

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Ink Stings.

—Whenever everything else fails there is always that ABRUZZI-ELKINS affair to drag out again.

—If COOK's two Equimaux didn't know anything about the pole how much more did PEARY's one.

—Straw hats have been called in, but what is the fellow to do who hasn't the price of another one.

—Even the Grangers seem to have lost their little kink of bringing rain every time they get together for their annual picnic at Centre Hall.

—Colleges have opened and already the likely candidates for the line and back field positions are of more importance than the curriculum or the professors.

—The performance of the stock market for the past few days seems to indicate that Mr. HARRISMAN's going didn't take all of the bulliness out of it anyway.

—A snow storm in Colorado and heat to 105° in Texas in the same day furnishes a variety of climate that ought to please both the pole sharks and the ice cream fiends.

—Was it envy or emulation of Mr. HUNTER's feat of killing a cow with his automobile that prompted Mr. WAGNER to knock one of his lights off on a bovine head?

—The Board of Public Grounds and Buildings is still wrestling with the QUAY statue. Even the effigy of "the old man" seems a most difficult thing for some of them to tackle.

—The Standard Oil Co. paid a quarterly dividend of six dollars a share on Wednesday. Whatever may be the condition of other concerns it is evident that the Octopus still octopus.

—We hope chairman HOWARD SARGENT, of one of Philadelphia's "Old Home Week" committees, is feeling better than he looks in the picture the North American published yesterday morning.

—"The North Pole Hat" is the new thing for the fall in women's head gear. We haven't seen it yet, but we presume it will look like an inverted ice cream cone, with a few cookies on it.

—Another American girl has married into the nobility. Miss ANITA STEWART, of New York, is the bride of the Portuguese Prince of Braganza. While she was after the BRAGANZA he was probably after a bonanza and he got it.

—It will cost one hundred and eighty-four million dollars to run the government of New York city next year. Twenty-five years ago it didn't cost that much to run the United States government. We Americans are going some, though.

—The President's trip is to cover 12289 miles. In every inch of it he will see sights that should convince him that a tariff that promised revision downward, when it actually revised upward, is not making the land blossom like he probably hoped it would.

—The deposed Sultan of Turkey is writing a history of his reign. If he should devote a chapter or two to telling how he managed his hundreds of wives lots of poor fellows we know of who can't manage one would hail it as a light in their wilderness of darkness.

—Mr. and Mrs. ANTHONY PELLIN, of Rice's Landing, certainly had a hot time the first night of their married life. Their house took fire and burned down giving them merely time to escape in their nightgowns. Of all times, what an unpropitious one for a fire.

—PEARY is getting entirely too gabby about his trip to the Pole. It is well that Dr. COOK has sense enough to keep quiet; else the public would soon put them in the class with the pugilistic pugs who fight most of their battles by calling each other names through the sporting pages of our metropolitan papers.

—The postal business of the world is increasing at the rate of seven per cent. per year. It is not a surprise. The population is increasing at nearly the same rate and as education advances and the postal service expands there cannot but be a constantly increasing use of the mails for social, educational and business purposes.

—The President had five pounds of candy with him when he boarded the train at Utica, N. Y., for his long journey around the country. Possibly he has some gum drops in the package. COOK is said to have used gum drops with good effect on the Equimaux and it would be just like TAIT to undertake to keep the disaffected westerners in a good humor with candy.

—United States Senator OLIVER was at the Granger's picnic yesterday and while there may not have been any surface indications as to the rivalry among local Republican leaders for his smiles, the rivalry was there all right enough. And the long political prophet looks forward to a time when another Republican editor in Bellefonte might think that he is entitled to the postoffice. The seed is planted. Watch its growth.

—That Saratoga conference of prominent Democrats of New York was a fine gathering. The principles enunciated were truly Democratic and all that, but the trouble with it was that the fellows who can be depended on to get out the vote when Election day comes round were not there. 'Tis true that our leaders would help much by getting together but the greatest results would come if our workers were to get together.

False Pretense of Candidacy.

