

Democratic Watchman

INK SLINGS.

—Vote for Stover and Condo for Auditors.

—Any way, no one can say that a change in all the county offices could do the county any harm.

—Forest Ocker surely would make a splendid Register. No cleaner, more competent man could be found for that office.

—Weather prophets are predicting a cold winter, but weather prophesies like dreams frequently go by contraries.

—Democrats, go out and vote next Tuesday. Thousands of Republicans are going to help us bring about a change. Do your part and they'll do theirs.

—There must be a lot of glory or a lot of pickins in being a councilman in Milesburg. They have thirteen candidates in the race for that office down there.

—Next Tuesday will determine whether Centre county is to be governed by the people or continue to be misgoverned by a little clique that calls itself the Republican party.

—Rather than betray his country Dick Taylor said: "Shoot" when the Germans stood him up against the wall and tried to wrest military secrets from him. What are you going to say to Dick next Tuesday?

—The tide is running strong for Lyman Smith for Treasurer. From all parts of the county we hear reports that Republicans who are not pleased with Pinchot are not going to support Heverly because he is a Pinchot candidate.

—Remember this. If the Centre county court house is to be cleaned out it will be possible only if every Democrat gets to the polls. There are a lot of Republicans eager to do their share, but they can't do it alone. Every Democratic vote will be needed.

—If Lyman Smith isn't the next Treasurer of Centre county it won't be the fault of the Republicans. Hordes of them are for him and they are expecting the Democrats of Pennsylvania to get out to the polls to the last man and woman to cinch his victory.

—Lyman L. Smith made a record for honesty and fair dealing when he sold hay and grain to Bellefonte dealers. He also made friends at that time who will support him now, irrespective of politics. Isn't that a good reason why he should be elected County Treasurer?

—We have told you all we know about the candidates we have been urging you to vote for. If we had told you all we know and what the organs of the Republican party really know about some of the candidates they are beseeching you to vote for there would be nothing to the contest next Tuesday.

—For several errors—not sins—of omission and commission last week we have been called to account by several friends who enjoy ridin' a fellow when he pulls a boner. There's a lot of satisfaction in having people come in and put it all over you when you slip up. You know, "nobody bothers to ride a dead one."

—Having failed in his efforts to draw President Coolidge into a controversy over the enforcement act Governor Pinchot has turned his peashooter on Andy Mellon and Andy may not say much now, but when he and Reed and Pepper get busy on the Pennsylvania delegation to the next National convention Giff will get the answer he doesn't want.

—Since the Republican thinks the local fight in Centre county has so much to do with the next Presidential election we would like to ask it where it stands. Is it for Coolidge or is it for Pinchot? It must be for Pinchot, since it is supporting Heverly for County Treasurer. He defeated Gehret and Burket for the nomination because they divided the organization forces so that Heverly's Pinchot backing slipped him through. If Heverly is elected Pinchot will be strengthened just that much in his fight to get Pennsylvania away from Coolidge and the Republican will have played its part in the game.

—Don't be worried about Centre county electing the President of the United States next year nor who will be chosen President Judge of the county two years from now. The Republican would have you believe those offices are involved in this campaign. They are bridges we'll cross when we come to them. Centre county will have about as much to do with electing the next President of the United States as we will have with the settlement of the troubles in the Balkans. As to the next Judge, unless present signs fall utterly, that will not be an old party fight. It will be a clean cut "wet" and "dry" fight. Mark the prediction. The Republicans will nominate Quigley, or Keller, or, possibly, Fleming, though the latter is not a candidate now. The Democrats might nominate Spangler, or Zerby or Johnston, the latter being the only one of the three who is even a receptive candidate. No matter what the line-up, however, nor the relative fitness of the men, nor their party affiliations it is going to be a fight for either an out and out "wet" or "dry" Judge in Centre county. The drys will support no candidate with a "pusy-footin'" or "trust me" plank in his platform and the wets are going to say "them's my sentiments too." Next Tuesday's results will have no bearing whatever on the contest of 1925.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Republicans Reverse Themselves.

The changed attitude of the administration in relation to foreign affairs is ascribed to recent activity of the German-American vote. It will be recalled that during the period of President Harding's occupancy of the White House "isolation" was the loudly and frequently proclaimed policy. During the campaign three years ago not only the candidate but most of the party leaders declared that this country should and would refrain from any part in the adjustment of conditions abroad. Just before his death Mr. Harding proposed to join the world court, but the suggestion was not only opposed but resented by Senator Lodge and most of his associates in the management of the party.

