

—Let us hope for a little dry weather and sunshine. —Don't let the election go by default. Every good citizen should go out and vote next Tuesday. —Seven of the twelve nominees on the Republican ticket have the Prohibition endorsement. Did they steal it or don't the Prohibitionists know them?

—Just why Frank Smith wasn't given the Prohibition endorsement instead of its going to his opponent, Frank Sasserman, will take more than a Solomon to figure out.

—Prohibitionists who might have met chief of police Dukeman late on the night of the primaries are no doubt wondering how in the world he ever got on their ticket for Sheriff.

—Are you going to help Bill Brown bust the two term precedent in Centre county? What do you think Bill would say about you if you were trying to grab off more than your share of county office? There are thousands of other competent men in Centre county who have a right to expect preferment at some time or other but how in the world will they ever get a chance if the same man is to have an office all the time. Vote for Wagner Geiss for Recorder. He is qualified to fill the position, is a man of good character and deserves a chance.

—We have great faith in the good judgment of the people of Centre county. For that reason we feel that there will be many voters who will rise above party next Tuesday and quietly go to the polls and vote for Capt. "Dick" Taylor. We mean men who are not active in politics, men whose sense of right and wrong is the principle that guides their action, men who know and feel an obligation to the soldiers who fought the great war for them, men who do not want to see the county of Centre repudiate a hero for the chief of police of Bellefonte.

—Why not put a man in the Prothonotary's office who knows enough of the real routine of court work to be of immediate service to the public. Harry Meyer has been Commissioner's clerk long enough to get well acquainted with court house procedure. Any one who has had business in the Commissioner's office knows that he has been most courteous, always, and has gone out of the way to give information needed by all inquirers. He is far superior in qualification to his opponent and, being a man of irreproachable character and affable nature, would make an ideal Prothonotary. Vote for him.

—Lest we forget, it was President Wilson and members of his first Cabinet who banished liquors from the White House table and other state dinners in Washington. It was President Wilson who gave Prohibition its great impetus by the open stand he took in advocacy of it and for woman's Suffrage, which, in the last analysis, means the same cause. Merely because he has vetoed a political trick bill designed to keep war-time Prohibition becomes operative a few people with short memories forget the good he did when it really was needed and counted for something.

—Frank Smith should be the next Register of Centre county. He made a splendid official when in office four years ago and should have been given a second term then. He was defeated, not because of any derelictions in office but because the general temper of the people was expressing itself on great political issues and he went down when really defeat for him was not the real wish of the voters. It is different now. There are no outside questions to be settled. This election is merely a Centre county matter. A business of picking good and efficient managers for our local offices and the chance to do the right thing for Frank Smith is here. Do it.

—It's hard lines when boys have to be bought to cheer for candidates. One night last week the pictures of certain Republican nominees for county office were being flashed on the screen at a local movie house and standing on the curb, outside, was a ward worker who was gathering up all the kids who loaf about the place and paying their way in. The only condition was that when so-and-so's picture was shown they should cheer as loud and as long as they could. The result was very satisfactory, but the following Saturday night the same popular idols (?) stared the audience in the face between each reel but nary a cheer or a sign of approval was heard. There were no boys in the house whose admission had been paid to cheer for the cheering they would do.

—James E. Harter is the type of man about whom never a breath of suspicion has been raised. He is a clean cut, christian gentleman who wants to be Treasurer of the county because he knows he is competent to act as custodian of your funds. He is not before you at the expense of another man who was promised and then denied the chance to be his opponent. He is a fair and square candidate who got his name on the ticket without the manipulation of any organization or crowd of political bosses and represents the free and untrammelled wishes of the voters who nominated him. Mr. Harter is worthy of the vote of every body who wants to see fair play; especially of those who feel that Ad. Hartswick was badly treated by a crowd for whom he had worked long and hard.

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Mr. Palmer's Plans Changed.

One vital trouble with government control of prices is that the government invariably fixes the minimum price on a level considerably higher than that existing under conditions of competition or monopoly at the time. It will be recalled that during the recent war Mr. Garfield, a Republican, was appointed controller of the fuel supply and his first order fixed the price of the grade of coal used by poor people at a dollar a ton more than the producers had been asking. The other day Attorney General Palmer, who seems to be vested with the power to regulate the prices of food products, issued an order to beet sugar producers to limit the wholesale price of their product to ten cents a pound.