In opening the Republican campaign at Allentown, the other day, both the candidates of that party who participated in the meeting eulogized the administration of their respective offices by Governor STUART, Auditor General YOUNG and State Treasurer SHEATZ. "Vote for VON MOSCH-ZISKER, SISSON and STOBBER," they said substantially, "in order to guarantee the continuance of the wise policies of the present officials." Because the present officials have not been as bad as they might have been SISSON and STOBBER ask the people to elect in their places men who are certain not to disappoint the worst expectations.

ROBERT K. YOUNG, the present Auditor General, was a Representative in the Legislature during the session of 1899 and J. A. STOBBER was a Senator in the General Assembly during the same session. Mr. YOUNG was among the leaders of what were then known as "the insurgents," and STOBBER was a servile follower of the regulars. It is safe to say that they didn't vote on the same side of any political question during the entire session, though professing to represent the same party. Every legislative day for nearly four months they sat together in joint session and never in a single instance voted for the same candidate for United States Senator. During the sessions of 1903 to 1906 JOHN O. SHEATZ sat in the House while STOBBER occupied a seat in the Senate and the records show that in nine times out of every ten they voted on opposite sides of party measures. Mr. SHEATZ was not a consistent reformer. He was not always able to assert his independence of the machine. But in most cases he defied the authority of the bosses while STOBBER was invariably the most servile and obedient creature in either branch of the Legislature.

Senator SISSON, the Republican nominee for Auditor General, became a Senator in the General Assembly with the beginning of the session of 1901 and from 1903 until the close of the session of 1907 sat in that body while Mr. SHEATZ occupied a seat in the co-ordinate branch. During that time much of the iniquitous legislation which brought shame and disgrace to the Commonwealth, was enacted. As we have already stated SHEATZ was not always morally strong enough to vote against the mandates of the machine but SISSON was always sufficiently subservient to support the most infamous measures. In private conversation he freely deplored the degeneracy of the body of which he was a member, but whenever he was called to vote or give public expression to his views on questions in issue, he obeyed the orders of the bosses. The railway franchise bills, the ripper bills, the PURL and other measures designed to protect the white-slave trade in Philadelphia, and in fact all legislation which the machine desired, was supported by SISSON. He knew better. He may have been ashamed of his work but he performed it under boss orders.

What right have these recreants to hide behind the persons of Governor STUART, Auditor General YOUNG and State Treasurer SHEATZ? Even they have been delinquent. They lack the militant integrity which is needed in the offices they occupy. If there had been a genuine reformer in the office of Governor during the past two years and a-half for example, there would be no question now as to whether or not the capitalist grafters should be punished. It is noticeable that since the retirement of WILLIAM H. BERRY there have been no exposures on "The Hill." It is not because there is nothing to expose, but for the reason that exposures hurt the party. Therefore the present officials are not models but they are far better than the present candidates of their party would be if elected and SISSON and STOBBER are impudent false pretenders when they ask voters to support themselves in order to prolong the policies of the present officials.

Mr. Peary and Mr. Cook.

Commander ROBERT E. PEARY may have been at the North Pole on that day of April, 1908, upon which he claims to have discovered that important part of the globe. But he doesn't act like a man who has achieved such a result in the interest of science or humanity. Men of great heroism and achievement are usually unselfish. As a rule they care less for the pecuniary side of their enterprises than for the altruistic consequences. They strive for the betterment of mankind and the world. They are sustained in their perils and privations by the enthusiasm which flows from a heart throbbing with benevolent emotions.

Commander PEARY appears to be different. His impulses are purely commercial. He reveals more the spirit of Chatham street than the hopes of a hero. Before he started on his journey he sold the information which he hoped to acquire, largely at other people's expense, and hedged the good he might accomplish so completely that it was certain to give him the greatest amount of pecuniary advantage and the public the least useful information and at the highest price. Dr. COOK didn't pursue

so selfish a course. He proceeded with his work until it was finished and then gave his information to the public as free as air.

