

INK SLINGS.

—Vote for FRANK SMITH for Register. —A vote for ARTHUR LEE for Sheriff means a vote to put a man in office who deserves it.

—We need a District Attorney who knows the people of Centre county; and who knows them any better than PAUL FORTNEY?

—The rebellion in China isn't a circumstance to the rebellion that is going to occur right here in Centre county on November 7th.

—PAUL FORTNEY knows the law. He also knows Centre county like a book and would make the better District Attorney because he does.

—Good plumbers are scarce and WILLIAM H. BROWN is a good one. Let him go back to the trade that needs him and put FRANCIS SPEER in that office, for there are not many jobs FRANCIS is physically able to fill.

—Not a word derogatory to WILLIAM H. BROWN. He can earn four dollars every day of his life at his trade of plumbing. Look at FRANCIS SPEER, realize his condition and then vote for him for Recorder.

—Yes, dear Gazette, the stock of the Pennsylvania Railroad is less secure than Centre county bonds. The security is not to be found that is more gilt edged than a Centre county bond and we doubt whether there are very many as good.

—Let us have a Democratic Treasurer in Centre county next time so we can find out just what that court house job has cost us. There is a lot covered up there, but it can't remain so if a Democratic Treasurer is put into office.

—Have you seen JOSIAH PRITCHARD campaigning? He drives a fine sorrel and a very fancy yellow wagon. JOSIAH is a fancy man, suave and enticing, but not the kind who ought to be Treasurer of Centre county. Just now we need a plain, common man like JOHN MILLER for Treasurer.

—The entire county sympathizes with FRANK SMITH in the hour of his great sorrow. The recent loss of his beloved wife must certainly leave him with little heart for his campaign for the office of Register. If he has been unable to get to see you personally remember that there has been a sad reason for his not doing so.

—An interesting side light on one of the effects the location of the penitentiary in this community would have was revealed by an old Benner Twp. farmer on Wednesday when he remarked: "State properties pay no taxes. Exempt four thousand acres of the best land in Benner Twp. from taxation and it is going to make the burden much heavier on the rest of us." He was right, too, for there will be just as many miles of roads to keep up and just as many schools to maintain.

—Let us clean out the Commissioner's and Treasurer's offices and find out exactly what that court house has cost us. It looks a little funny to have the Auditor's statement tell us that the court house had cost \$122,000.00 and then in another column to have the Commissioner tell us that they would need \$100,000 more money during 1911 for "improvements to county buildings." Let us lift the lid by putting MILLER in the Treasurer's office and NOLL and GROVE in the Commissioner's.

—Talking about the Centre county Court House being a monument to Commissioners WOODRING and ZIMMERMAN, what had they to do with its architecture? The beautiful part of the Court House is the front elevation which was erected long before either WOODRING or ZIMMERMAN knew that there was such an office as County Commissioner. And they stuck their \$122,000.00 improvement back in the hill for the very reason that the architect knew he couldn't improve on that old front. Monument, indeed! It will be the same kind of a monument to their befuddled business ability that the Pennsylvania capitol is to that of SAMUEL PENNYPACKER.

—Listen Mr. HARTER. The reason the conservative people of Centre county might have preferred taking county bonds at 4% interest to buying P. R. R. or Baltimore & Ohio stock that would net them 5% and 6% respectively is this. When a bond of Centre county comes due the county will pay absolutely its face value. The share of any railroad stock you may buy today may be worth far less on the day you want to sell it and, furthermore, the interest rate paid on it may be changed at any time the directors of the company elect. We grant that P. R. R. stock is regarded as an investment security in Pennsylvania, and is, therefore, less of a speculative issue, but it is speculative just the same; as the person will tell you who bought it for \$51.75 in 1907 and can now sell it for \$61. Or the fellow who bought it at \$75.50 in 1909 and can get only \$61 for it now. Plenty of Centre county money is out now on first mortgages at 5%, and some even lower, when it might be invested in speculative securities that would yield from 7% to 10%. Why? Because there is a vast difference in the character of the investments. Conservative people are after the greatest security and, invariably, the greatest security pays the lowest rate of interest.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Duty of Centre County Democrats.

