

—Who is to get the other \$28,000.00 of our money.

—Centre county can't afford any more Commissioners who merely look wise. What it needs is Commissioners who act wise.

—This is the time to elect JOHN D. MILLER Treasurer of Centre county. Let us pull together and insure ourselves of having a prudent, careful man in charge of the strong box.

—Of course they didn't welcome such a snap but there is no denying the fact that last week's flood made corn husking much easier for farmers in the low lands of the Bald Eagle.

—Clean cut, affable and intelligent is FRANK SMITH, our nominee for Register. To know him is to like him and to realize that he is just the type of man to make an ideal public official.

—Have you met ARTHUR LEE, candidate for Sheriff? He certainly is a fine specimen of mental and physical vigor and a mere casual acquaintance would win your confidence in him as a man.

—Scientists have doped it out that ten cents a day is the amount actually required for food to sustain a human being. Anything spent above that sum is for flavoring. If this be true the poorest of us must be having highly flavored lives.

—Ask the Commissioners of Centre county how many bridges they have built in the past three years. Then ask them how many public lettings they have had. Then ask them why they have built so many bridges without first having had a public letting.

—The genealogist who has just announced that Mr. ROCKEFELLER'S ancestry includes all the early Kings of Scotland, England, Ireland and France might have run a little further back and found more of them sucking the oil out of the coconuts in the jungles.

—Messrs. WOODRING and ZIMMERMAN announced to the Auditors in March that they would have to have \$105,000 to run the county during 1911. Twenty years ago \$50,000 did it. And the county has grown smaller in population and has less expensive courts than it did then.

—Surely the Democratic party in Centre county can point with pride to the array of sober, intelligent, christian men that it has presented as its nominees to fill the county offices. There is not a man whose record in public or private service cannot stand the scrutiny of the most critical.

—Two clerks in the Commissioners office, where one used to have plenty of leisure; two janitors in the place of one; electric light and heating bills that are five times as large as they were before, tell the tale of how WOODRING and ZIMMERMAN have made it cost you more than \$100,000 to run your county for a single year.

—Even the school children who have gotten along as far as interest in their arithmetic would laugh if our County Commissioners were to tell them of that plan of paying off \$100,000 worth of bonds by paying \$110,000 semi-annually into a sinking fund for thirty years. At only 4% compound interest \$2200 a year would amount to \$128,000.

—Don't tell me about the little plan of remodeling the court house for \$150,000.00.—that is what you will find out it has cost when the bills are all in and audited—can be carried through without raising your taxes. They would have been raised this year but WOODRING and ZIMMERMAN were afraid to do it because they were candidates for re-election.

—Talking of heroes. What more of courageous, consistent plugging along against odds that can never be overcome can be found than is to be seen in the life of FRANCIS SPEER. Do you think you could have kept at it like he has done under the same conditions? Could you have been as happy and brave with it all as he has been? He is asking you now for an office that he can fill properly and at the same time provide against the day when, fight as he will, he will no longer be able to provide for himself.

—Figure out how much \$2200.00 would be worth at 4% compound interest at the end of thirty years. Then figure out how much there would be in the bank if you deposited \$2200.00 more each one of the twenty-nine remaining years and got compound interest on it all at 4%. If you haven't time to do the problem we will tell you the answer: It is something over \$128,000.00. WOODRING and ZIMMERMAN have started to pay off the \$100,000.00 bonds for the new court house by depositing \$2200.00 a year for thirty years. They are crowing because they say thirty times \$2200.00 is only \$66,000.00 and that is all the court house will have cost you when the thirty years are up. Back to their farms with such financiers. If they have to pay 4% for the money they had to borrow to remodel their court house why couldn't they get 4% for the money they are saving up to pay back their loan? At compound interest at 4% the annual payments they are laying up would amount to \$128,000.00 in thirty years. So instead of paying the \$100,000.00 debt with \$66,000.00 they are actually going to give up \$128,000.00 of your good money, Mr. Taxpayers.

Democratic Watchman

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Deserves Nothing of Democrats.

Mr. GEORGE H. YARNELL is already traveling over the county asking Democrats to give him a complimentary vote in November. When Mr. YARNELL comes round extending his hand to show his friendship for and great interest in you, meet him on his own grounds; give him a cordial greeting. When he asks your vote, as he will the first pop, ask him what favor he ever did for the party or for any individual Democrat that any of its members should support him?

From the time he was old enough to know that there were such men as Democrats, he has been their bitterest and most abusive opponent. He never voted for a Democrat in his life. He never had a good word to say for one of its candidates. He would no more think of helping to elect a Democrat to office than he would think of cutting his right hand off. He has lived among Democrats all his life; his best neighbors are Democrats; he knows they are honest and worthy and yet he would not vote or express a good word for one of them, no matter how small the office or how much better the man than the Republican who wanted the same place.

