

## Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., March 16, 1928

### SLOWPOKES TO RIGHT.

In addition to this requirement, section 1008 of the new code specifically provides that operators of slow moving vehicles shall drive as closely as possible to the right hand edge or curb of the highway, unless it is impracticable to travel on such side of the highway, and except when overtaking or passing another in the manner required by law. This means that the drivers of vehicles should at all times, and so far as practicable, keep to the right side of the highway. Too many drivers have a tendency to veer to the left side of the road and some drivers, especially when they apparently have a clear road, have a habit of driving entirely on the left side of the road, failing to realize that a car may suddenly turn from a side street or side road onto the left side of the road. Such practices are now illegal. The practice of drivers of slow moving vehicles of driving in the center of the road, or "hogging the road" is also illegal. This practice is particularly noticeable on the Lincoln highway, between Downingtown and Philadelphia. Drivers of slow moving vehicles have been observed driving in the center of this highway, despite highway warning signs "keep to the right, center for passing."

Every operator of a motor vehicle, if he is not in the habit of driving on the right half of a highway, should train himself to do so and to break himself of the habit of steering toward the left. The latter habit is dangerous as well as illegal.

Races between two motor vehicles on the highway, speed contests with motor vehicles, and physical endurance tests on the public highway are classified as "reckless driving" under the provisions of the new vehicular traffic code.

The pernicious practice of racing between the operators of two motor vehicles on the highways will render the participants liable to a charge of reckless driving. Speed contests, in which the speed of a motor vehicle is tested, between points or for specific distances, are likewise prohibited. Physical endurance tests, in which an operator is usually handcuffed to the steering wheel and drives incessantly, day and night stopping only for gas and oil, are strictly prohibited and classed as reckless driving. A fine of \$25 or ten days' imprisonment may be imposed upon conviction of these charges.

Drivers of vehicles will be required to drive on the right side of the highway on all highways of sufficient width to permit the passage of two vehicles, one coming in one direction and one going in the opposite direction, except upon one-way streets, under the provisions of the new code.

### The Fad of Thinness.

A leading dentist hands out a warning to young girls and various people who are trying to reduce their flesh by unreasonable dieting. He pointed out how they were denying themselves fruits, milk, and vegetables, etc. when they need such foods to preserve their teeth.

It is a pretty serious thing when people deny themselves the food needed to produce good strong teeth, because of the desire to cultivate a slim figure. These young women are likely to find themselves involved in unpleasant dental experiences later, and very likely be unable to assimilate the food which they need for their health.—Oseola Leader.

The average age of a tree is 200 to 300 years, although some varieties live 2,000 years.

### Sewing Machine Comes Back to Place in Nicest Homes.

The old sewing machine, always the Cinderella of household furnishings, has come back into the best of homes in such a guise that it ranks in beauty with any other furniture.

Discovery that prosperous women who years ago gave up home sewing are resuming their interest is made by the household editor of Farm and Fireside and she attributes the renewed popularity of the art to the increased beauty of sewing machines. "The old-fashioned machine," she says, "was an awkward looking thing, out of harmony with everything else in the average room. Now the attractive cabinet in the corner, or the handsome mahogany table standing boldly against the wall bearing flowers and books is just as likely as not to be a sewing machine. The new electric models come in such forms that they are utterly disguised and they are even more useful than their homely predecessors."

With the modern improvements that have been made in the machines, home sewing has become a much easier task, the article continues, and this fact, together with the trend in the direction of simplicity in present day clothes makes possible a new dress much more frequently than in the old days. Letters received from women everywhere show that home sewing is gaining great headway, the household department of the magazine finds.—Litz Record.

### The Proper Farm Lease.

The following are important questions concerning any farm lease: (1) Is it in writing? (2) Do you understand it before you sign? (3) Is it written so the meaning will be clear at any time later? (4) Is it fair to you—and to the other party? (5) Does it give the tenant a reasonable opportunity to make a living and get ahead? (6) Does it require proper and conservative care of the leased premises? (7) If there are reservations are they in writing? (8) Does the lease state what each party is to do and to contribute? (9) Does it define clearly the rights and privileges of each party? (10) Does it provide a settlement of differences of opinions? (11) Does it provide for procedure when the tenancy is to be ended? (12) Does it contain the following essentials of a legally complete lease? (a) a date; (b) signatures of both parties (c) definition of the term; (d) description of the property; and (e) an agreement as to the amount of rent to be paid; the time when and the place where it is to be paid. A good lease should permit an affirmative reply to each of these questions.—Wyoming Democrat.

### Health Nurses to be Trained at State College.

In cooperation with the American National Red Cross, special teacher training courses for graduate nurses are to be given during the coming summer session at the Pennsylvania State College. In previous years this feature has been a pronounced success, and the college has obtained an instructor Miss Lucy Brinkerhoff, R. N., who is a leader in this field.