There are only seven secular days between the date of the issue of this paper and the election. If every moment of that time is used to the best possible purpose much can be accomplished in preparation for getting out the vote. But even at that the time is none too long. The campaign has been unusually quiet but it has been earnest. The candidates have been active in a quiet way but energetic and it may safely be said that they have completely fulfilled their obligations to the party and to the public. During the remaining time at their command they will not default. There will be neither cessation of work nor abatement of energy on their part.

But the burden of the campaign should not be put entirely upon the candidates. The personal and political friends of the candidates have also obligations to meet in this connection. They should put their shoulders to the wheel and help to keep up the forward motion. The young men of the party are also in duty bound to help. In the future they will carry the standards of the party and they should see to it now that the standards come to them free from the embarrassment of defeat. Then we of the older element have our part to perform. We have enjoyed the fruits of victory in the past and in so far as it is possible should strive to convey those benefits to those who come after us.

Centre county is as certain a Democratic victory this year as Berks, if every Democrat performs his full duty. Every voter has influence to a greater or less extent. This influence is not measured by his prominence in business, professional or industrial life. It depends upon his fidelity to duty and the energy of his efforts. We believe that every Democrat in the county may easily bring to the support of the admirable candidates of his party one or more votes in addition to his own.

If that result is achieved our victory this year will be an epoch in the history of the county.

Let us all strive to accomplish that result. It is easily within reach.

—R. T. COMLEY spent \$508 during the primary campaign, and he declares that he will spend half that much more to show the Republican organization that he can't be turned down with impunity. Even the offer of the appointment of mercantile appraiser was not salve enough to soothe Mr. COMLEY's ruffled spirits. And if what he alleges is true, he cannot be blamed, either.

That Highest Financial Positioned Man.

A certain man in Bellefonte who occupies the highest financial position in Centre county, and who is a Democrat in politics, this week, in talking to a Gazette representative said: "I do not see any wrong in the loan the County Commissioners made for remodeling the Court House." Keystone Gazette of October 20th, 1911.

The high financial positioned gentleman probably meant that he could see no wrong, morally.

If that is what he meant we agree with him. But if he intended to help bolster up the blundering financing of the expense of remodeling the court house then we disagree and call to witness the common little financially positioned people who have the taxes to pay.

Any one of them can take a pencil and paper and figure out that if they take \$1100.00 to any bank in Centre county and leave it there on a certificate of deposit for six months at 3% interest and then draw it out with the interest and add \$1100.00 more to it; getting a certificate for six months for that amount, and keep on adding \$1100.00 and the accumulated interest every six months for thirty years, THEY WILL HAVE \$109,182.93 AT THE END OF THAT PERIOD.

Commissioners WOODRING and ZIMMERMAN have entered into exactly this arrangement to save up enough of your money to pay for the bonds they sold to raise part of the money for the remodeling of the Court House. But when who ever happens to be the Commissioners in 1940 pay the last installment of \$1100.00 into their sinking fund THEY ARE TO GET ONLY \$100,000.00.

Who gets the other \$9,182.93 that you or any other private citizen would get were you to follow the same plan?

And the high financial positioned gentleman says: "I do not see any wrong in the loan the County Commissioners made for remodeling the Court House."

—Really Mr. BRYAN's complaints about the Supreme court are tiresome. A man who could pack a convention as he did that at Denver, in 1908, by throwing out members of the Pennsylvania delegation who were legally elected, is entirely without judicial temperament and ought not to be considered a fit critic of any court.

What It Was to Cost and How It Was Brought About.

\$60,000 Vs \$122,000.