But there has come over these leaders within a brief time a great change in their attitude on this question. Even after the ratification of the League of Nations had been defeated, and there was no likelihood of a reversal of judgment on the subject, the bitter-enders reiterated their opposition. The invitation to participate in the deliberations of the reparations commission was rejected with much greater firmness than politeness. But a change has come over them. The time for a Presidential election is coming on and the necessity for strengthening political lines is appearing. For this reason a recent invitation to participate in the work of the reparations commission has been eagerly accepted.

Now it appears that the reason for this startlingly sudden change of attitude is traceable to the German-American voters. The prejudice of that element in the electorate three years ago had considerable to do with the election of Harding. They now threaten that unless the administration turns about, and by interposition on the reparations commission saves the Fatherland, they will themselves turn around and vote against the party which deceived them, at the coming election. That sort of talk appeals directly to the heart of the mercenary politicians who dominate the Republican party, and we see them now rustling to do what they previously declared they would never do.

—The radical Senators in Congress threaten to vote against the confirmation of ex-Senator Kellogg, of Minnesota, for Ambassador to Great Britain. What they say about Kellogg may be true, but in any event he will be an improvement on George Harvey.

Pinchot Accuses Mr. Mellon.

Governor Pinchot's open letter to Secretary of the Treasury Andy Mellon, is timely and to the point. He directly charges Mr. Mellon with responsibility for "the breakdown of federal prohibition enforcement in Pennsylvania," and practically proves the accusation. He states that the people are being affronted by open defiance of the law, and that the evil is ascribable to Mr. Mellon. "You, as Secretary of the Treasury," he writes, "have the power to cut this flood off at the source by revoking these permits and by refusing to issue others, except upon conditions sufficient, with honest enforcement, to make violations substantially impossible."

There is no disputing the facts thus stated. Everybody knows that anybody who has "political pull" with the Republican machine can get permits to withdraw whiskey or other intoxicating beverages from bonded warehouses anywhere in the country, and that the bootleggers who handle the "real stuff" get their supplies in that way. The issue of permits during the period in which former State Senator William C. McConnell was prohibition director developed a scandal which is still pending in the Federal District court. His successor in office did little better, for favorites of the Republican leaders were able to get permits whenever they wanted them and the bootleggers always wanted.

But we are not so certain of the sincerity of the Governor in laying complaint against Secretary Mellon. In other words, we are not entirely persuaded that the Governor's purpose in arraigning the Secretary is to promote the cause of prohibition or advance the work of enforcement. The Secretary has indicated a disposition to oppose the aspirations of the Governor and the Governor would like very well to discredit the Secretary in the minds of a majority of the Republican voters. According to tradition the cry of "mad dog" has a potent influence on the public mind in its estimate of the value of the dog. The pious Giff. is not above "ways that are dark and tricks that are vain."

—Senator Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, who was defeated for re-election last year, wants the nomination again this year, and we hope his party will gratify him. He is the easiest man in the State to beat.

Now for the Verdict.

Next Tuesday the tax payers of Centre county, men and women alike, must decide what they are going to do about the management of their county's business.

The register at the polls will be final as to whether they are content to let things drift on as they have been or whether they want a change in the offices at the court house.

Certainly there can be no doubt in the mind of the man or woman who pays the taxes that a change is desirable.

Since 1919 county expenditures have jumped out of all proportion to the increased expenditures necessitated by state legislation during the period.

When the present Board of Commissioners took charge nearly four years ago the county debt was down to \$45,503.73 and there wasn't a note of the county outstanding.

Today the debt is very little, if any, less than it was four years ago and there are at least \$63,600.00 of unpaid notes outstanding. In all probability this amount is much greater, but we have no way of ascertaining what it is today so have to go back to the Auditor's statement and show only what it was January 1st, 1923.

The tax rate has been advanced two mills during the past three years and valuations increased \$1,775,750 so that the present Board has had \$58,330.75 more cash to work on each year than their predecessors had, yet with all this extra money they have been unable to make things go without piling up notes upon notes on which the tax payer must pay the interest.

It seems incredible but it is easily explained when the Auditor's statements are referred to and an analysis of where the money is going is made.

Glance over this comparative statement and you will see at once the difference between lavish and prudent management of your business.

