

# Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., September 29, 1922.

F. GRAY MEEK, Editor

To Correspondents.—No communications published unless accompanied by the real name of the writer.

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A sample copy of the "Watchman" will be sent without cost to applicants.

## DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

For United States Senator,  
(Short and Full Term)

SAMUEL E. SHULL, of Stroudsburg.

For United States Senator,  
(Unexpired Penrose Term)

FRED B. KERR, Clearfield County.

For Governor,

JOHN A. McSPARRAN, of Lancaster.

For Lieutenant Governor,

ROBERT E. PATTISON JR., Philadelphia.

For Secretary of Internal Affairs,

A. MARSHALL THOMPSON, Pittsburgh.

Judge of Superior Court,

HENRY C NILES, of York.

For Congress,

J. FRANK SNYDER, of Clearfield.

For State Senator,

WILLIAM I. BETTS, of Clearfield.

For Assembly,

Miss ZOE MEEK, of Clarence.

For Member of State Committee,

G. OSCAR GRAY, Bellefonte.

For County Chairman,

G. OSCAR GRAY, Bellefonte.

## Col. Theodore Davis Boal Reluctant to Talk of the Work of the Pennsylvania Battlefield Commission to France.

(Continued from page 1, Col. 5.)

the Argonne, where the German Crown Prince had his headquarters for awhile and where the 79th Division distinguished itself, is to be left a ruin. Points were visited also where the 78th and 80th Divisions had fought their way to fame and the graves of many of our soldier-dead received reverential visits.

In Belgium it was different. Destruction had not been so great there and, as that country has already received a portion of the reparations due, everything is practically restored and business going on. The Commission entered Belgium by way of Coblenz and Luxembourg and was received by Ambassador Fletcher, a Pennsylvanian of great distinction in diplomatic circles, who arranged for a delightful luncheon with King Albert, at his country seat, where they were received very informally by the King and aid de camp, Count Andre de Meuse.

At Coblenz they were entertained by Maj. Gen. Allen commanding the American army of occupation and were the permanent guests of Maj. Gen. William H. Hay, formerly commander of the 28th Division and at one time commandant of cadets of The Pennsylvania State College.

While at Coblenz they were able to make a survey of conditions in Germany and, much to their surprise, found that country in a highly prosperous condition. Notwithstanding the depreciated value of the mark German industry was booming, the people seemed prosperous and happy in marked contrast with the stricken, hopeless atmosphere of devastated France. Possibly that is an explanation of a significant thing Col. Boal told us when referring to the talked of bridge of Fismes. He said that wishing to know the cost of the new bridges now being erected in the devastated area the Commission studied the plans and found all new construction providing for several explosive chambers in each pier to facilitate their rapid demolition in case of the feared invasion.

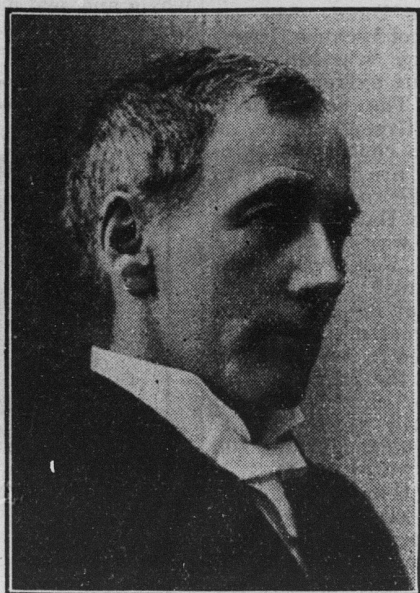
Germany has successfully invaded France four times within the last one hundred and fifteen years and it is the fear of a fifth that is motivating her demands upon her Allies that her territorial integrity be made secure before Germany is released from any of her obligations.

## A Whale of a Puff Ball.

It would seem that there would be scant chance for any member of the agaricus campestris family to develop in the dry weather we have been having this fall but on Wednesday evening Luther Smith brought into this office a specimen of mush-room, commonly known as a puff ball that surpassed anything we have ever seen. It weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 44 inches in circumference.