The college has found that there is a great demand for nurses trained also as teachers of the certified course of the Red Cross in home hygiene and care of the sick. The demand comes largely from business and philanthropic organizations and educational institutions. The course opens on July 3 and continues for six weeks. The Red Cross maintains a scholarship fund for loans and grants to nurses seeking assistance in obtaining this training.

More than 70,000 African elephants are killed each year for the ivory in their tusks.

### WHEN PENNSYLVANIA WAS DEMOCRATIC.

#### And Centre County Had Men Whose Fame Big Trout Couldn't Eclipse.

About Pennsylvania's representation in the United States Senate have centered many protracted controversies and many bitter political battles during the course of the past century. The present effort to prevent the seating of William S. Vare, of Philadelphia, as United States Senator from Pennsylvania in some respects resembles numerous fights in which the Camerons, father and son, their political successors, Matthew Stanley Quay, were involved in their struggle to hold the political leadership of the Republican party in the State and the office of United States Senator.

It was through his attainment of the senatorship against great odds in 1845 that Simon Cameron first won wide renown as a skilled political strategist. James Buchanan resigned the senatorship to become Secretary of State under President Polk. The Democrats of the Legislature held a caucus and determined upon Judge George W. Woodward, of Centre county, then 34 years old, as their choice for Senator. Their party was in control of the Legislature, which then chose the United States Senators. Judge Woodward, who had previously practiced law in Wilkes-Barre, was wholly unskilled in politics but was a lawyer of splendid attainments and a man of sterling character.

Without ostentatious flourish Simon Cameron laid his plans for the defeat of Woodward. Cameron, too, was a Democrat. To win he must have the support of the Whig members of the Legislature.

On the whole the Whigs were not favorably inclined toward the kind of politics with which Cameron had been identified up to that time—the practical kind which works without the glare of publicity. Yet the fact that Cameron was known to favor a protective tariff and was opposed to slavery did gain him a hearing among the Whigs, for in those two principles he was at variance with his own party and in harmony with the Whigs. He was a banker in Middletown and was interested in the iron industry. At an earlier date he had published newspapers in Doylestown and Harrisburg. The only public office of prominence he had held was that of adjutant general of the State.

Gradually it transpired that the Whigs were turning to Cameron. Woodward did not try to conceal his opposition to a protective tariff. The slavery issue served to bring clergy-men and churches to the support of Cameron, and these influences were brought to bear upon the Whig members of the Legislature. The result was that, by the votes of the Whigs and of his own following among the Democrats, Cameron was elected on the first ballot.

Nor did that end the feud between Cameron and Woodward. As a so-lace for the humiliation of Woodward, President Polk named him to the United States Supreme Court. But when the nomination came before the Senate for confirmation, Cameron was able to bring about its rejection.

But in the senatorial contest of 1855 a deadlock occurred in the Legislature that thwarted Cameron's finesse as a political strategist. Now the Whig party was disintegrating and the Republican party was forming. With this new party Cameron identified himself. The Know-Nothing, or Native American party, also had many followers in the State at that time. Consequently the Legislature comprised a strange diversity of interests, and there was a lack of party cohesion and leadership.

William Bigler, Democrat, had been elected Governor in 1851 by 40,000 majority. The same year his brother, John was elected Governor of California.

Three years later the changing political sentiment, resulting largely from the questions of slavery and "know-nothingism," brought about the defeat of William Bigler when he sought re-election as Governor. Then in 1855 Bigler, Cameron, Andrew G. Curtin, later Governor, and several other candidates entered the race for United States Senator.

All efforts to effect fusion among the different elements opposing the Democrats were without success. Ballot after ballot was taken without electing a Senator. Under the State constitution then operative daily ballots were not necessary, as was later the case. After the business of law-making had been disposed of, the Legislature meeting in joint session, would take several futile ballots for Senator and then adjourn for several days or perhaps a week. Finally the session closed without the choice of a Senator.

At the elections that year the Democrats gained complete control of the Legislature, so that at the session of 1856 William Bigler was elected United States Senator.

In 1857 the Legislature was to elect another United States Senator. Again Simon Cameron loomed up as a formidable candidate. The contest that resulted was one of the most discussed political battles in the history of the State.

In compliance with the wishes of President James Buchanan, the Democrats, who had a majority of three on joint ballot in the Legislature, accepted Colonel W. Forney as their candidate for Senator. There was some resentment among the Democrats about Buchanan's dictation of the candidate, as Henry D. Foster was understood to have the party's endorsement for the office. However, Foster stood aside and it looked as though Forney would command the support of his party.

Cameron, though he could claim little personal friendship among the Democrats, proved himself able to muster the various divergent elements opposed to the Democratic party, and he thus lined up Whigs, Know-Nothings and Republicans in his support. Nevertheless the united opposition could count only 65 votes in joint assembly against 68 Democrats.