The WATCHMAN last week referred to the influences, that were alleged by the Gazette, to have principally dictated the action of the County Commissioners in their extravagant and reckless expenditure of the people's money about the court house, and held that if those two gentlemen could be so easily induced to squander the public funds that fact alone was proof positive of their unfitness for the position they are trying to retain. Since that statement was printed the entire facts relating to it have come out. These only place the Commissioners in a worse plight and make them solely and ALONE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING A SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLAR COURT HOUSE COST THE TAXPAYERS ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS, as they now admit, and which by the time that debt can be paid, compounding interest on the payment, will run into the enormous sum of TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS!

Following are the facts. These will be verified by every member of the bar present at the meeting at which the improvements to the court house were decided upon, and whom, our friend of the Gazette who now speaks for the Commissioners, has tried to hold responsible for the extravagance that characterized the job from beginning to end.

It was a gathering of the members of the Bellefonte bar at the residence of Judge ORVIS, to examine the plans and specifications for the improvements contemplated. These had already been drawn up and completed by the Philadelphia architect, who afterwards oversaw and directed the work. At that meeting a majority of the members of the bar were present. Messrs. ZIMMERMAN and WOODRING were there. They had with them, presumably as spokesman, Mr. J. THOMAS MITCHELL, who afterward claimed credit as the originator and accomplisher of the thirty-year bond outrage. They had with them also the elevations, drawings and specifications showing the court house as it now is. As related to us by Col. DAVID F. FORTNEY, these plans and papers were carefully gone over by the gentlemen present, some approving, others criticizing and others offering suggestions for changes, but all fearing the amount of cost their adoption would entail. After a complete understanding of them was had the question was asked of the Commissioners what these improvements, just as specified and shown could be made for?

Speaking for the Commissioners Mr. MITCHELL replied, "the architect's estimate says \$43,000, they won't cost over \$45,000, and we have the architect's assurance that he stands willing to put up such a bond as may be asked, that he will find contractors who will turn over the job completed in every detail as to both building and furnishing for \$60,000."

And this statement both Mr. WOODRING and Mr. ZIMMERMAN verified. It was with this understanding that the lawyers insisted upon going on with the work and it was with this promise that the Commissioners began the job.

In place of \$60,000 they have made the building cost the county over \$122,000 (possibly nearer \$150,000 when all is known, for there is much that is hidden and kept hidden yet.) And for all this additional increased expenditure, they don't even have the poor excuse that plans were changed, or additions made, or any kind of improvements added that were not shown at that first meeting.

In fact it was understood at that time that the entire court house corridor was to be tunneled, so that the steam or hot air, water and electric light could be distributed through the building from this tunnel and that when repairs were necessary to these, they could be made without tearing up or destroying the walls or ceilings. This idea, after the letting, was abandoned, and a temporary makeshift of carrying these pipes under the plastering of the ceiling of the corridor adopted, thus cheapening the job to the extent of several thousand dollars.

And here you have it Mr. Tax-payer. A court house renovated and improved, for it was not rebuilt, that you were promised for \$45,000 and was not under any circumstances to cost you over \$60,000, footing up the extravagant sum of over \$122,000, and part of that indebtedness so financed that by the time you get it paid, including what you have to pay yearly for thirty years, and the interest upon your payments, you will figure up the enormous outlay of \$255,000.00.

Think of it tax payers, and then think of continuing men in charge of your affairs who are the principals in this great wrong upon you and your children. Men whose management of your interests have plastered a \$100,000 mortgage upon your homes and your farms and upon every dollar's worth of property that you own and can be taxed for THIRTY years to come.

Surely when you go to vote you will not cast your ballot to endorse this manner of doing the public business—this thirty-year mortgaging of all you have,—by giving your support to either Mr. WOODRING or Mr. ZIMMERMAN.

A Clean Ticket.

