

—Harding ought to be an easy man to defeat.

—Now if the Democrats should take Cox wouldn't the fur fly in Ohio?

—Besides Colonel Proctor has plenty of soap with which to "wash his hands of the affair."

—Again let us remind you that we believe the next President of the United States will be a Democrat.

—San Francisco will tell the world who the next President of the United States will be. Chicago merely named a runner-up.

—Glover Bergdoll seems to be as unsuccessful in his search for that pot of gold as those who are still digging for Captain Kid's treasures.

—They say the fly is in the wheat and the cut-worm is at the corn. My, what troubles we farmers have during the crop growing season and then we have them in the fall, too, for the barns are never large enough to hold the crops that the flies and the worms have not destroyed during the summer.

—Bellefonte has again demonstrated her ability to withstand the ravages of time. According to the telegraphic warnings she was to have been blown clean off the map on Tuesday. You have this paper in your hand now so that you know she was still doing business at the old stand as late as Thursday night.

—Reports from the south and west lately are to the effect that the bottom has dropped out of the leather and wool markets and that \$2.50 shoes are in sight. Far-sightedness is one of our disabilities but we must say that it hasn't become acute enough as yet to bring any such welcome sight as cheaper foot-wear within our range of vision.

—Harding has announced that he will make few pre-election talks because he believes "whirl-wind" speech-making beneath the dignity of the highest office of the land." In other words, Hughes and Roosevelt and Taft were all grossly undignified when they swung around the circle telling the people who had a right to know just where they stood on the great questions at issue. Verily this country printer from Ohio stops not at shattering idols in the hope that the dust from their falling will obscure a real vision of himself.

—The Republican national platform is broken down with its own weight of wind-shattered planks. It does not contain a single constructive thought. It reverses itself on the League of Nations, it is neither "wet" nor "dry," it ignores suffrage and labor and is non-committal on every other vital question presented to the country for solution. It is nothing more nor less than a Senatorial effort to throw dust in the public eye so that a President can be gotten into the White House who will do what Penrose, Lodge and other Senators of their ilk tell him to do.

—During the week we have met quite a number of Ohioans and, naturally, the topic of conversation was the nomination of Harding for President on the Republican ticket. Without exception every one of the gentlemen we refer to were Republicans and men of consequence in their communities and in business affairs. Without exception every one of them expressed the opinion that Governor Cox would carry Ohio over Harding; a few went so far as to say that Ambassador Davis could do the trick also and all but one of them said they would personally vote for Cox, Davis or McAdoo in preference to their own "favorite son."

—Dr. Finegan, state superintendent of public instruction, made his first visit to The Pennsylvania State College this week. While there he revealed a part of what is in his mind for the educational system of the Commonwealth. If, as a friend of the great Centre county institution of learning, you have read with apprehension the current stories of the foundation of a great university as the seat of higher education to which all the common schools will guide the children of the State, let us assure you that it is not in Dr. Finegan's plan to have such a university unless The Pennsylvania State College is its capstone. We make this statement here because we heard Dr. Finegan make substantially the same one at State College on Tuesday morning.

—Those of our readers who are interested in politics may recall having read in this column of the "Watchman," issue of February 27th, a statement directing attention to the significance of the hurried visit of Senator Harding to Senator Penrose before the latter left for Florida. They might also recall another statement published in this column on April 23rd, after Senator Watson, of Indiana, had paid a visit to Spruce street, Philadelphia, calling attention to the interview he gave to newspaper men. He said, "Senator Penrose has in mind some man of the type of Senator Harding for the Republican nomination." Our comment at the time was: "A nod is as good as a wink." The "Watchman" is not pinning any medals on itself as a prophet but in light of the fact that it so easily linked up Penrose and Harding and steadfastly refused to believe that either Wood or Johnson would have a show we do sort of feel that its dope on the result of the big Republican game was about as good as anybody's and a little better than most of them.

# Democratic Watchman

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### Impressive Lesson from Chicago.