It was in prime condition for use and inasmuch as Mr. Smith is very much like we are in the matter of foraging on road stools—afraid to take a chance—we presented it to a lady whose appetite for such delicacies entirely submerges her fear of the consequences.

Oscar Ostrander, a former resident of Bellefonte, was sentenced in the Blair county court on Monday to pay a fine of \$100 and serve one year in jail for bootlegging.



L. OLIN MEEK.

Leonidas Olin Meek died at his home in this place Sunday afternoon. He had been failing for two years and more, but was confined to bed only about three weeks. The immediate cause of death was pernicious anemia superinduced by atrophy of the liver.

He was the last of his generation of a family prominent in all spheres of life in the Halfmoon valley and years ago was well known as a resident of Bellefonte.

Funeral services were conducted at his late home Tuesday afternoon by Rev. E. E. McKelvey, of the Methodist church, after which the remains were taken to the Meek cemetery in Ferguson township where interment was made by the side of his parents and sisters, a delegation of the Masonic fraternity of Bellefonte having charge of the services at the grave.

L. Olin was the third son of Reuben Heron and Mary Ann Gray Meek. He was born on his father's farm in Patton township, "Halfmoon valley," September 6th, 1844. There his youth was spent and on the threshold of young manhood he came to Bellefonte to learn the "art preservative" in this office, which his older brother, the late Senator P. Gray Meek, had acquired by purchase only a year or so before. Through all the strenuous days of the Civil war, the delinquencies of printers of those days and the anemia with which Democratic journalistic enterprise suffered Olin was the certain anchor to the windward that held this storm-tossed ship. Long hours, very small pay daunted him not, so full justice will not be done his devotion to his brother unless we here publicly state that had it not been for his patient, self-denying application to the mechanical department of the "Watchman" it could scarcely have weathered the storms that beset it.

In the eighties, when Samuel J. Randall was the outstanding figure in Congress and its Speaker, he was appointed messenger to the Speaker. In this capacity and others he served in Washington until the Democrats lost control of Congress. Then he bought and successfully conducted a drug store in that city continuing in the business until the Democrats came back into power under Cleveland and he was given a position in the cabinet of the Mint at Philadelphia, and later became assistant curator of the Mint. While there he started the State College Hardware Co., and later, associated with the late David George Meek, built a home for it in the Meek building, recently sold to the new banking company at the College.

He remained in the Mint until September, 1920, when his health failed and he was compelled to retire. Since that time he has made his home with his nieces, Elizabeth and Mary Gray Meek, in this place.

Some weeks ago there appeared in this paper a little story of "A Boy, a Dog and a Thousand Dollars." It was a true tale of an early romance and a sequential reality. It was L. Olin Meek who gave the thousand dollars for the Bellefonte hospital, and he has added another thousand to that one. We refer to it now that he is gone because in life he so shunned anything having the appearance of self-exploitation that we dared not openly name the benefactor without offense to his ideals of unostentatious service to his fellows. Self-effacement was his creed. He wanted little for himself and saved always for others. His philosophy of life was to forgive and forget and do. And this has been fully exemplified in his having bequeathed a substantial sum to the cause of Methodism notwithstanding the fact that he was kicked out of the old Methodist church that is now an apartment house near the jail, because he was a Democrat. We can speak of such times now that the bitterness and bigotry of the sixties are but memories but in the old Methodist church on the hill other Methodists fell upon the late Morris Cowdrick and "Olie" Meek and tried by force to drive them from the church. The former defied them and stayed, but "Olie" left, went his Christian way by other paths, forgave and bequeathed because he was a Christian man.

## Two Jersey Gunmen Electrocuted.

Peter Erico and Antonio Puntario, two alleged New Jersey gunmen, were electrocuted at the Rockview penitentiary on Monday morning for the murder on July 20th, 1920, of detective Samuel Lucchino, at Pittston. The two men were convicted mainly on the evidence of the murdered detective's widow, who positively identified them as the men who shot her husband. The sheriff of Luzerne

county took no chances in bringing the men to the death house on Saturday, as he was accompanied by six burly deputies.