There is one thing we are convinced of and one thing that even our Republican friends have not or cannot dispute, and that is, that if Centre county were to be hunted over from Wolf's Store to Philipsburg and from the Karthaus bridge to Potters Mills, twelve cleaner men, morally, or twelve more accommodating, better qualified or more deserving citizens to occupy the public offices could not be found than the twelve whose names are found on the Democratic ticket. There are plenty of other men who are just as reputable, deserving and would doubtless make just as good officials, but as a whole, we know that the ticket is away above the average and our Democratic voters have reason to feel proud it is so.

There is not a man upon it against whose purity of character a whisper of suspicion can be heard; there is not one among them whose actions are chargeable with any offense that would cause the blush of shame to cover the cheek of any citizen; there is not one whose life could not be laid as an open book before all men, without fear that any action of theirs would create criticism, or offend the most moral minded.

Can the same be said of all those who are striving for the public places in the county? The WATCHMAN does not intend to throw dirt, but it asks the moral

voters of the county to know for whom they are voting before they mark their ballots!

Not the Issue.

The Bellefonte Republican and Gazette may continue from now until doomsday publishing columns of what prominent men have said about the Court House but they can't throw dust in the public eye that may ever befog the issue.

The Court House is vastly improved. No one disputes that. Nor it is charged that either of the Commissioners profited a cent in the remodeling. They are both recognized and considered honest men. But as to their judgment in business matters and the reckless manner in which the tax-payer's money has been used and the public interests cared for. These are the questions. They were expected to and promised to spend not over \$60,000 on the improvements of the Court House and they actually did spend over twice as much, or \$122,000.00.

Then they tied the county up in such a way that the debt of \$122,000.00 will amount to \$255,000.00 before it can be paid off.

If you think Commissioners who take such liberties with your money as to spend twice as much as you authorized them to do are safe business men, then vote to keep them in office. If not, vote for NOLL and GROVE.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

The Catlin Commission.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. If the Catlin Commission is to continue its wholesome work of turning the light upon the dark places of past and present municipal misrule it must be with the assistance of that portion of the community which resents being described as "corrupt and contented." Whatever may have been the intentions of those who called this inquiry into being, and however they may now wish to be rid of it, the Commission itself has refused to play the role, originally assigned it, of the tool of a partisan faction, and has demonstrated its willingness to remain in session as long as there is evidence in readiness along the lines of inquiry.

Thus far the revelations before the Commission have been made solely through the labors of the Taxpayers' Committee, of which Logan M. Bullitt is chairman. That committee has borne the burden of the investigations of which the public has been given the shameful and disgraced before the public comes to the juggling of contracts, the manipulation of specifications by which competition was eliminated and the city defrauded, and the amazing revelations of land-damage extortion have been laid before the public.

Mr. Bullitt now makes the explicit statement that the field of inquiry has by no means been exhausted, but that the committee's resources have been, with its immediate assistance the Catlin Commission will, after a few more sessions, be forced to adjourn for want of further evidence. The municipal administration has contributed nothing toward the elucidation of the truth, but, on the contrary, has opposed every obstacle to the production of testimony and has treated the Commission with contempt, flouting its authority and refusing to obey its summons.

It is to the Taxpayers' Committee alone, therefore, that the progress already made is to be credited, and Philadelphia will be disgraced before the country if it allows this opportunity to be lost because it refuses to hold up the hands of those of its citizens who have already accomplished so much, with the tremendous engine of publicity, toward rooting out the parasites who have fattened upon the public purse. The Bullitt committee has "made good" beyond the most sanguine hopes of its members, and the most effective way in which the good people of Philadelphia can now show their appreciation of what has already been done in their behalf is to provide the committee with ample means to continue its researches until every chapter of the story of graft and corruption shall have been laid bare.

Hearst Comes Back.

From the Harrisburg Star Independent. William Randolph Hearst appears to have an idea that he can go cavorting about and kicking his heels into the face of any political party which he permitted to ally itself with him once upon a time, and then calmly announce that the party may join him again, and thus end the incident. That is "practical politics" as he understands it.