The action of the Republican National convention in Chicago last week conveys several lessons to the American people, one of which should make a strong impression on the Democrats who will assemble at San Francisco ten days from today. It may be confidently assumed that General Wood was the favorite, by long odds, of the Republican voters of the country. It is equally certain that his candidacy was better advertised than that of either of the other candidates. It is not going far afield, either, to say that Governor Lowden, of Illinois, was best qualified of the lot for the service, though Senator Johnson has had considerable experience in public life and has good ability.

But Wood and Lowden were bowled out of the running because of the vast sums of money which had been expended in their behalf. It was shown by evidence taken before a Senate investigating committee that \$1,200,000 had been spent in behalf of Wood, and about half a million in behalf of Lowden. The Wood money was contributed by wealthy men who could afford to give it and the Lowden money came out of his wife's pocket. But the idea of squandering so much money was repugnant to the average mind, suggestive, at least, of corruption and the candidate so generously favored by his friends and the one so profligate with his wife's funds were turned down because of fear that voters would be repelled.

Of the candidates who will ask the San Francisco convention for the priceless favor of a nomination for President, the only one who has spent considerable money in the primary campaign is Mitchell Palmer and his expenditures were relatively great as those of the candidates rejected by the Republican convention. Moreover the contributions to his fund were from more objectionable sources. Besides the thousands of dollars contributed by beneficiaries of the candidate, other thousands were taken, practically by force, from the meagerly paid Federal officials in Pennsylvania who could hardly afford to give up the money. If Wood and Lowden committed an offense, Palmer is guilty of an atrocity.

—Governor Sproul wasn't nominated but he learned a lot about politics during the convention which may serve him well in the future. He knows now that it is unsafe to monkey with the real boss even though he be sick a'bed.

### The Republican Platform.

The Republican platform excels in verbosity, in ambiguity and in vapid-ity. It has no other characteristic. It covers nearly a page of newspaper space and expresses neither principle nor policy. It denounces President Wilson for everything imaginable. That was to be expected for Senator Lodge is so obsessed with hatred of the President that he has no thought of anything else, and Senator Lodge present, and Senator Penrose absent, composed the convention. But the platform is an anomaly. It rambles from pillar to post, denounces evils, misrepresents facts but offers no concrete remedies for anything. Obviously "too many cooks have spoiled the broth."

Of course the platform makers had a difficult task to perform. The party is faction torn and in the effort to satisfy the various parts of the whole it was necessary to dissemble. But even that was poorly executed and the insipid platitudes employed contradict each other. Upon the question of the League of Nations this is especially apparent. A sop is thrown to the irreconcilables in the assertion of a selfish purpose to demand reparation and a promise is made to the ear of the mild reservationists in the assertion that the "Republican party stands for agreement among the nations to preserve the peace of the world." But in its reference to conditions in Mexico the spirit of war is the dominant note.

All in all the Republican platform is, as an esteemed contemporary states, "the most impudent and preposterous document ever adopted by a political convention." It is an appeal to every element of the human mind that is execrable. There is a concealed "quid pro quo" in every sentence of the long drawn out and absurdly constructed instrument and a poorly masked condemnation of every American ideal expressed in our recent war activities. If the American people will stand for such sordid and selfish purposes as are expressed in the Republican platform they are unworthy of the high place in civilization which the wisdom and patriotism of Woodrow Wilson has given them.

—Republican leaders have been boasting that they could "elect a yellow dog" President this year, but it may be said that isn't the reason that Senator Harding was nominated. Harding isn't a yellow dog.

### Harding the Penrose Puppet.

The nomination of Senator Warren G. Harding, as the Republican candidate for President, is strictly in line with the logic of events. Any of the other candidates named might have been favored and if the Senatorial investigation had not revealed the priggish use of money in his behalf, Governor Lowden, of Illinois, would have been chosen. Senator Harding was the original choice of the Old Guard, and was indicated by Senator Penrose some months ago. But upon his failure to carry his own State for the nomination, Governor Lowden became the favorite of that element. But the too free use of his wife's millions in the primary contest interfered with that plan and Harding became a necessity.