An inquiry into this question reveals the fact that hitherto the wholesale price of beet sugar, f. o. b. at the refineries has been nine cents a pound. Why does Mr. Palmer increase the price to ten cents a pound, under the pretense of reducing the high cost of living? It was easy to form a plausible conjecture as to the action of Mr. Garfield. He probably wanted to discredit the Democratic administration which had mistakenly put him in a position to make that purpose easy. But Palmer pretends to favor the administration which has heaped honors upon him to the amazement of those who know him best, and yet he is doing the thing that makes thoughtful men suspicious of the President.

The price of sugar is not the potential factor in the high cost of living. The seat of the trouble against which everybody complains is in the offices of the packing companies which not only enjoy a monopoly of the meat supply but are rapidly acquiring a monopoly of all other food products. Why doesn't Mr. Palmer do something with these "malefactors of great wealth"? He started out with a full band, and got the front page in every newspaper of the country, in a crusade against the packing companies. But he has taken in his horns and now comes forward with an attack upon the beet sugar refiners which increases their prices, probably beyond anything they had hoped for in their covetous hearts.

—The Public Ledger of Wednesday, threw a bomb which certainly must have had an exceedingly shocking effect on old fashioned, old thinking Republicans. When that stalwart journal editorially acknowledges that the days of protective tariffs are done and backs its own vision of the future needs of the country by quoting Alba B. Johnson, president of the Baldwin Locomotive works, and a stalwart of the stalwarts, there are certainly signs of a new light dawning on hitherto warped minds. Four years ago the "Watchman" pointed out that high tariff would never again be a political issue and this swan song which the Ledger published Wednesday looks as though it is getting its readers prepared for the eclipse of the old bogey in the campaign of 1920.

It is to Laugh!

The Republican and the Gazette last week painted Bill Brown as one of the county's greatest philanthropists. They would have us believe that Bill is emulating the late Andrew Carnegie in his effort to die poor.

According to their usual campaign practices of deception they spread broadcast the announcement that Bill is recording the discharge papers of the soldiers FREE OF CHARGE and, therefore, his efforts to grab a third term in a fat county office ought to be encouraged by every young soldier in the county.

Bill doesn't need to see a doctor. There is no danger of his dying of enlargement of the heart for the law doesn't permit him to charge any thing for recording such papers any way. Under the Act of the General Assembly, No. 178, approved June 2nd, 1919, the county is required to pay Bill out of the public treasury for recording each such instrument and he knows it full well so do the Republican and the Gazette.

They all prefer, however, to feed the public this kind of Bolsheviki so they can qualify once more for the Ananias club.

—Up until the present moment nobody has been able to discover why Senator Lodge has developed such a fondness for Chinamen and such a hatred for Japanese.

—King Albert, of Belgium, is generous in praise of Republican institutions but we don't imagine that he will go back home and abdicate.

—German opera and German commerce may come to this country ultimately but it is too soon after the trench experience to force them now.

—Colonel House hasn't talked much since his return from Paris and the Republican Senators hope his reticence will continue.

Summing It All Up.

So far as newspaper publicity is concerned the campaign for offices in Centre county closes with this issue of the "Watchman." We have tried to be absolutely fair in presenting the merits of the various nominees who are soliciting your suffrage next Tuesday and we feel that we have not made a single untruthful or unwarranted statement concerning any of them.

Realizing that more and more people are coming to view county elections as non-partisan affairs the "Watchman" has been encouraged to hope that there will be enough of them at the polls next Tuesday to put only the best men in office. While we have told you either directly or by inference whom we regard as the best men for the various positions we have not made the proof as conclusive as we might have done in some instances. That would have involved revelations that might have given the Gazette a very real reason for calling the Democratic papers "stink sheets," as it does in its issue of today. Inelegant language, to be sure, but quite in place in the Gazette.