Mr. Hearst takes himself as a great reformer, but so far as anybody can follow his curves, he has been a reformer in preaching rather than in practice. It is remembered with amusement rather than with contempt that when he had himself conspicuous by his absence instead of by his labors as a missionary among the representatives of a benighted people who elected them for their own undoing, as he thought. Since that day he has been everything by turns and nothing long by way of politics.

Mr. Hearst announces that again he is a Democrat. He sees opportunity to get into the spotlight again. He is going to fight against Boss Murphy and Tammany. He is going to put them out of business, and he joins himself to the Democratic party in order to do it. But does the Democratic party want to get rid of Tammany and Murphy? It might be somewhat embarrassing to Mr. Hearst if he drove them into oblivion and then learn that the party wanted them and could do nothing without them. Besides, some of the influential members of the party might refuse to regard Mr. Hearst as more desirable than Mr. Murphy or Tammany.

But maybe they should receive him in a broad spirit of charity, for he appears willing to forgive the party for whatever he has done it.

Bryan's Texas Farm.

From the St. Paul Pioneer-Press. In a recent political address Col. Bryan declared that the Republican Presidents had been robbing him for years and had stolen 16 of his choice political issues. He intimated that he was becoming a little weary and might get even by refusing to raise any more issues. About the same time a report was sent out from Texas that Col. Bryan was raising onions on his Texas ranch and piling up money so rapidly that he was threatened with being forced into the millionaire class. That report is now branded as a fake. Col. Bryan has been robbed of his onions.

Charles W. Bryan, a brother of the peerless leader, informs the Pioneer-Press that the onion story was sent out by some person interested in the sale of lands in Texas; that Col. Bryan only has a tenant on his farm, but no other employees, and that he has no intention of building a ranch out of the money he made raising onions, and furthermore, that he has not raised onions enough on the place to season the beef steaks.

—When PENROSE is "ripped" out of the United States Senate there will be a "rip" worth speaking about, and that event is within the range of the naked eye.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—About 8,500 bushels of potatoes have been shipped into Lock Haven in the last month. They have sold at 80 cents a bushel.

—L. M. McMasters, of Westover, hauled over twelve bushels of chestnuts to Houtzdale where he sold them for \$2.50 per bushel.

—One of the finest lots of young trees in this part of the State is flourishing under the care of Father Ferdinand Kintell, at Loreto.

—According to farmers in certain sections of Schuylkill county, an army of young rabbits is destroying the cabbage crop this season.

—Pottstown people are now drinking filtered Schuylkill water and give it credit for the absence of contagious disease in their town.

—Samples of milk lifted from dairies in various sections of Chester county are reported pure and coming up to the standard set by the State law.

—Many Pennsylvania farmers who delayed the sowing of their wheat until October have been still further delayed by the copious rains of the month.

—The Pennsylvania anthracite coal region has a miner in the person of James Cowie who has worked in the mines for sixty-three years. The man is 75 years of age.

—The Young Men's Christian Association building in Warren was totally destroyed by an early morning fire on Saturday which also badly damaged an adjoining four-story structure.

—Former Congressman Monroe H. Kulp, of Shamokin, is dead at his home in that town at the age of 53 years. He was twice elected to Congress as a Republican in a strong Democratic district.

—Trapper John Swope, of Huntingdon, has so far this month received premiums from the county commissioners for seventy-nine skunks. The premiums amounted to \$19.75 and the pets are worth \$2 or \$3 each.

—Chambers Besore, a wealthy, middle aged farmer of Greenvillage, Franklin county, is said to be dying from glanders which he contracted from his horses. All his horses have been quarantined and will be killed.

—Philipsburg had a pleasant surprise a few days ago, when the men drilling an artesian well for the Hoffman ice cream factory, struck a rich vein of coal at a depth of sixty-one feet. It is thought that the entire region is underlain with this vein.

—The Indiana Bent Rung Ladder company, which the board of trade of that town saved from financial disaster, has secured a large order that will keep the plant busy for five years. Improvements will be finished and work begun in the next ten days.