Erico was the first to be sent to the chair and Puntario followed twelve minutes later. Rev. Father O'Hanlon, of State College, attended the men and Dr. Robert Campbell was the physician in charge. The bodies were unclaimed and were buried in the penitentiary cemetery.

SWIRES.—Jacob Swires, ex-burgess and well known resident of Phillipsburg, died at the McGirk sanatorium in that place on Friday morning, as the result of a fractured skull sustained the Monday previous while helping to operate an ensilage cutter. Mr. Swires owns four farms near Phillipsburg and spent most of his time looking after the work on one or the other. On Monday afternoon of last week he was helping cut ensilage to fill the silo on one of his farms. The cutter became choked and he undertook to clear it when the cover of the machine fell on his head, fracturing his skull and breaking his jaw. He was rushed to the McGirk sanatorium and everything possible was done to save his life but without avail.

Mr. Swires was born in Cambria county and was in his sixty-ninth year. He located in Phillipsburg when a young man and learned the blacksmithing trade with Alfred Jones. Later the two men formed a partnership and engaged in the mercantile business. In due course of time he withdrew from the firm and successively conducted a foundry business and wholesale fruit store. He was one of the promoters of the Centre and Clearfield street railway company and a member of the Reliance fire company No. 1.

He is survived by his wife, two sons and three daughters. Burial was made in the Phillipsburg cemetery on Monday afternoon.

MILLER.—Mrs. George Miller died at her home at Axe Mann on Tuesday evening as the result of a stroke of paralysis. She was seventy-two years old and was a daughter of Andrew and Mary Sunday. She is survived by her husband and the following children: Mrs. John C. Shuey, of Houserville; R. A. Miller, of Tyrone, and George C., of Axe Mann. She also leaves a number of brothers and sisters. Burial will be made at Shiloh this (Friday) afternoon.

## Court Cases Tried This Week.

The September term of court convened on Monday morning. The civil list was gone over and most of the cases were continued until the next term for various reasons, while several had been settled. O. J. Harm, of Snow Shoe, was appointed foreman of the grand jury.

The first case taken up was that of the Commonwealth vs. W. Howard, alias Dr. Bowers, charged with stealing a team of horses from John A. White. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to not less than five nor more than six years in the penitentiary.

Commonwealth vs. William A. Stewart, charged with carrying concealed deadly weapons and wantonly pointing firearms. A plea of guilty was entered and he was sentenced to six months in the county jail.

Commonwealth vs. Robert Leathers, charged with forgery. Defendant pleaded guilty and was paroled in the custody of Harold Fisher for a period of three months on condition he pay the costs and pay back the amount of money he received through his unlawful act.

Commonwealth vs. William Kutz, charged with selling liquor without a license. Sentence was suspended upon the payment of costs, owing to the fact that the man is an invalid and the sole support of his eighty-seven year old mother.

Commonwealth vs. J. T. Yarnell, charged with selling liquor. Defendant pleaded guilty and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and serve six months in the county jail.

Commonwealth vs. Charles Boyer, wantonly pointing fire arms. Defendant entered a plea of guilty and was given a suspended sentence on condition he pay the costs within thirty days.

Commonwealth vs. John Lenger, James Moyle, Warren Moyle and Dorsey Johnson. Prosecutor, Foster L. Bowser. The case was from Phillipsburg and was the outcome of a free-for-all fight. A verdict of not guilty was returned.

Commonwealth vs. Robert Hender-shot, charged with selling liquor. The jury returned a verdict of guilty but the case has not yet been disposed of.

Annie Sockoloski, of Rush township, was again before the court on the charge of malicious mischief and was sent to jail for six months.