	Dem. Board 1917-19	Rep. Board 1919-22	Republican INCUMBENT 1923-24
Amounts paid to Assessors	\$17,204.38	\$24,222.64	\$7,013.26
Amounts paid to Clerks	6,259.73	11,029.02	5,789.29
Amounts paid to Janitors	4,412.66	5,915.69	1,503.23
Paid Comr's delivering ballots	310.27	560.55	250.28
Ant. paid County Solicitors	1,200.00	1,800.00	600.00
Millage rate	4 Mills	6 Mills	2 Mills
Outstanding notes	\$0,000.00	\$63,600.00	\$63,600.00
Assessed Valuation	\$14,597,990	\$16,373,740	\$1,775,750
Income on valuation	\$8,391.99	\$9,242.40	\$9,850.41
Total receipts all sources	\$225,613.63	\$410,594.65	\$184,981.02
Com. costs: Justices, witnesses, etc.	1,919	1,920	\$5,354.98
Court House supplies	2,681.82	4,421.97	1,908.15
Miscellaneous accounts	2,513.82	2,775.32	950.93
Sundries	1,824.39	1,259.25	
Widows' Pension fund		1,316.25	

Why should this be so? you will ask! It is so because the entire court house is in control of a machine that is using your money to keep its members in office. There are wheels within wheels and every cog must be greased with your money to keep the machine working to keep itself in control. Extravagance is winked at because no officer has had the courage to stand up for the tax payer. All contribute their part to the orgie of wastefulness or decline to object to it for fear of what will happen to their future ambitions to secure the machine favor.

Assessors have been paid grossly disproportionate sums for work almost identical. The Commissioners gave up \$1677.00 of your money for assessing Bellefonte and \$762.00, less than half as much for assessing Philipsburg; there being a difference of only 96 persons in the populations of the two towns. And in this department there are charges of manipulation. We don't know how well grounded, but some assessors claim that they were notified not to make return of their 1922 assessments until January 2nd, 1923, too late to get the return into the last statement, whereas always before the return date was not later than December 31st.

We have presented nothing but facts during this campaign. We have appealed to your business sense rather than partisanship for the reason that there are no party principles involved in the choice of men for county office. Politicians might try to make you believe that there are, but they only do so to coerce you into voting to keep their men in office and so keep furnishing the grease for their machine.

We need a change. All will admit that conditions couldn't be much worse. We urge you to make them better by cleaning out the entire court house next Tuesday.

Let your verdict be an overwhelming one for Taylor, for Smith, for Ocker, for Hoy, for Dale, for Herr, for Swabb, for Spearly, for Stover, for Condo, for Jones, for Shattuck.

Lyman L. Smith for County Treasurer

In presenting Lyman L. Smith, of Centre Hall, to the voters of Centre county for the office of County Treasurer the "Watchman" unhesitatingly endorses him as a man worthy of the confidence of every man and woman, irrespective of party allegiance. As one Republican stated in this office, his word is absolutely trustworthy.

Mr. Smith was born in Centre Hall and that has been his home all his life. His father died when he was four years old and as a boy he worked on a farm during the summer and went to school in the winter. As he grew older he learned the carpenter trade and attended the Centre Hall High school. With advancing years he became more ambitious and embarked in the coal and grain business, also buying and selling hay and straw on commission. Later he became a salesman for the International Harvester company and seven years ago engaged in the automobile business. From a barefooted boy working on a farm with a hoe he has developed into one of the most substantial business men of Centre Hall, all through his own exertion and perseverance.

Mr. Smith has been a tax-payer for thirty-two years and this is the first time he has come before the people of the county for an office. Considering his eminent fitness for the place the voters of the county will be con-

serving their own interests by electing him.

—Thousands of marked ballots are being sent out from Republican headquarters this week to voters all over the county with the urgent request to vote the straight ticket. That is the customary eleventh hour proceeding, but it will hardly bear fruit this year. Every intelligent man and woman in the county can understand what they read and facts and figures cannot be smothered in an appeal to party loyalty. The people want a change and this is the year to make it.

—General Wood's administration of the government of the Philippines has made many a heart glad that he wasn't elected President of the United States.

—Andy Mellon is celebrated for taciturnity, but Pinchot having smoked him out is likely to find that he has a sharp tongue as well as a long purse.

—Dr. Steinmetz died poor, according to the appraisal of his estate, but many a millionaire would exchange inheritances with his heirs.

—Even advice which is offered too freely is of little value.

France's Friends.

From the Philadelphia Record.

It was a peculiarly foolish thing for General Dumont, French officer, to conclude his remarks in St. Louis with the exclamation, "May the Lord protect us from our friends!" The next day Mr. Lloyd George said he never heard a Frenchman offer that prayer between 1914 and 1918. And from that scathing retort he launched into one of the greatest bursts of his impassioned oratory in reply to the speech of the Frenchman.