—Anthony Wyland, aged 62 years, residing near Barnesboro, went to the office of a physician in that place to get some medicine for heart trouble and died in the office. He is the fourth farmer in that region to die in that way within the past week.

—While the wood alcohol industry has not assumed the proportions expected, it is making some progress. Tanners Falls, Wayne county, is to have a new factory for the production of this substance. The buildings are to be solid concrete and will cost about \$100,000.

—Work on an order of 500 steel hopper cars for the Allegheny River Mining company, as well as that of 1000 box cars and 300 automobile cars for the Erie railroad, will start in the Berwick steel plant, either October 23rd or October 30th, with work resumed in the wood car shops November 9th.

—With a view to doing away with the middlemen's profit, several hundred farmers in the vicinity of Harrisburg have organized a produce company on the co-operative plan, through which they will market the products of their fields and orchards. Organization will be effected in Harrisburg.

—Seven hundred creditors of the defunct Glazier bank at Huntingdon were in line to file their claims with the auditor at the time he appointed for that purpose. The meeting was adjourned to the court house and the auditor worked all afternoon and next morning, then adjourned for a week, when the work will be completed.

—A burglar in the wee small hours of the morning was helping himself to the contents of a refrigerator at the home of Dr. D. S. Rice, of Harrisburg, when the doctor appeared on the scene with a revolver in hand. The burglar did the disappearance act in quick time and managed to evade the shots the doctor sent after him.

—A subway is being built under the Pennsylvania railroad tracks at Alfarata to enable the Federal Refractories company to reach the rich gneiss deposits on Tussey mountain. The company will bridge the river and install a mountain climbing engine. Work on the new line will be completed as soon as possible.

—Owing to three cases of typhoid fever in Ebensburg, samples of the borough water have been sent away for analysis. One of the victims is thought to have contracted the disease elsewhere, but the other two had not been out of town for months. The water has always been pure but the authorities are not taking any chances.

—A daring hold-up robbery at the point of a revolver was perpetrated by a lone bandit in the Taylor avenue hotel, Falls Creek, late Saturday evening—at 10:27 o'clock to be exact. The individual, concealed behind a handkerchief for a mask, stepped into the hotel, covered everybody in sight, took about \$25 in bills from the bar register and escaped toward DuBois.

—Harry Smay, charged with stealing a horse belonging to A. L. Bloom, near Curwensville, in the Clearfield county jail, awaiting trial. When the theft was discovered, a posse was formed and started on the trail of the horse, which had a shoe of peculiar shape. The man was headed direct for New York State and had traveled a considerable distance before he was overtaken.

—As the result of a large number of cases of scarlet rash having developed at Mill Hill in several different sections of the borough, health officer White, as a precautionary measure against the further spread of the disease, has decided to close the public schools, public amusement places and discontinue services in the churches for the next two weeks. It is hoped that an epidemic will no longer be such as to make it necessary to continue the order.

—Although the deer hunting season hasn't opened yet, the engineer on the Northern Central passenger train that left Williamsport at 7:10 Saturday morning out a buck weighing 175 pounds out of business. Possibly it would be more correct to say the engine did the job, for the big locomotive struck the deer as the latter was strolling on the railroad about a mile and a-half above Trout Run and threw it lifeless to the side of the track. The game warden of that district was notified and at once had the dead deer taken to Trout Run, where it was dressed, the venison shipped to Williamsport on the noon train and presented to the hospital.

—Liverwurst for breakfast came very near causing the death of Frank Coup and his three children, William, Arthur and Hazel at their home at Milton on Saturday. Shortly after eating the meal the father and the three children became violently ill and a physician was hurriedly summoned, who pronounced their cases ptomaine poisoning. The father was unconscious for four hours, while the little ones suffered violent pains.

After hard work upon the part of the physician all were brought out of danger and are now on the way to recovery. It is not known whether the food had become decayed or whether it had become infected from having been kept in a tin vessel.