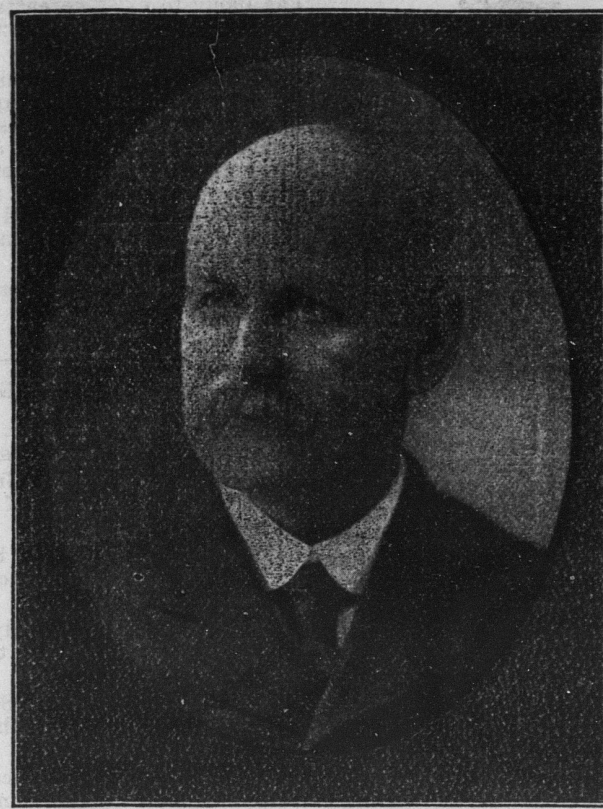
The grand jury completed its work on Tuesday, having acted upon twenty-four bills, six of which were ignored.

The homicide case against Steve Zimmerman for the killing of Joe Surovice went on trial yesterday, but was not completed when the "Watchman" went to press.

## District Sunday School Convention.

The Sunday school associations of Centre, Blair and Huntingdon counties have organized a district association and have selected a site near Pennsylvania Furnace as the location for a permanent young people's camp. The State association will join with the district association in fixing up the camp at an expense of approximately fifteen thousand dollars. The plans of those in charge are to build the camp something on the order of the one at Lake Geneva, Wis. A district convention will be held at Phillipsburg next Thursday to take definite action in the matter.

George T. Bush attended a smoker at the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, at State College, last Friday evening, and entertained the members with an impromptu talk on travel.



HON. WILLIAM M. ALLISON  
[As he looked when serving in the Legislature in 1887.]

ALLISON.—Hon. William M. Allison, one of the best known residents of lower Pennsylv., passed away at his home at Spring Mills at 3:15 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon following a prolonged illness. Six years ago he underwent an operation and a year later suffered a stroke of paralysis. He partially recovered but his condition eventually grew worse and he had been confined to his room, and his bed most of the time, the past two years.

Mr. Allison was of Scotch-Irish parentage, his ancestors having emigrated to this country in 1773 and located in Dauphin county. Some years later members of the family came to Centre county and settled in Nittany valley. One branch of the family located at Spring Mills and it was there that William M. was born on November 4th, 1850. He was a son of William and Sarah McNitt Allison. In his boyhood days Mr. Allison attended school at the Penn Hall Academy later continuing his studies at Perysville and concluding his education with a course at State College.

His first business venture was the management of the old woolen factory at Potters Mills in company with his brothers, Edward and Archibald. His ability and tact were demonstrated in the success of that enterprise. In 1887 he moved to Spring Mills and in connection with the firm of Allison Bros. purchased the gristmill property from the Barcroft estate. The mill was remodeled and brought up-to-date and under his management did a large business. He also dealt in coal and produce in addition to giving a portion of his time to his farming interests. He was a stockholder of the Penns Valley Banking company, at Centre Hall, a member of the Centre Hall Masonic lodge, and belonged to the State Miller's Association.

In politics he was a staunch Republican and could always be found lined up with the regulars of his party. For a number of years he filled the office of judge of election in his precinct and in 1884 he was nominated for the Legislature but was defeated by thirteen votes. Two years later he was given the nomination and was elected by a safe majority, serving a term of two years. He made a good representative for the people of his home county.

Mr. Allison was a regular attendant and earnest supporter of the Presbyterian church at Spring Mills, giving liberally to its support and allied charities. In fact his philanthropies were not confined to his church work, as he was always among the first to respond to any one needing assistance in any way. His home was a haven for friend or stranger and many whom he befriended during his seventy-two years of life will regret his passing away.