Then Commander PEARY might not have been at the North Pole at all. He might have been some place in the direction of the pole where the information of COOK's achievement could have reached him and when he heard of the discovery by COOK he might have hurried back to present his claim and organize his absurd quarrel with the real discoverer. There is nothing in his statement inconsistent with this conjecture. The data he had acquired in previous attempts to reach the pole and that he is alleged to have seized in COOK's camp on his last trip might easily make up his story. Men who achieve great things don't act as he has acted.

False Hopes of Prosperity.

A short time ago Mr. JAMES J. HILL, the best authority in the country on industrial conditions and crop prospects, admonished the public against false hopes of prosperity. There has been some improvement, he said, in consequence of the vast crops of this year. Labor was employed in harvesting and marketing the fruits of the soil and generous wages paid for the work. But there has been no substantial or enduring improvement in the industrial conditions of the country, and there can be no such improvement while wages continue low and the necessities of life high. The margin between the receipts and expenditures of the average family, where there is any margin at all, is too small to build hopes upon.

It is all well enough to read in the metropolitan papers of industrial activity in one section and another and we have no doubt the improvements referred to are actual. But with eggs, meat, vegetables and clothing at record prices even the workmen who get the benefit of the employment in question are unable to save anything out of their wages to meet the exigencies of sickness or other forms of misfortune. The price of clothing is to be advanced from \$2.50 to \$10 a suit, we notice in the commercial columns of our city contemporaries. The price of shoes will be increased from fifty cents to a dollar a pair, we learn through the same source of information and in view of these facts we can't see how the average workman can find the approach of winter with confidence.

There ought to be abundance in this country for every industrious man. With a yield of eight billions of dollars from the fertile soil of the producers of life work would have a safe margin between his receipts and expenditures. But the policy of the Republican party has created trusts and fostered such combinations to regulate prices that while the producers get comparatively little out of their abundance, the consumers are ground between the upper and nether millstones of corporate greed until there is nothing before them except despair. The remedy is in voting those responsible for the conditions that weigh so heavy upon the great masses, when everything is in such great plenty, out of power and this year is the time to do it.

Taft's Unhappy Campaign Speech.

President TAIT started on his 13,000 mile electioneering tour the other day with a speech in Boston which must have greatly discouraged his friends. The features of his address were first an eulogy on Senator ALDRICH, secondly a plea for centralization of the money power of the country and last a peremptory attack upon Governor JOHNSON, of Minnesota, whom he imagines may be his competitor in the next Presidential campaign. Neither of these features will appeal to intelligent popular favor.

Probably the most important of these features is his attempt to popularize the Wall Street proposition of a central bank of issue with absolute authority to control not only the character but the volume of the currency. With such an institution in operation it wouldn't be worth while for anybody to run against TAIT if he happened to be the candidate of the "financial machine." HARRY THAW or HARRY ORCHARD would be equally certain of election under such circumstances for the "Central Bank" would have power to create, prolong or stop panics at its pleasure.

After his election and before his inauguration President TAIT declared in a speech delivered in New York that unless Congress fulfilled its obligation to revise the tariff downward in pursuance of the pledges of the Republican party, he would be ashamed to hold the office to which he had been elected and the party would be unworthy of future popular confidence. Congress didn't revise the tariff downward and TAIT not only approved the violation of the pledge with indecent haste but now falsely eulogizes the man responsible for the recrancy.

His peremptory attack on Governor JOHNSON may easily be dismissed as the poisonous vapor from an overcharged mind. After dinner speeches are frequently ill digested and apprehension of the future appears to have inflamed the President's spleen to such an extent that he can't be exactly just to Governor JOHNSON. In any event, however, there is nothing in what Governor JOHNSON has said about the east and west to justify the bad-tempered criticism of the President.

Popular Education Menaced.

The Philadelphia schools opened on Monday with 15,000 children "outside of the breastworks." That is to say there are that many children of school age and entitled to the privilege of attending the public schools of the city who are unable to do so because the school facilities are inadequate. The council chambers are models of elegance and luxury. According to the local newspapers there is nothing to be desired with respect to them. There are marble galleries and alabaster railings everywhere and luxuriously furnished rooms for the members of municipal legislature and their friends to lounge in. The Mayor of the city has been provided with a room in which every modern convenience is present. But 15,000 school children of that city are without the facilities to exercise not only their natural right to attend school but their legal right to the opportunities of the school system.