For instance, we might have referred to its own files, which we preserve in this office and published a certain short article it carried some years ago. We might have gone to court records that don't reflect much credit on the candidate whom they concern, we might have published numerous letters which we have received recently reflecting on the character of several others. We might have published a letter that arrived as late as yesterday afternoon, from M. L. Brewster, secretary of the Tax Payers League, of Cambria county, in which he states that they are trying to impose a two million dollar bond issue for roads on that county and adds that he knows that a party of gentlemen got together in Centre before they decided who they would work for for their nominees for County Commissioners and discussed a bond issue of \$500,000 for Centre. Then they called in one of the men who is now a candidate and he gave the scheme "his hearty endorsement." Yes, we might have said many things that we have left unsaid, but we have preferred to appeal to the good sense of the voters of Centre county, rather than arouse them with facts that are far better forgotten.

The one outstanding fact in the whole situation is the very apparent manipulation and trickery that was employed to secure nominations on the Republican ticket for favorites of a few party bosses who evidently regard their party's organization as their own personal property.

The "Watchman" had hoped to be able to produce in this issue a photographic copy of a letter which county chairman Davy Chambers is generally believed to have sent to his trusted lieutenants throughout the county, before the primaries, directing them to work and vote for the slated ticket. Such a letter was undoubtedly sent out, for at least eight Republicans have told us that they knew of it and one gentleman promised to produce a copy for our use. He failed only because the person who had it didn't understand plate making and was fearful it might be destroyed by the engravers. In proof of this evidently unfair method of treating candidates at a primary we need but refer to precincts like Snow Shoe, Philipsburg, Spring and others where the vote for the slated ticket was altogether unnatural and showed manipulation and money both.

Why was this done? There were other men deserving of a chance. Men who would have been a credit to their party, men who deserved recognition at its hands. But they were all cut down for a purpose. And we still think that the principal motive is just what the Tax Payers League of Cambria county writes to us of, referred to above.

How did it happen that over half of the men running on the Republican ticket have the Prohibition endorsement? Surely most of them must be laughing in their sleeves at the way this trick was put over for they know themselves to be flying under false colors.

Why was it that Ad. Hartswick was deceived and mistreated? Why was it that Isaac Miller was denied a second nomination and Bill Brown given a fourth?

Why was it that lieutenants were paid to go to the primaries and work for the slate? Surely it was not for the good of the party, for signs are everywhere that better thinking Republicans are rebelling at it and you can't tell a man who knows anything that Harry Austin is a better type of citizen than is Squire John Way, Ralph Hartsock, John S. Dale, M. R. Johnson and the other good men who were knifed in order to put him on the ticket.

Knowing all of these things to be absolute facts there is only one deduction that a thinking voter can draw from them and that is that it was all part of an "inside" scheme to put something over on the tax payers of Centre county.

Surely there is irregularity enough about it to make us suspicious and warn the prudent man against voting his own pocket book into the hands of a crowd that has ridden rough shod over good men who were not sitting in at their game.

Let Centre county rise next Tuesday to nip whatever scheme they have in the bud.

Let the real Temperance people rise in righteous indignation at the trick that has been played on them.

Let an avalanche of ballots bury the attempt to deny the first of Centre county's heroes a reward he has won on the field of battle.

Let sound sense, your own personal interest, and not a partisan label guide your hand when you mark your ballot next Tuesday.

—When the Prohibitionist goes into the voting booth next Tuesday and looks his ballot over surely he will come to the conclusion that the exigencies of politics make strange bedfellows. Shades of Frances Willard rise in protest against the travesty upon the people of Centre county by a gang of political manipulators! They have stolen the Prohibition endorsement for candidates who are so

wet that the ballot on which their names are printed ought to ooze like a bar-room mop. The hypocrisy of it all lies in the fact that in several instances the stolen Prohibition endorsement works injury to men who have devoted their entire lives to fighting for the cause that is now being used to stab them with.

—Vote for D. Wagner Geiss for Recorder.

Effect of a Coal Strike.

From the Philadelphia Record.

A London dispatch says: "Because of labor conditions in the United States orders for steel and tinplate are pouring into South Wales from all over the world. \* \* \* One order for tinplate ran into 1,000,000 boxes."

A few weeks ago the British steel and coal interests were viewing American competition with grave apprehension. Orders that for years have gone to England were going to the United States. Wages here are high, but production is greater per capita, and American exporters were meeting English and German prices.