On June 2nd, 1880, he married Miss Lurana B. Higman, of Corning, N. Y., who passed away in January, 1899. He is survived, however, by four children: Charles E., of Toronto, Can.; Miss Mabel, at home; William H., of New York city, and Frank, of Hartford, Conn. He also leaves one sister and a brother, Mrs. Frank McCoy, and Archibald Allison, both of Bellefonte. Funeral services will be held at his late home at two o'clock this (Friday) afternoon by Rev. J. Max Kirkpatrick, of the Presbyterian church, and the remains will be laid to rest in the Allison cemetery close to his old home.

MARTIN.—Frederick P. Martin died at the Clearfield hospital last Friday morning following an illness of many weeks. He was a son of John and Elizabeth Martin and was born in Bellefonte on November 6th, 1857, hence was not quite sixty-five years old. When twenty-one years of age he went to Clearfield and that had been his home ever since. Of a retiring disposition he yet loved to assist those less fortunately situated than himself and in this way made many friends who deeply regret his death. He never married but is survived by two brothers, Alfred T., of Pittsburgh, and John H., of Clearfield. The remains were brought to Bellefonte on the 1:27 p. m. train on Sunday and taken direct to the Union cemetery for burial.

—It pays to read the "Watchman."

## Young People's Division Conferences of Centre County, October 1-7.

Two squads of speakers will tour the county in the interests of the young people's division of the Sunday School Association the first week in October. The county has been divided into twelve districts and the same program will be produced at each place.

United lines of activities will be presented to the young people and a program that will keep them busy the rest of the winter.

Much interest has been awakened in the proposed camp for them to be conducted next summer by the counties of Centre, Huntingdon and Blair, with the co-operation of the State staff, who will conduct a training course for them during the summer.

The schedule of meetings as arranged for to date is as follows:

October 1st—Fine Grove Mills, Methodist church; Snow Shoe, Methodist church.

October 2nd—Centre Hall, United Evangelical church; Howard, Reformed church.

October 3rd—Millheim and Port Matilda.

October 4th—Milesburg, Methodist church.

October 5th—Gray's church; Phillipsburg, Methodist church.

October 6th—Zion and Bellefonte.

October 7th—Lemont, at United Evangelical church.

Mr. Zentmyer, of Tyrone, and Mr. Ives Harvey, both of the State committee; Rev. David Evans and Stephen S. Aplin, Y. M. C. A. secretary, of Bellefonte, will be among the speakers. A fellowship supper will be held at each of the conference points for the young people.

## Bellefonte Y. M. C. A. Notes.

Thursday, October 19th, will be a red letter day for the Y in Bellefonte. It will be the occasion of the 53rd anniversary of the organization of the work and plans are under way which will be submitted to the board of directors at their meeting this (Friday) evening for their approval, to fittingly celebrate the event. The celebration will cover the week and more definite announcements will be made next week.

Soccer football is being taken up for the boys and practice is held on Hughes field on Monday afternoons. Goal posts will be erected and the real game played.

The bowlers are warming up for the league games this winter and the tumbling of pins can be heard every evening on the alleys.

The class for girls which opened last Thursday, started with a good registration and promises to increase in interest and attendance. A class for girls of a younger age will be opened after Christmas.

The class for the business men is growing in size every way, and if the pace of registering keeps up it may be necessary to engage the gym an extra night a week.

## WOMEN'S AUXILIARY NOTES.

The Women's Auxiliary met in the community room on Tuesday evening to discuss the business of the winter program. It was decided that a Star Course of popular entertainments be held during the winter. A committee will be appointed by Miss Overton, the president, and arrangements made at once. Excellent professional talent is offered and the course will be put on at a reasonable price.

The Auxiliary will have charge of the Y men's banquet to be given on October 19th, and this assures that the catering will be well taken care of.

## More Money in the World Than Ever Before, So Why Worry?

You may not have all you want, but if you had to have more to keep you alive you could easily get it. You don't store up sunshine and water, yet you can't live without them half as long as without money. So don't worry.

But if you have any trouble with your eyes you should worry until you find it is not serious. Better step inside and make sure. Prices moderate.

I am registered and licensed by the State Board.

Bellefonte every Saturday, 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

State College every day except Sunday. Both phones. 66-42