And yet he has the effrontery now, after all his abuse and denunciation of men, because they were Democrats, to go round the county begging them to help him be elected Sheriff, over one of the whitest men, best citizens and truest Democrats there is in the county. He may be a very worthy citizen in every other respect, but no Democrat owes him anything politically, and after the abuse he has heaped upon the party and the opposition he made to every Democrat who has been nominated for office since he was old enough to talk.

The Philadelphia Judges.

Most of our esteemed Philadelphia contemporaries, as well as a vast majority of the people of that machine-managed city, are greatly disappointed because the Board of Judges appointed machine politicians as a Board of Viewers. The Board of Judges is composed of all the lawjudges of the city. The Board of Viewers is a body created by the recent Legislature to assess damages in cases where private property is taken for public or municipal use. Heretofore that service has been performed by men appointed in each case and it is estimated that the city has been looted mercilessly in the operations. In order to stop that source of graft the Legislature created the Board of Viewers to consist of nine "representative" citizens, equipped with expert knowledge, to be appointed by the Board of Judges, so as to be free from political influences.

The Act of Assembly was approved about five months ago but the Board of Judges failed to exercise the authority vested in them until a week ago. The salary of the office is \$5000 a year and it was surprising that such rich and ripe "plums" were permitted to dangle in full view of covetous foxes so long. They would have proved persuasive prizes during the primary fight but the Board of Judges paid no heed to that fact. These judges and eminent (?) jurists are justifying the confidence that has been reposed in them, the smug citizens imagined, and were happy in the delusion. As a matter of fact, however, the reason of the delay was that the patronage wasn't needed by PENROSE. After the primaries could be used to better purpose as reconcilers and the judges have prostituted themselves to give the machine this potent force.

The VARE influence is necessary to elect the PENROSE candidate for Mayor and the VARE influence can be obtained only with cash or its equivalent. The VARES don't need the cash though it is useful to them in keeping up their generous contributions toward charities. But they need offices badly in order to maintain a substantial political establishment and PENROSE has used the Board of Judges to bestow upon them four of these \$5000 a year jobs and in pursuance of the bargain, within a week of the incident, the VARES publicly announced that they would heartily support the PENROSE candidate, the echo of whose denunciation of them was still in the atmosphere. This is plainly buying votes with public patronage and using the judges as purchasing agents. Public confidence in the integrity of the judiciary cannot endure under such conditions.

—As to preparedness for the duties of Prothonotary surely you wouldn't attempt to draw any comparison between DAVID FOREMAN and HARRY DIEHL. It is an office in which a peculiar fitness is required and for that reason and many others that could be mentioned Mr. FOREMAN should be elected.

Financiering that Looks Like Robbery?

Waiving for the present the question as to whether an expensively remodeled court house was needed in Centre county as well as the extravagant and reckless manner the people's money was used in making the changes in the court house, the WATCHMAN invites the attention of those who have the taxes to pay to an editorial statement published in the Gazette last week. Under the caption "Cost of the New Court House" our contemporary undertakes to make you believe that the financing of the remodeling is a brilliant feature in the service of Messrs. WOODRING and ZIMMERMAN. It says:

"Instead of a financial blunder, as has been broadly advertised, it must be accepted as one of the shrewdest and most economical deals ever accomplished by any board of County Commissioners in this or any other State."

The county statement published last March shows that up to January 1st, 1911, there had been paid out on account of this remodeled building \$122,052.56. To meet part of this expenditure the County Commissioners sold \$100,000 worth of bonds bearing 4% interest which cannot be lifted or paid off until the expiration of 30 years. Now the shrewd financing that the Gazette alludes to is the provision that the Commissioners made for lifting these bonds when they mature. Their plan is to pay into a sinking fund each year the sum of \$6200.00. This annual payment will take care of the interest on the bonds and, in addition, accumulate a sum large enough to pay the bonds off at maturity.

Take your pencil and paper for a few moments and figure out what would have happened had the Commissioners issued their bonds in a series, so many maturing each year. Using the same annual payment of \$6200.00 that they are now making and paying the same interest you will find that the bonds could have been paid off in two months more than 26 years. According to their plan the Gazette thinks it the quintessence of splendid financiering, when the county must pay \$6200 a year for thirty years or four years longer, or \$24,800.00 more of your money than ought to have been necessary.

THUS YOU SEE THAT "THE SHREWDEST AND MOST ECONOMICAL DEAL" EVER HEARD OF COSTS YOU \$24,800.00 MORE THAN IT OUGHT TO HAVE COST.