Then came the steel strike, and now the bituminous coal strike for a reduction of work and a very great increase of pay is almost certain. The earnings per hour in the steel mills have advanced 221 per cent. in four years, and the increase in coal has been nearly 100 per cent. The result has been a great increase in the cost of living and loud complaints of the hardships ensuing. Now, the steel workers strike either for a mere form or for the purpose of controlling the business, and the bituminous miners are going to strike to reduce their working hours to 30 a week and increase their pay 60 per cent.

Of course, these strikes will further increase the cost of living, and they will increase especially the price of steel and coal. We do not ask the bituminous miners to practice self-denial for the sake of the rest of the community. They have the right of every man to get as good terms for themselves as possible. But is it for their own interest to divert the world's orders for steel and coal to South Wales? France wants 22,000,000 tons of coal next year. Digging that coal would furnish employment six days a week for a very great number of men. But a decided increase in price would divert the orders from America to other sources of coal supply.

The Steel Corporation has built up a great export trade. In other words, many thousands of steel workers in this country are employed in producing steel for foreigners, and the export of this product brings gold to us. But if the steel strike is to be followed by a bituminous strike, these orders will go to England or possibly other countries; at any rate, they will not come here, because the steel cannot be filled if men are not working, and the products can't be bought if the wages and hours of men add materially to the selling price.

It is a matter of self-interest for the miners to work on terms that will bring export orders to this country. If we cease to export coal and iron there will be a great decrease in the number of men employed in these industries.

Russia.

From the Philadelphia Record.

However to be desired the fall of Lenin and Trotsky may be, we have yet to take with one or more grains of salt the various prophecies that are being made here and in other Allied quarters.

A number of sanguine editors are at pains to explain the military operations of the several Russian armies in the field against the Bolsheviki as the Lettish and Estonian forces; one is holding the Dvina, near Riga; the Poles are reported at Dvinsk; the northern army is coming down from Archangel, and Admiral Kolchak is pressing forward in Siberia. So, we are told, there is strong hope that Moscow and Petrograd will be taken, and the Bolsheviki will fall before Christmas.

But about this time of each year in the long period of the great war we were always informed that the time was at hand when military operations must cease in Russia because of the approach of winter. Our chief hope from the operations so far must be in the moral effect they will have upon the tyrannical Bolsheviki, now said to be thoroughly scared. There seems little doubt that when Lenin and Trotsky quit they will quit in a hurry. They are yellow at heart, and they will make no desperately prolonged stand. The break may come at any time, but prophecies of any sort about Russia are wild things.

Business Conditions.

From the Northampton Democrat.

Despite the widespread labor unrest, prosperity and good business are reported from all sections of the country. There does not appear to be a pronounced downward tendency in prices, although there have been declines here and there in foodstuffs. The continuance of the high cost of necessary supplies has had no effect, however, upon consumption, and the demand for luxuries and the better grades of goods continues steady. Pleas to the general public to save have had no more effect than appeals to industrial workers to increase their output. The dangers in the present situation are understood by everybody, but there is no pessimism anywhere. The confidence of the average citizen in the ability of the United States to weather any storm is profound, and there is not the slightest chance of any revolutionary movement making headway.

In the achievement of the Literary Digest there is a strong warning against printers' strikes without good reason. That esteemed contemporary has pointed the way to publish without printers.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—A snow white deer was found dead, caught in a barbed wire fence near Troxville, Snyder county, on Monday.

—The million dollar additions to the New York Central railroad shops at Avis, adjoining Jersey Shore, are virtually completed, with the result that Jersey Shore has one of the largest and most modern groups of railroad repair shops in Pennsylvania.

—Seven thousand pairs of trousers were stolen from the Montgomery Clothing company plant at West Chester early last Thursday. The garments were taken away in an automobile truck and a touring car by burglars, who jimmied a lock on the front door of the factory.

—Swapping clothing, shoes and hats at the muzzle of a revolver is the latest stunt to be tried by a highwayman in the neighborhood of Scranton. Eugene Dolan, 22 years old, was the young man held up and compelled to take off his trousers, coat, shoes and hat and hand them over to a youth who clutched a revolver in his hand and pressed it against Dolan's head.

—Rev. C. E. Correll, of St. Paul's Reformed church, at West Hazleton, declared last week that certain members of the congregation want his scalp because he preached such strong patriotic sermons during the war. It is claimed by the pastor that the pro-German element is back of the efforts to force his resignation. Rev. Correll said he had been asked to sign a paper agreeing to serve at \$75 a month for a term of five years which he refused to do.