Senator Harding is a nice, clean, colorless nonentity in politics and just such a figure as Penrose and his associate professional political manipulators require to entrench themselves in power and license them to loot the country for a few years. He never had an idea above servile obedience to the party boss and never aspired to a higher station than that of membership in the party machine. For this reason he has been favored more frequently in recent years and because of these facts he was chosen as the candidate early in the campaign for nomination. That he was finally selected may be ascribed to the fact that Penrose was afraid to trust Sproul for a word from the sick room in Philadelphia would have made our Governor the candidate.

From the Democratic viewpoint, however, it is probably better as it is. Governor Sproul would not have been a strong candidate for his labor record as well as his vacillation on various subjects would have counted strong against him. But Harding has nothing in his favor except that he is the choice of Penrose, which position he attained after careful consideration. If Harding should be elected and Penrose lives, the seat of government will be wherever Penrose happens to be and the purpose of government to perpetuate Penroseism and all that it implies. We are not ready to believe that the people of the United States are willing to fasten such a yoke upon their necks.

—The nomination of Harding wasn't the greatest achievement of the Old Guard at that. Taming Hungry Hi is no easy task and it is believed that he is now sufficiently docile to eat out of Lodge's hand.

### Punishment of Sproul.

The failure of Governor Sproul to get the Presidential nomination of his party was disappointing to many of his friends throughout the State who had been "fed up" to the belief that he had a chance of such a party honor and favor. It is not likely that the Governor was himself fooled by the hopeful prophecies of the more or less sycophantic followers who were urging him. He is too old in the game of politics and too wise to the devices of politicians to be deceived by the transparent tricks employed to keep him in the field as an aspirant until the leading candidates had spent their strength. But many of his sincere friends were deceived and are disappointed accordingly.

Governor Sproul might have been nominated in Chicago if he had been less sincere and independent as a man. In fact there was a short period during the primary campaign in which it looked as if he might be nominated in spite of the machine. It was because of that fact that Senator Penrose introduced Senator Knox into the running. That was notice that Sproul was no more wanted than General Wood or Senator Johnson. As both Penrose and Mayor Moore, of Philadelphia, have since admitted Governor Sproul's name was kept on the list of candidates only for the purpose of holding votes away from Wood and Johnson and the purpose was achieved with "neatness and dispatch."

Possibly some of the friends of Governor Sproul will "forget and forgive" the trick thus played on them through the Governor, but all of them are not so amiably inclined. When the Governor exercised his constitutional right to select men of his own choice for important official services he became anathema to the machine and the bosses determined to humiliate him. In leading him along the path of a laudable ambition to a point where a fall would prove disastrous, they adopted the most cruel process of punishment, but the most certain and effective. So far as future political advancement is concerned Governor Sproul is done for and that is precisely in accordance with the plans.

—Happily Colonel Proctor does not need the half million he spent in the effort to nominate General Wood and the other contributors to the fund may find an oil well in Mexico.

### Third Party Movement Certain.

The announcement by Mr. Amos Pinchot, following the adjournment of the Chicago convention, that there will be a third ticket nominated this year, may be accepted as practically a certainty. Senator Johnson may have made such terms with the reactionaries in his party as will exclude him from participation in the work of organizing the new party, but there are plenty of others ready and willing to act and the California political fire brand will no doubt give it moral if not material support. No condition could be more auspicious for such a movement. Organized labor is justly indignant at the action of the Republican convention and both the wets and the dries have reason to complain of its action on the subject.

Last fall a tentative organization was created for political service this year. Among those interested in the movement were, besides Mr. Pinchot, Mr. Owen R. Lovejoy, Herbert Bigelow, Glen E. Plumb, David Starr Jordan, Bishop Charles D. Williams and many others. These are names to conjure with and it is said they had supporters in a number of the States. Their code of principles as indicated in advance literature may not appeal to conservative minds but it is certain to prove attractive to a considerable number of voters who have heretofore been affiliated with the Republican party. They declare for public ownership of utilities, free speech, equal economic, political and legal rights and other reforms.