The Gazette and its "shrewd" Commissioners will probably undertake to tell you that the money could not have been secured under any other conditions. If they do, they will be telling you what is not true.

The bonds of Centre county are a safer investment than any other security outside of State or Federal bonds. There are something more than \$2,500,000.00 in the various banks of Centre county today drawing only 3% interest. This amount does not include the open accounts in the banks. It is merely the time deposits drawing interest and can be regarded as the investment money of the tax payers of Centre county.

This being the case why didn't Commissioners WOODRING and ZIMMERMAN give the people who are paying the taxes and getting only 3% on their money in the banks a chance to make even a safer investment at 4% by buying county bonds.

The very fact that most of the short time loans that the county has made have been at 5% would indicate that tax payers who have \$2,500,000.00 in the banks at 3% would have been only too glad to have bought their own county bonds at 4%.

This would not only have been patronizing home industries and home people but it would have saved the county \$24,800.00, or about one quarter of the entire bond issue.

If Commissioners WOODRING and ZIMMERMAN put this transaction up to you as an excuse for having bound you to a debt that you cannot pay for thirty years, even though you may have plenty of funds to do it with before that time, they certainly must take you for a half-wit without ideas of facts or figures.

Take your pencil and paper again for a few moments and try working a little problem in compound interest. According to this wonderfully economical plan of the Commissioners they are to pay into the Bellefonte Trust Co. annually, \$6200.00. Of this amount \$4000.00 is for the interest at 4% on the \$100,000.00 bond issue. The balance of \$2200.00, or \$1100.00 paid semi-annually, is to establish a sinking fund. Now for the figures: Compounding \$2,200.00 at 4% for a period of thirty years, not counting the cents which were not calculated, gives \$128,496.00.

Isn't it wonderful. The scheme was so shrewd that it is a wonder that it didn't affect the brains of these modern financiering prodigies.

To pay off \$100,000 worth of your bonds they are going to take \$128,496 of your money, and yet they have the nerve to confront you as a voter and ask for your endorsement of such a plundering scheme.

If the county had to make its bonds run such a long term to get such a low interest rate as 4%—if you call that low—then surely the county's money in this sinking fund would not have been demanding too much interest had it demanded 4%. If the Commissioners had to go outside of the county to borrow their money why didn't they go outside of the county and invest it where it would have paid these bonds off in 26 years and saved the taxpayers the enormous sum of \$28,496. There are plenty of good banks in Pennsylvania that are paying 4% on time deposits and we fancy that the Commissioners could have gotten even a higher rate.

Costly Financing.

All of the banks in Bellefonte pay 3 per cent. interest on certificates of deposit. Now suppose you got a certificate of deposit for \$2,200.00 today. On the 13th of October, 1912, you call at the bank, get your interest and add it and \$2,200.00 more to that certificate. If you keep on doing this for thirty years you will have a little over \$108,000.00. Commissioners WOODRING and ZIMMERMAN have entered into an agreement to pay off the bonds on the court house by paying \$2,200.00 to a Bellefonte bank every year for thirty years. The bonds amount to only \$100,000.00 yet the same bank would pay you \$108,000.00 if you took its certificates of deposit. Back to their farms for such blundering Commissioners.

—For high class Job Work come to the WATCHMAN Office. —If you want high class job work come to the WATCHMAN office.

Taft's Poor Defense.

From the Springfield Republican. The trouble with President Taft's defense of the wool tariff bill veto is the undue emphasis he places on the work of his tariff board and the possibility of what is called a scientific revision of the tariff. He says in referring to the tariff commission policy:

If the principle to which I am committed, and to which the party is committed in the strong terms of the resolutions, which I have quoted above, was to be observed as a policy at all, here was the occasion for following it. If I had allowed the wool bill to become a law, the progress made in public opinion toward a better method of revising the tariff would have been entirely lost and the policy cast to the winds.

Well, this could have been no great loss, as past experience has proved and as future experience is likely to prove. "Scientific" tariff revision is a dream impossible of realization; and to lean upon a tariff commission for practical guidance in tariff revision is to lean upon a reed shaking in the wind.

But let this pass. The President's mistake in the above defense lies in the assertion that he had to begin with the wool bill in applying the tariff board policy of revision, if there was ever to be a beginning. This can hardly be accepted even as a matter of theory or consistency. If there was to be no tariff revision at all, following the Payne-Aldrich enactment, until the tariff board reported, then there should have been no Canadian reciprocity. Nevertheless the President brought up reciprocity and crowded it; and the reasons for doing that should have governed him in his action on the wool bill.