General Dumont had reference specifically to Mr. Lloyd George, who was to speak in St. Louis the following day, but he also included Great Britain, which has never concealed its disapproval of the French occupation of the Ruhr. Frenchmen say that nothing but such action as the invasion of the Ruhr would have forced Germany to pay. Well, Germany has not paid yet. The occupation of the Ruhr has not afforded the desired result, but it has for months endangered the prosperity and even the peace of Europe.

If England had not been the friend of France in 1914 the campaign of 1937 would have been repeated. And of all Englishmen there is not one, military or civil, who did so much to arouse England to its utmost exertion as Lloyd George. If Italy had not assured France at the beginning of the war that it need not guard the Italian frontier, and in 1915 attacked Austria-Hungary, it is doubtful if France could have been saved. And if the United States had not entered the war when Nivelle was defeated, the French army was mutinous and the "defeatists" had pretty thoroughly undermined French national sentiment, England would have been driven to the Channel, France would have been overrun, and the annexations demanded by the German Six Associations late in the war would have been effected.

England, Italy and the United States, the saviors of France in the war, are the friends protection from whom General Dumont prays. England has never concealed its disapproval of the Ruhr action; Secretary Hughes has urged an investigation of Germany's ability to pay, which France flouts, and Italy has given no support to the invasion of the Ruhr. France was thankful enough to get the assistance of those three friends during the war, but in endangering the peace which they did so much to win France is perfectly willing to act alone. General Dumont voiced the feeling of his country when he begged the Lord to deliver France from its friends—after Germany had been disabled.

In the collection of the reparation it was vitally important that the Allies should act together; that one of them should not take action apart from the others. Under the terms of the peace treaty the right to use force to collect belongs to no one nation, but to the Allies collectively. And the first step toward the collection of the indemnity should be the ascertainment of what Germany can pay within a reasonable time. France acts alone, and refuses to entertain the idea of an examination into Germany's ability to pay. The next time France is in dire distress it is not likely that its friends will embarrass it.

Federal Control of Wheat.

From the Chicago Tribune.

Projects for government purchase of wheat seem to us a product of hysteria. They mean that the wheat grower shall be secured against loss by the rest of the nation. If wheat is bought by the government at a higher price than it can be sold, the tax payers of the country will have to make up the difference. One of the results of that would be interesting even to farmers. We mean that of the diversified farmer, the dairy farmer, the stock farmer, would be taxed to pay the farmer who elects to raise wheat only. That is a form of government aid that will not appeal even to farmers.

And where after all would it lead us? The price of hogs, another farm product, has fallen some \$3 in the last year. How about a government purchase of hogs to sustain a given price? Commodities fluctuate, sometimes, as in 1921, disastrously. How far are we to rely upon government aid to protect the producer, and who must really pay in the end? This is a method of lifting ourselves by our bootstraps.

One consequence of tinkering with government aid is that it is likely to fix a bad situation instead of removing it. If the government undertakes to sustain the price of wheat at a level which assures a profit to the grower, he will not attempt to adjust himself to the economic situation but he will go on raising wheat. That would happen in any similar case, and as other interests won special support we should presently have an economic chaos supported by artificial means until the whole structure came down in inevitable ruin.

—A New York broker convicted of dishonesty has been sentenced to five years in prison or five years in Germany, and strangely enough he has indicated a preference for Germany.

—Some scientific investigator has discovered that the dashund didn't originate in Germany, which removes one cause of complaint against the Fatherland.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—As a result of building activities this year, housing facilities have been provided for 300 additional families in Altoona.

—In recognition of 25 years of service on Mrs. Mary A. McMurtrees' farm in Sugarloaf valley, Harvey Duncan received a bequest of \$2000 under her will.

—Thomas Tanner, watchman and signalman at Wigan's Station, a Shoshonean suburb, was found dead at his post when he failed to signal a passenger train.

—Coming in contact with a high-tension wire, John Thomas, an electrician employed by the York Haven Water and Power company, was burned severely and is in a critical condition at the York hospital.

—A record crop of apples, estimated at more than 20,000 bushels, is being picked at the Altar Run orchards at Bald Eagle. A large force of workmen is engaged in taking the fruit from the trees and placing it in storage. The peach orchards also yielded a large crop this year.

—Seven prisoners awaiting trial escaped from the Erie county jail early Sunday morning by sawing two bars from a cell window on the fifth floor and sliding to the ground by means of knotted blankets. Three other prisoners, one being held up on a murder charge, remained in the jail and reported the escape.