It is expected that the Farmers' Non-Partisan League which has already developed considerable strength in some of the northwestern States will affiliate with this new organization and a meeting has been called in Chicago for July 10th, to take the preliminary steps for putting a ticket in the field. A considerable sentiment in favor of Senator LaFollette as the candidate for President has already been expressed and the attitude of his friends in the Republican convention last week would indicate that it is not without his sanction. In any event it may safely be said that the third party movement is already under way and it is likely to give Penrose and his gang a good deal of trouble.

—What has become of the old-fashioned farmers who every year planted a half acre or more in garden truck and regularly every Tuesday and Saturday mornings drove to Bellefonte with well laden wagons to attend the curb market? Now-a-days Bellefonte is not only without such a market, but so few farmers bring fresh vegetables, berries, etc., to Bellefonte, that a wagon loaded with garden truck is a real novelty in Bellefonte. During the past few years Bellefonte council has made overtures for an old-time curb market but farmers gave as a reason for not raising more truck the scarcity of farm help on account of the war. The war has now been over eighteen months and farmers continue to be short of labor, owing to the high wages paid in other lines of industry, and the outlook is no better for a curb market this year. This is one reason why every Bellefonter who has the ground to do so is cultivating his own garden. He is compelled to do so in order to have the delicious green vegetables during the summer season.

—Times used to be when the borough lock-up was an institution in daily demand and a well trodden path led thereto. Today the calaboose is almost a relic of the dark ages. The path to the building is grass grown, large burdocks grow in rank profusion in front of the door and the iron fence partially surrounding it is rusted off and broken down. If this is one of the results of prohibition, the fact must be admitted that it is a commendable one, and the old lockup should be allowed to rot on its foundation as a memento of the times that have passed and gone.

—Summer will officially begin next Monday according to the calendar, and that is naturally supposed to be the longest day in the year; but the fact is that beginning Sunday four days will be of equal length, 15 hours and 17 minutes, the sun rising at 4:23 in the morning and setting at 7:40 in the evening. But the difference will hardly be noticeable as today is only one minute shorter.

—The nomination of Harding appears to have given universal satisfaction. The Democrats are quite as well pleased as the Republicans and a good deal more sincere in their expressions.

—If Amos Pinchot gets his third party movement going Gifford may get some consolation out of Penrose's disappointment.

—As a member of the village band Senator Harding, early in life, learned to "blow his own horn."

### A Woman's Description of Harding's Nomination.

By Janet Stewart in the Philadelphia North American.

THE COLISEUM, Chicago, June 12. The tenth ballot is in progress, and it is evident that Harding will be the nominee.

Fifteen thousand people have gone mad in a frenzy not so much of enthusiasm as relief. Hell is loose. In an orgy of dementia, aging, shrieking, reeling men linked to heat-and-excitement-crazed women surge and sway in an inconceivably restricted space.

The noise would deafen any but ears already deadened to the cruelty of it. The world is in eruption. Nothing not even the day of judgment, could be so awful.

It is impossible not to believe that Harding has not been the breathless hope of the whole Republican party for the last seven years.

Men who hate and distrust him dance drunkenly in an agony of happiness at having him nominated over their months of protest.

If madness were infectious this would be a pesthouse of dangerous lunatics.

As it is, it is a stampede of brain-bereft humanity, hemmed into a closed huddle of heat, yelling like jungle creatures and writhing like huge monsters in a bestial debauch.

Sense has fled. Decency is dead, patriotism is paralyzed and realities are reeling.

The lid is off and the world can go to hell.

Men who could have had the best have chosen the worst and stagger with the success of their own defeat. The American flags pulse in the withering heat over the defeat of American principles, as they have over a thousand such defeats, and will again.

The old guard that was announced so utterly slaughtered apparently neither dies nor surrenders.

Johnston was right. It was a "family quarrel" and delegates throw their hats at each other in congratulation that it is over.