—Boring a hole in the floor of a room in the Lochiel hotel, Harrisburg, a thief last Thursday night, lowered himself into a haberdashery store and stole articles worth \$1000. On Wednesday a stranger registered at the hotel and was assigned to a room just above the store. He lowered himself into the store and then with the use of tape measures pulled the goods into his room. He departed early Friday morning with the plunder in sample cases. Two of the cases were later found at Altoona.

—Hazleton grocers have organized against "sugar grabbers" who have devised all manner of ways to get more than a proper share of the commodity offered customers in limited quantities. It has been learned that some women have sent six or seven different persons to stores, each with a touching tale of woe, while others borrow their neighbor's baby and try the "sympathy racket." Grocers claim they can supply every one with a small amount of sugar each week if some people would not grab all they can get.

—Pennsylvania is believed to have more wild turkeys now than in twenty-five years, according to Seth E. Gordon, acting secretary of the Game Commission. He has just returned from visits to central and southern counties. The weather conditions have been favorable for propagation and the State authorities have bought numerous turkeys and turned them loose to breed. In some sections where turkeys had been almost extinct this plan has resulted in noticeable increases. Flocks of as high as twenty-five birds have been reported from some counties.

—The Penn Public Service company, of Johnstown, has announced a new power plant to be erected at Indiana, Indiana county. The company recently authorized a \$20,000,000 bond issue, \$2,000,000 of which is to be expended on the new plant. At present all the electric power furnished by the company is developed at Johnstown, but the new plant will furnish current to patrons in Indiana, Clearfield, Jefferson, Westmoreland and Armstrong counties. The company has 150 substations at this time, and when the new power plant is completed this number will be doubled.

—One of the greatest gas strikes in Washington county has been made by the Manufacturers' Light and Heat company, on the J. B. Andrew farm, Morris township. The well is producing at the rate of 14,961.570 cubic feet daily. The strike was made a few days ago and the first showing was at the rate of 4,500,000 cubic feet. Then it increased to 5,500,000 and on Friday tripled its production by jumping approximately to 15,000,000 cubic feet. Drilling has not been completed and there is a chance that the well will prove the largest in the history of drilling operations in this county.

—An epidemic of bombs and dynamite has struck DuBois, and it is a dull day when one or more is not reported as being found on the porch or under the foundation of the residence of some prominent citizen. The general tendency to blame the work on a joint Wednesday morning Socialist received a jolt Wednesday morning when it became known that a dynamite fuse and cap had been found on the front porch of J. M. Brady, Socialist candidate for mayor. In speaking of the incident Mr. Brady said: "Well, if I had not been running for office I don't think this would have happened."

—A post-room fight in Shamokin, has added another murder to long list of such cases in the criminal records of Northumberland county. As a result of a quarrel over payment for a number of games of pool, John G. Saviolis, aged twenty-seven, proprietor of the pool-room, is dead; his brother, Andrew, is in the Shamokin state hospital suffering from serious stab wounds, and George Vouleis, their assailant, is also in that institution suffering from wounds received in the fracas. It is stated that the Saviolis brothers had won all of Vouleis' money and then made fun of their victim, who refused to pay for the games. There was a flare-up in the temper of all three and cues came into use as weapons. Vouleis then drew a knife and began a savage attack. John Saviolis was stabbed in the abdomen. He staggered to the street, where he fell dead.

—Yeggsmen blew the safe in the postoffice at Indiana, Pa., some time last Thursday night and escaped with between \$5,000 and \$4,000 worth of cash, stamps, money orders and savings stamps. Discovery was made on Friday morning when postmaster H. W. Fee found the side door of the postoffice torn completely off and the interior of the office thoroughly ransacked. Mail sacks had been used to muffle the sound of the explosion. But one person has been found who heard even an inkling of the explosion. It is believed that the work was done between 1:30 and 2 o'clock in the morning. Police investigating think that the yeggs arrived in Indiana on an afternoon train and studied the situation before carrying out their plans. Noise of a high powered automobile driving away from town at a furious rate was heard shortly after the robbery is believed to have been committed and it is thought the yeggs escaped in that manner. Numerous registered letters and packages were opened but none were taken.