Mayor REYBURN is urgently in favor of expensive boulevards for the use of owners of automobiles and the machine which is responsible for his administration is ever ready to borrow money to invest in such luxuries. Philadelphia's business men and bosses, raise yearly hundreds of thousands of dollars, to debase elections and protect the villains who commit the crimes, but any proposition to appropriate public funds to provide essentials for the primary education of the children of the community is frowned upon as a waste of material and opportunity. Popular education contributes nothing toward the maintenance of the machine. In fact the public schools are a menace to machine government. The moment people acquire sufficient education to reason from cause to effect the citadel of the political boss is threatened. Ignorance and servility go hand in hand. Illiteracy is the source of partisan superstition and providing funds for public schools is equivalent to contributing support to a movement to abolish partisan political machinery.

Until recently the infamous municipal machine which has misgoverned Philadelphia for many years made no effort to control the politics of the State. To its credit it may be said that late Senator QUAY would not permit such a usurpation of power. Not the city to your heart's content, he said substantially, to DURHAM, MARTIN, McNICHOL and the VARES, but keep pilfering fingers out of State affairs. Upon his death, however, conditions changed, and the Philadelphia bosses began asserting themselves in State conventions and assumed authority to direct the business of the Legislature. In the recent State convention which nominated Von Mosch-Zisker, Sisson and Stobber, Senator McNICHOL was the directing force and the people of the State may soon expect to see the educational policy of the city, which leaves 15,000 children without school facilities, extended to all parts of the State.

Claims Based on False Pretenses.

In his speech at Allentown last Saturday, Senator SISSON, Republican candidate for Auditor General, attributed the commercial and industrial improvement, which is said to have set in, to the ALDRICH tariff law, according to the experts who have been wrestling with it, increased the DINGLEY schedules on a great number of articles and reduced them on a few. Altogether, however, the ALDRICH bill made a considerable increase in the tariff rates of recent years, and if that policy has worked an improvement in industrial and commercial conditions, President TAIT must have been mistaken when he advocated tariff revision downward before and after his election.

At the same meeting former State Senator STOBBER, machine Republican candidate for State Treasurer, spoke of the freedom of the State from debt and asked for a vote of confidence in the Republican party, through his election and that of SISSON, as a reward for wise financing. Yet during their terms of service in the General Assembly both SISSON and STOBBER did all in their power to delay the payment of the state debt, by voting for every prodigal expenditure that was proposed in the interest of the machine. The policies under which the State debt have been paid were adopted long before the Republican party came into power in the State and the Republican machine had nothing to do with the achievement.

Thus both the Republican candidates have predicted their claims upon popular favor on false pretenses. If there have been any real improvements in the industrial and commercial conditions of the country they are ascribable to other causes than the ALDRICH tariff bill. With crops of the aggregate value of eight billions of dollars it would be practically impossible to keep industrial life inactive and though the overtaxation of the people will impair the advantage of such a yield of the soil to some extent, it cannot entirely destroy it. With respect to the state debt the Republican machine would have multiplied it if conditions created before it got control had not prevented. This is induced by the financial condition of every county and every municipality in the State that its creators control.

Prosperity is Returning.

From the Omaha Herald.
From Chicago comes the cheering news of a radical advance in the price of meats. This advance follows similar advances, made with monotonous regularity every three or six months ever since the famous "smashing of the Beef Trust" by Roosevelt, Garfield et al. And it means greater prosperity for the poor packers.

Recently the price of milk was radically advanced in Omaha. When the city authorities, however, sought to prevent, by enforcing the strict letter of the law, the sale of milk from tuberculous cows, a complaint judge stepped in with a writ of injunction. It is all right for the milk men to combine to raise prices. The courts have nothing to say as to that. But when the city officials insist that their dear milk must be reasonably free from filth and poison and disease, the ready writ of injunction elips easily into place. This means greater prosperity for the poor milk men.

Immediately following the passage of the Aldrich tariff bill it was announced that the average suit of clothes will cost some \$5 more this coming winter than it cost last winter. This means greater prosperity for the poor woolen mill proprietors.