In this campaign Simon Cameron's son, J. Donald Cameron, who later succeeded his father as United States Senator and political chieftain of the State, first showed his capacity for campaign management. He brought about a caucus of all opponents of Democracy, and the caucus agreed to give its united vote for Simon Cameron on one ballot, as a test of the assurances offered that sufficient support would come from the Democrats to bring about the election of Cameron.

While some of the Democrats made no secret of their intention to give Foster a complimentary vote, changing afterward to Forney, there was no hint among them of a break in their ranks for the benefit of Cameron. Consequently astonishment and dismay swept the Democrats in the joint convention when the name of William Lebo, Democrat, of Schuylkill county, was called, and he cast his vote for Cameron. Then a little later another Democrat, Samuel Man-near, of York county, also voted for Cameron. Now hisses were heard in the hall. Finally, as the alphabetical calling of the roll neared the end, the clerk pronounced the name of G. Wagenseller, another Schuylkill county Democrat, and his vote, too, went for Cameron.

Thus Cameron, having three Democratic votes and the unanimous support of the opposition, was assured of his election. But immediately the three Democrats who had brought about that election were subjected to such a storm of obloquy as has rarely been heaped upon inconspicuous members of the State Legislature.

The names of Lebo, Manneer and Wagenseller were bandied about the State as synonyms for all that is evil. The men were ostracised by their Democratic associates in Harrisburg. The hotels where they were staying ordered them to vacate their rooms. When they sought other hotels they were refused admittance, and finally they obtained rooms in obscure boarding houses. They were threatened with bodily harm, but were able to complete their terms without suffering violence. Thereafter none of the trio ever again figured in State politics.

The Democratic members of the Legislature forwarded a protest to the United States Senate against the seating of Cameron on the ground that his election had been corruptly obtained. But as no evidence was presented to substantiate the allegation, the Senate gave the protest no recognition, and Cameron was duly seated.

Remembering with indignation what had occurred in 1857, the Democrats six years later adopted precautions to avert a like break in their ranks, for now they had but one majority on joint ballot in the Legislature.

Cameron had resigned the Senatorship in 1861 to become Secretary of War in President Lincoln's cabinet, but in 1863 he decided he wanted to return to the Senate. He had no difficulty in gaining indorsement of the Republican members of the Legislature. Soon rumors were circulated that inroads would be made into the Democratic ranks. Meetings were called to stiffen the backbone of the Democrats. Vehement speeches were made proclaiming that if any Democratic member of the Legislature dared to vote for Cameron he would not leave the Legislative halls alive.

Suspicion fastened itself upon one member, T. J. Boyer, of Clearfield. In defense he published a statement saying \$20,000 to \$25,000 had been offered him if he would vote for Cameron, but he declared he had rejected the offer. Later A. R. Schofield, a Philadelphia member, asserted a bribe of \$100,000 had been offered him for his vote.

On the day set for the ballot crowds of hardy Democrats from Philadelphia went to Harrisburg, filling all available space about the State Capitol. On all sides threats were heard that death awaited any Democratic legislator who should vote for Cameron. Appeals were made for military protection for the Legislature, but were refused.

When the ballot was taken every Democrat voted for Charles R. Buckalew, the party's candidate, and he was elected. One Republican, Bartholomew Laporte, of Bradford, voted against Cameron. A great Democratic jubilation followed.

In the years following the Civil war many another hard-fought battle was waged over the United States senatorship. The story of some of these contests will afford material for the next chapter in this series of articles.

### Illumination of Main Highways One of Developments of Future.

One of the future developments of the highway improvement program of the State of Pennsylvania is illumination for the main trails, an official of the State Highway Department has announced.

This program would include such principal highways as the Susquehanna Trail and the Horseshoe Trail.

The poles are already up and the current is available. The cost of illumination, it is felt, would more than offset the loss of life and property damage caused by glaring headlights. Illumination would be so effective that automobiles could travel with dimmed headlights.

At the present time the State gives motorists a lot of service for their annual license fees. Snow is removed from the State highways and fences erected to protect the places where drifts are encountered. White lines are painted and berms kept in order. Direction signs are erected and danger signals posted at strategic points. Illumination of main highways is one of the steps contemplated for the future, though it may not come for a matter of five or ten years.

First Crossworder: "Say, what does 'bucolic' mean?"

Second Crossworder: "Why, that means 'rural.'"

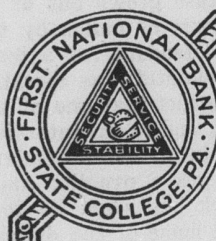
First Crossworder: "Oh, I thought it was something about liquor."

Second Crossworder: "No, that's 'biblical.'"

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## The backward pupil + + +

It's unjust to call him a "backward pupil" because he doesn't like to study. He may be an under-nourished pupil—perhaps he doesn't get the food that builds good muscle and brain, the food that supplies energy and pep for study or play. Shredded Wheat with whole milk is a perfect food combination. Two Biscuits with milk make a complete meal—so easily and quickly prepared and so delicious to eat.



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