In the bedlam, men and women embrace one another for joy in having done what none of them wanted to.

Bunches of Harding's photographs float through the fetid air. A large portrait of him preceded by the colors of the United States leads a procession through the mass of delegates.

Wisconsin stands like a stiff little island against the waves of unanimity.

Pennsylvania, which any time since the third ballot could have precipitated a nomination, is called. She casts sixty votes for Harding, and it is all over. Harding's nomination is assured and other States come tumbling into the bandwagon.

It is the climax. The achieving of the nomination leaves the revellers with no further heights—or depths—to which to go. The climax is an anticlimax. The official announcement of Harding's nomination by comparison with what had gone before falls flat.

To thousands it is like the awakening from a nightmare—or a debauch.

An old political observer who has seen many national conventions recalled the scenes in the Coliseum in 1912.

"At that time," said he, "the convention was ruled by highwaymen, who lived up to their parts to the end. This time it is more like men who have been robbing henroosts."

The nominating of Calvin Coolidge, of Massachusetts, for the vice presidency, drags the doubting of the disintegrated Progressives and cements the family reunion.

If to be a whirling Dervish is a state of bliss, the Republican party is tonight in paradise.

### An Old Guard Candidate.

From the New York World.

Senator Harding is the perfect flower of old guard politics. He is an Ohio country politician with the mind of an Ohio politician, and he sees the world through the eyes of an Ohio country politician. Being weak and colorless and mediocre, he appealed powerfully to the managing politicians who control the Republican organization, most of whom are Senators themselves. They know Harding, and they know that he will be a faithful agent of the organization. They have worked with him and they can prove that he never had an original idea or entertained a thought that was outside the routine of a well-trained and well-disciplined party servant.

The Senator's friends are fond of comparing him with McKinley, but the resemblance is mainly superficial. Both came out of Ohio, but if Harding is a McKinley he is a McKinley without McKinley's personal charm, a McKinley without McKinley's extraordinary skill in managing men, a McKinley without McKinley's wide experience in public affairs.

Senator Harding was nominated because the old guard Republicans want a President to whom they can give orders—a President who will take their puppet candidate in the person of Warren G. Harding, of Ohio.

### Afraid of the Soldiers' Bonus.

From the DuBois Express.

Running true to form the Republicans were afraid to include in their platform anything specific on the soldier bonus. The buncombe spread in Congress evidently is to be continued in the campaign, as they fear to pay the price of a definite promise.

### Subscribe for the "Watchman."

### SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—A Clearfield contractor who has been remodeling the County National Bank in that town was unable to get some of the fixtures for the interior, shipped on account of a freight embargo. He found it necessary to have the fixtures placed in a refrigerator car, with a lot of ice to make the bluff stronger. The shipment was labeled strawberries, and came through in a hurry.

—The Millburg to Montandon auto bus line, which was operated by C. W. Klose, of Millburg, made its last trip last week. The bus line was started to fill a vacancy in the train service early in the morning and late in the evening, but, according to Klose, it didn't pay for the gas and another transportation bubble burst. The public service commission granted Mr. Klose the privilege of discontinuing it.

—The T. W. Phillips Gas and Oil Company has brought in a good gas well on the T. S. Brownlee farm, near Pekin, Jefferson county. The well is now making about 4,000,000 feet a day. It is in the shallow sand and was secured at a depth of about 800 feet. At that depth it is not probable that the flow of gas will last long, as wells of that kind have created considerable sensation in the past, but do not have the staying qualities.

—Two new fire wardens have been named by the department of forestry for Clearfield county. They are James D. Connelly and Grant Butler, of Clearfield, and they will serve in Lawrence and Pine townships. Mr. Connelly is Democratic candidate for Congress from the Twenty-first district. He is a member of the Clearfield fire department and took a conspicuous part in extinguishing the recent forest fires in the vicinity of Clearfield.