It is also announced that cotton and woolen goods generally, of the kind used to make dresses for mother and the little girls, are already started for a long march up the incline of high prices. This means greater prosperity for a lot more of poor mill owners.

All along the line prosperity is returning. Its other name is High Prices. It is a prosperity produced by trusts and combinations for the exclusive benefit of the owners of those trusts and combinations. It is a "prosperity" produced in open and insolent defiance of the anti-trust laws on the federal statute books and on the state statute books.

But for the man who has to pay for this prosperity, who has to furnish it, not much of it is returning. We mean the wage-earner and salaried employe. The movement toward high prices isn't manifesting itself, to any marked degree, in wages and salaries. They maintained a pretty even level, being lower on the average, however, than they were a couple of years ago. If the wage-earners anywhere try to assert their right to some share in the general prosperity, as in Pennsylvania recently, they are likely to be evicted from their homes, shut out from their jobs by stock-and-left-to-starve-with-their-families, while cheaper labor is shipped in from other places to work under a guard of repeating rifles and galling guns. This cheap labor is paid "high American wages," running from 60 cents to \$1.20 a day.

Omaha wage-earners may rejoice in returning prosperity. It means more to them, with their wages at the same old figure, to be permitted to pay a cent a quart more for milk, several cents a pound more for meat and butter, several cents a dozen more for eggs, a few dollars more for a cheap suit of clothes, a few cents a yard more for dress goods for the wife and children, and perhaps a few dollars more rent "because everything else is higher." It means a great deal!

It means smaller chance to save. It means a poorer equipment for the children as they start the battle of life. It means more skimping and self denial. It means more worry and sleepless nights. It means more heart-ache for mother.

But, at the other end of the line—it means more multi-millionaires, bigger dividends, more water in the stocks, a wilder saturnalia of flaunting extravagance, a dissipation, moral, social and financial, run riot.

A Gigantic Lottery.

From the Portland (Ore.) Journal.
In railroad fare and other expenses, \$3,000,000 was paid out by those who recently played hands in the gigantic land lottery conducted by the government on north west Indian reservations. The same authority estimates that an additional \$1,000,000 will be similarly expended by those who drew prizes. Further information is that in many cases the lands drawn are of little value as an asset for remunerative endeavor. The upshot of the whole incident is a wide conviction that a colossal blunder has been made by those who were in charge of affairs for the government. It has met, as it ought to, with condemnation by the press throughout the country.

The enormous sum extracted from the people makes of the process one of the most gigantic games of history. Eight million dollars as a part of the stakes, and more than 300,000 people in the list of the players, puts this government lottery in a class by itself and places the government officials who sat as "dealers" at the head of class in any known game of chance. It is a proceedings of which all those who represented the government ought to be ashamed. The government of the United States should be in better business. Private citizens accessory to a lottery of one thousandth the magnitude would be sent to jail or be made to pay a heavy fine, or both. What of the statesmanship that perpetrated this business upon the country? What of the officialdom that insists that the only way to equitably distribute Indian lands is to entice the people into playing a game of chance for them?

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—The man hunters who were searching Lewistown Narrows for the lone bandit who held up the Pennsylvania railroad train were paid \$3 a day and their meals. Many Lewistowners availed themselves of the opportunity.

—The Spangler Water company has let the contract for the building of a large reservoir on Brown's run to supply Barnesboro with water. Polo Azara, of Barnesboro, was the successful bidder, his consideration being \$23,000.

—Nine families have moved to Williamsport from Reedsville during the past week, on account of the removal of the plant of the Smith Printing Co., from Reedsville to Williamsport. The company employs about thirty five hands.

—As the result of the recent raiding of slot gambling machines in Johnstown, fifty arrests were made. Some of the merchants are going to fight the thing out in court. Three warrants have been issued for men who are charged with distributing the machines.

—The plant at Yeagerstown, Mifflin county, of the Yeagerstown Water Power company, is now completed. It is along the Kishacoquillas creek and is one of the most up-to-date electric power plants in the State. There is a total invested capital of \$100,000.

