbye." Thus spoke Philip Kain, of DuBois, formerly of Indiana county, in Alderman John P. Anthony's office, in Lock Haven, on Thursday afternoon, while an effort was being made to compromise a claim for \$14 held against him for board by Mrs. Hugh McLeod. Suing his action by the words, Kain, who was under arrest, dashed out the door of the alderman's office, with constable Ellis Myers after him, and after one of the most exciting chases in the long career of the constable Kain was captured in a cellar.

-Last Wednesday afternoon Oscar Hamilton, a track hand on the Ebensburg and Black Lick railroad, found the dead body of Burley Makin, of Ebensburg, aged 17 years, lying beside a spring near the railing, about two miles east of Ebensburg. Young Makin had gone out on Tuesday to hunt ground hogs and the supposition is that he had gone to the spring to get a drink and while so engaged another hunter saw him raise his head and mistaking him for a woodchuck had shot him. A bullet had struck young Makin in the back of the head, passing through it and coming out at the other side, evidently killing him instantly. Who did the shooting is unknown.