—Charles Sotouks, a burglar, of Schuylkill county, who hanged a Mine Hill woman in chains to her own ceiling and left her apparently dying after severe tortures, was committed to jail without bail by Justice Flynn, of Mifflinville. Mrs. Michael Pernosky, the woman, testified her life was saved only by the fact that the chains slipped. Later the burglar attacked two women at Marlin, but was driven off with a hatpin by one of them.

—Marion Heights, a coal region borough, on Saturday appealed to the Northumberland County Commissioners for financial aid. It was declared the town is bankrupt, without borrowing capacity, and with no taxes coming in for more than a month. Anthracite properties for which it is alleged, more than \$1,000,000 was paid, are assessed at \$35,000, and, with this small valuation unchanged, there will be no relief for the next three years, it was alleged. Because of no money, the maximum wage of teachers was only \$85 a month. The commissioners will take some action this week.

—Being his own banker has proven costly for George Mareno, of Chester, who for several years has been hoarding his money in an old trunk which he kept locked in his room. When Mrs. Mareno and other members of the Mareno household urged George to patronize a bank, after his savings had accumulated to a snug sum, he replied, "I don't believe in them." Now George thinks banks are the proper place to deposit money. He reached that conclusion Monday when he found that the trunk had been opened with a cold chisel and hammer and one-half of his savings gone. The thief took \$500 and left the same amount. Mareno says he had an even thousand in the trunk.

—Mrs. Margaret Eichelberger, whose husband, LeRoy Eichelberger, was murdered as he slept at his home in West Grove, Chester county, on the night of June 1, by Mrs. Mary Frances Dunlop, whose lover he was, after which she killed her daughter and herself, has retained counsel at West Chester and will enter a suit against the estate of Mrs. Dunlop for \$25,000 damages for the loss of her husband. The papers will be filed in the courts within a short time and the case thus started. Mrs. Dunlop is reputed to have left an estate of between \$40,000 and \$50,000, although Robert W. Dunlop, the husband, declares that this will be reduced greatly by investments made by his wife in oil stocks through importunities of agents some time ago.

—Injuries he sustained due to a kicking mule won an \$18,000 verdict for Wm. J. Varrol, of Mt. Carmel, in the Northumberland county court, at Sunbury last week. The accident occurred at the Alaska colliery of the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Company in 1915. According to the testimony, the young man was driving a team attached to a trip of eight cars. One of the mules kicked and in dodging to get out of the way he fell under the wheels and as a result he lost the use of his right leg. The case was tried last year and ended in a disagreement after the jury was out twelve hours. This is the last suit for civil damages due to accident that will be tried in court, all such matters in the future being handled by the State compensation referee. Lawyers will lose thousands of dollars in fees as a result.

—Charging the father of her 17 children with cruelty, Mrs. Delmar F. Campbell, 46 years old, of Lower Augusta township, Northumberland county, has brought suit for an absolute divorce. At the same time she asked the Court for an injunction restraining her husband from disposing of any of the present crops on their farm. She alleges that the property is in her name and that it was deeded to her in 1909. She also asserted that in 12 years he has collected and kept \$11,500 of her money from products of the farm. Fourteen of the Campbell's children are living, seven are more than 21 years old and seven are under age. She says her husband's unkindness has lasted for some time, but does not indicate the nature of his alleged cruelties. The Campbells have been married more than 30 years.

—E. B. Loop, proprietor of the Uppegraff hotel; Thomas D. Casale, proprietor of the Casale hotel; James Harrows, proprietor of the New Federal hotel; Frank Hemig, bartender at the Uppegraff and Harry Walker, bartender at the New Federal, all of Williamsport, were before United States Commissioner, W. D. Crocker, Thursday, charged with violating the national prohibition act. The warrants were served by United States Marshal Harvey Smith. All waived a hearing and gave bail, the proprietors in \$1,000 each and the bartenders in \$500 each for their appearance at the next session of the United States court, at Scranton, October 18. The arrests were made upon information made by A. E. Rudisill, special agent in the enforcement of prohibition, and specific dates were given when whiskey was purchased at \$8 per half plat.