—Every day for forty years Mrs. Mary Cummings, of Hollidaysburg, visited St. Mary's Catholic church to worship alone early in the morning. Members of the congregation entering the church for early mass on Sunday morning found her body lying in the aisle. She had been stricken with heart failure.

—Miss Claudia B. Aurand, postmistress of Beaver Springs, last week tendered her resignation effective November 1st, after serving nearly two years. At the time of her appointment, it is claimed, she was the youngest of her sex to be put in charge of a postoffice in Pennsylvania, and probably in the United States.

—The congregation of the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in Allentown, on Sunday evening surprised its rector, Monsignor Peter Masson, by presenting him with a purse of \$1,000 to pay the expenses of a trip to his old home in Belgium. It will be the first vacation Monsignor Masson has had in fifteen years.

—A family of foxes, three in number, have become quite friendly with Mike Onyskowsky, a farmer living near Meadville. While the cubs play with Mike's dog in the rear of the farm house, the mother visits the hen-house. And now Mike knows why the foxes are so friendly. More than 100 chickens have disappeared.

—Discovery of a case of leprosy in Philadelphia is interesting State Health officials because it is the first to come to light in years. One of the leper cases which attracted much attention was that in Dauphin county some fifteen years ago. The city of Philadelphia will take charge of the case and the State make observations.

—"Did you have your arm around me?" asked Mrs. Lucy Barrett, of her escort, in a moving picture show at Sunbury on Friday night. When he declared he did not, she replied: "Well, some one did." When she left the theatre she found that her purse, containing \$45, carried in her bosom, had been taken by a person who took advantage of the darkness and her interest in the show.

—From the wife of a \$200 a month car inspector to a fortune of more than \$100,000 was the advance Thanksgiving gift received by Mrs. John D. Heim, of Sunbury, on Saturday. The will of her uncle, James A. Mothersbaugh, who died in Lewistown, bequeathed to her \$7,000, the home she lives in and part of the residue. Heim declares that it makes no difference in his young life, and has indicated that he will not quit his job.

—Weekly radio information is to be given Pennsylvania sportsmen under arrangements which have just been concluded, Seth Gordon, secretary of the game commission, announced last Friday. The broadcasting is to be done each Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock on the state police radio. The service will include interpretations of the game laws and game conditions in each section of the State, besides other news of interest to hunters.

—When he went to sleep with a lighted cigarette in his mouth, Henry Mann, of Ambridge, Pa., caused a sensation. The cigarette slipped from his mouth down into a leg of his trousers. A neighbor tried to turn in a fire alarm, but the alarm box wouldn't work. Finally patrolman Whitmore arrived with a chemical extinguisher and found Mann doing a Highland fling. Whitmore extinguished the trousers. After that Mann needed a barrel.

—Clemens Harberger, aged 54 years, a sawmill operator and lumber manufacturer, of St. Marys, met with almost instant death when he was buried under an avalanche of timber that toppled over upon him. Preparatory to closing his mill, Mr. Harberger, with a crew of men, was inspecting the stock. He stood beside a pile of hardwood fourteen feet high and six feet wide when it toppled over upon him. Several other members of the party had narrow escapes. Harberger was rescued from under the timber within five minutes, but his neck was broken and he died within a half hour.

—Two masked bandits last Friday afternoon held up F. E. Pratt, superintendent of the Dexcar coal mines near Ashville, Cambria county, and robbed him of the mine payroll of \$8,200. They then forced Pratt and his wife to leave their motor car and escaped in it, but abandoned it a mile away and took to the woods. State police are searching for them. The robbery occurred on a lonely road leading from Ashville to the mines, which are owned by Dexcar and Carpenter, of New York. Pratt did not see the men until they jumped on the running board and forced him to stop, threatening him with a pistol. The money, which had been obtained in Altoona, was in pay envelopes ready for distribution to the miners.

—Rev. W. H. Roosevelt, of Millersburg, Juniata county, has instituted a suit in the Huntingdon county Court of Common Pleas against the Mount Hope Baptist church of Mount Union, through his attorney, H. H. Waite, for a balance which he claims is due him while serving that pastorate. Rev. Roosevelt served the congregation for two and one-half years and was to receive \$75 per month, which he states was paid regularly until January 17th, 1921, when the salary ceased. He severed his relations with the church July 15th, 1922, and claims \$1,350, less \$700 which was paid since he left, leaving a balance due him of \$650 with interest. The Mount Hope Baptist church is a colored church, with a good sized congregation.