Those reasons are well known. The Payne-Aldrich revision was generally regarded as a betrayal of the country's loud demand for tariff reform. Mr. Taft himself came to accept that view in part or to regard it as a grave political blunder. He brought up Canadian reciprocity and free trade by way of rectifying the mistake, and there was no waiting upon a tariff board report to do this. But if the President came to regard the Payne-Aldrich revision as a blunder in general somewhat in general, he outspoke himself regarding the failure to revise the wool schedules as a blunder in particular. And why should there have been any more haste in advance of tariff board reports to correct the general blunder through reciprocity, than the particular blunder through some such wool revision bill as a Democratic-Republican Congress presented to him last summer?

This is the troublesome fact about the President's position and defense. He should have acted on the wool bill according to its apparent merits or demerits, and not according to a future tariff board report. There was no lack of information about the wool industry or its iniquitous tariff. It had repeatedly been inquired into and the enormities and inequalities of its tariff exposed. The vetoed bill was framed in a clearer light than the President's reciprocity agreement, and he himself had admitted the need of rectifying action. He should have chosen a less aggravating part of the tariff upon which to make his stand for revision by tariff board report.

The Philadelphia Reform.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

Philadelphia has secured, as the result of its unique election, two candidates for mayor, either of whom will give it good service. The domination of its contracting rings may be considered to have passed away, and its municipal administration will cease to be a by word in the land, which sudden transformation is a matter for great congratulation on the part of the people of the whole State, which Philadelphia's political rottenness has so often offended in the control of an unlooked for way, and as a vindication of the old adage that when thieves fall out honest men will get their dues. Philadelphia has so long been in the hands of thieves that it came to pass that they fell out; the control of the dominant party being struggled for by two factions, which were drunk with the contemplation of the unchallenged control which the Republican organization had of the city, and one set sought to strangle the other and seize the control; whereupon the other took advantage of the odium of the contractors' control and raised up a candidate to strike it down; which it has succeeded in doing, through the popular strength given him by his repute for honest vigor.

Mr. Earle is competent to redeem Philadelphia's government, and it seems that his is the anointed head for the work. He has defeated the other Republican candidate by a large majority, and has polled a vote which will almost suffice to elect him, even though Blankenburg, who is also capable of giving Philadelphia a good government, should absorb the greater part of the vote of the Republican defeated faction; whose vote he might largely get if it would elect him. But in the presence of the large vote that Earle received, it may be supposed that there will be no great Republican defection from him at the election, and that he will be chosen to the mayoralty.

An Underground Mississippi.

From the Christian Herald.

Geologists are claiming that the greatest underground river in the world flows from the Rocky mountains underneath New Mexico and Texas, emptying itself into the Gulf of Mexico. This river is thought to be in places several miles wide, and it is believed it feeds rivers that flow upon the surface. The artesian well belt of Texas is pointed to as the uplifting of the water from this river, often from 800 feet below.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Berks county farmers are short of help, and women are again seen in the fields husking corn at \$1.25 to \$1.50 a day.

—Another big flow natural gas well has been struck in the vicinity of Indiana, giving that region still more assurance of abundant supply this winter.

—While the family of William Kepler, of Cook's Run, near Lock Haven, were out chesnutting a few days ago, their home with all its contents was destroyed by fire. They had no insurance.

—William Hecker, the Allentown Fagan, who got his children Millie and Ella, aged 12 and 14, to rob twenty houses, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to serve six years in the Allentown jail, with fines aggregating \$5,000.

—Four Crosson hotels were visited by burglars on Sunday night. The offices and barrooms were the scene of operations and the booty was small, amounting to only \$15 in all, ordered a recount of the ballots cast besides a few bottles of whiskey.

—Washington county has had a regular scare over hydrophobia recently and as result not less than 300 dogs have been killed. It is said that fifteen horses and cows have died from hydrophobia and a quarantine has been established over animals.

—A novel sight on a farm, near Milltown, not far from Philadelphia, is that of a colored woman who wields a husking-pep in a corn field, husking corn at five cents a shock and earning daily as much as some women receive for an entire week's labor at housework.

—Clymer, Indiana county, has closed its schools on account of scarlet fever and diphtheria. One of the Indiana ward schools was recently closed for several days for the same reason. Hastings and Bakerton, Cambria county, are still wrestling with the epidemic.

—The traditional hardness of the African skull was illustrated in Philadelphia, when four bullets fired at close range from a revolver in the hands of Calvin Walcott, glanced from the head of Henry Lewis, inflicting only slight flesh wounds. Both the participants in the affray are colored.