—The new Franklin and Clearfield branch of the New York Central gives that system access to the bituminous coal district. One mile cost \$2,500,000 to complete. The reason for the high cost of this was that it contains three bridges and two tunnels of 1,000 feet each.

—On Sept 29 next, Rt. Rev. Eugene A. Garvey, bishop of the Altoona diocese of the Roman Catholic church, will have completed forty years of service in the priesthood, and the event will be celebrated in an appropriate manner by the clergy of the Altoona diocese.

—While excavating on the land of Charles Ferguson, about two miles out of Blairsville, the bones of fifty Indian warriors were discovered. Among them were arrowheads, spearheads, lanceheads and articles made of flint and obsidian. The whole collection will be sent to the Smithsonian institute.

—Frank Falkenstein, of near York, saved \$750 by carelessness. He put the money into a drawer and forgot to lock it up. The family went to a picnic and when they came back all the locked drawers in the house were pried open and valuables taken from them, but the money was undisturbed.

—Two new kilns are very nearly completed at the Silica Brick company's works in Mount Union. The demand for the product of these works is so great that two more kilns are to be built, adding fifty per cent. to the capacity of the institution. This will make it possible to put on the market 60,000 bricks a day.

—During the past two and a half years Dairy and Food Commissioner Foster has been in charge, 330 prosecutions for violations of the oleomargarine law have been pushed to termination in Allegheny, Beaver, Fayette, Lawrence, Mercer and Washington counties. The fines authorized from these cases have enriched the treasury \$33,429.28.

—John Wheeler, a wealthy farmer of Dixonville, Indiana county, received threatening letters from blackmailers who threatened to blow up his house if he did not put \$15,000 under a certain brick. He put the money there and put detectives to watch the place. Nobody turned up to take the money and the sleuths are unable to find any clew to the culprits.

—All hopes of ever running down the bandit who held up and robbed the express train in Lewistown Narrows, almost two weeks ago, has practically been given up and Monday the last of the force of men stationed about the mountains, were recalled. The Adams Express company has also given up hope and the lonely mountains along the Juniata have returned to their usual calm and peacefulness.

—In his hurry to catch Philadelphia accommodation, at Petersburg, to go to his home at Huntingdon, Monday afternoon, ex-Sheriff Balzer Bumberger, of Huntingdon county, rushed across the railroad tracks at that station in front of a westbound freight train and was fatally injured, dying on the train as he was being taken to his home. He was born at Gatesburg, this county, and was seventy-six years old.

—Twenty-five widows, all dressed in the deepest mourning, filed into the United States circuit court of Pittsburg and sat in a row, with several rows of children behind them. They were the plaintiffs in damage suits for from \$10,000 to \$50,000 against the Pittsburg Coal company. The women's husbands were killed in the Darr mine disaster. The verdicts awarded were from \$500 to \$1,000. There are thirteen more like cases to come up for trial.

Four through passenger trains a day will be run on the new Franklin and Clearfield railroad, starting on Sunday, September 26. Two passenger trains a day will run from Chicago to New York city over this new division and about seventy miles or more will be saved in the distance between these two big cities. The Lake Shore officials have decided to run a through and a local freight daily, over the new road. Freight traffic starts on the same day as does the passenger traffic.

—Encouraged by the success attained by the students who have graduated from its school of telegraphy at Bedford, Pa., the Pennsylvania Railroad is to endeavor to secure this fall the largest enrollment the school has enjoyed since it was established in 1907. Located at the headquarters of the Bedford Division, the telegraph school has the personal supervision of practical railroad men, while Mr. J. B. Fisher, superintendent of telegraph at Philadelphia is in charge of its operation, with C. F. Emerick as resident manager. The time required to complete the course is from six to eight months, and immediately upon its completion graduates are provided with salaried positions in direct line of promotion. The bulk of the expense of the school is assumed by the railroad company, as the cost of the course to the student \$2.00 monthly, is merely nominal. Since the Pennsylvania railroad established its school of telegraphy there have been enrolled a total of 218 students, of which number 117 have graduated.