—Sensational developments are expected in Somerset county. Turkey foot township has only 104 registered voters and returns show 140 ballots. The effect on the judgeship contest is sufficient to cause considerable excitement. Nobody ventures a prediction as to the outcome.

—Miss Lizzie Thomas, who for many years has been Lock Haven's expert cake baker, leaves that city this week to spend the winter at Clintondale before entering the home for aged women at Williamsport. She had cared for an invalid mother for thirty-two years and is held in universal esteem.

—Ground was broken recently at Titusville for the first building of the Drake memorial museum and library, which is designed to perpetuate the memory of the man who drilled the first oil well. Mayor, Council, school board, school superintendent and a large number of Titusville's prominent citizens participated in the exercises.

—The judges of Schuylkill county are by no means harmonious. Judge Brumm has just handed down an opinion in a divorce case in which he dissents from the opinion of Judge H. O. Bechtel granting the application, declaring that the record is rife with evidence pointing to fraud, collusion and conspiracy between the libellant, the master and others.

—C. V. Sponler, a clerk in the employ of the York Gas company, Centre Square, York, has been notified that he will receive 250 shares of stock in the Singer Sewing Machine company as a result of a provision made in the will of John A. Singer, who died in New York City recently. The bequest is worth between \$82,500 and \$85,000. John A. Singer was a first cousin of Mr. Sponler.

—John McQuown, aged 27 years, died recently after only a few days' illness at his home in Clearfield. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. McQuown and was associated with his father in the management and editing of the *Raftsmen's Journal*, one of our best weekly exchanges. He was also republican branch chairman. The sympathy of the newspaper fraternity will go out to the father in his grief.

—The twenty-eighth annual reunion of the 110th Regiment, Pennsylvania infantry, will be held at Tyrone Thursday, Oct. 19, at 10 o'clock, at which time the business meeting will be held. At 7.30 o'clock in the evening the camp fire of the Twenty-second Pennsylvania cavalry will be held joining with the 110th Pennsylvania infantry. Reduced rates may be secured from W. H. Speed and G. W. Buck, of Altoona.

—Among a large collection of curios owned by Robert S. Magee, of Maytown, is a brass candlestick that was used by George Washington when he spent a night where the Union Hotel in Wrightsville now stands. Mr. Magee is a native of that place and he inherited it. He also has a musket that was carried by his great-grandfather in the War of 1812, and a sword in the Revolutionary war by Colonel Robert Smith. They are in excellent condition.

—State Fish Commissioner Buller is not in a hurry to place the fish dams in the McCall's dam until he has studied the situation and decided just what kind will best meet the requirements. When the dam was first built fishways were put in, but they were not worth the material they were built of, and so fish had a chance to get up the river. This was the cause of much complaint and Commissioner Buller will endeavor to get a fishway that will let the fish up the stream.

—Mrs. Despinto, of Tuxedo Park, N. Y., was robbed of \$109 Sept. 17, at that place, traced the robbers to Pitstown, where she received her money, also \$30 for her expenses. Chief Traber, of the West Side, arrested the men, who are Henry Mannelli and Gustave Solemo. Mrs. Despinto recognized them as soon as she saw them. They agreed to pay her back the amount of her expenses if she would withdraw the charge of robbery, and both men settled and were given their liberty.

—Wilmer Crow, who for a number of years has been business manager of the *Harrisburg Star Independent*, becomes general manager of the Reading Printing company. This company prints *The Telegraph*, an evening newspaper, and *The Reading Times*, a morning paper. Mr. Crow is president of the Retail Merchants' Association and vice president of the Harrisburg Merchants' association. Twenty-five years ago Mr. Crow was the general secretary of the Bellefonte Y. M. C. A., and is still well remembered by many friends here.

—Harvey M. Keller, of Hickory Kingdom, Clearfield county, has been a victim of quite a series of misfortunes. Less than a year ago his entire family underwent a siege of typhoid fever, which was followed, in his case, by inflammatory rheumatism. Some time ago a little daughter was almost fatally burned by the explosion of a lantern, and the home had a narrow escape from destruction by the fire that followed. Within the past month Mrs. Keller was killed by lightning and a short time later the barn was also struck by lightning and almost destroyed.

—The extension line of the Stroudsburg and Water Gap trolley from Water Gap to Fortland is nearing completion and if the work is not hindered cars will be running into Fortland in about a week. The cars will then connect with the Bangor and Portland road and Stroudsburg and Philadelphia will be connected by a series of lines. During the summer the Liberty Bell company will run cars through from Stroudsburg to the Quaker City. These cars will be large and very convenient for the passengers, and will be as comfortable as Pullman coaches. The schedule time for the run will be about six hours.