

—Most everybody wants to see the Yanks licked and there seems to be nobody who can do it.

—Always we have thought that one could beat anything with a club, but McKechnie couldn't beat the Yanks with his. Possibly, McKechnie's isn't a club.

—Better go into the ditch in your effort to keep out of the way of the other fellow than have him knock you into it because you want to show the "hog" that you have as much right to hug the white line as he has.

—We're not alarmed by the increased registration in the cities. We believe it means more for Smith than it does for Hoover. Aren't our Hoover friends admitting that the larger centers of population are where the Smith strength lies. If that is so isn't it reasonable to infer that increased registration in them means more votes for Al.

—Philadelphia papers lose no opportunity to tell the world what the good people of that city have given towards Florida relief. Bellefonte is not given much to boasting, but we think the world should know that we have given more, per capita, than the great city where even policemen are millionaires.

—Our conscience is troubling us. Last Sunday afternoon we listened in on the ball game. About the sixth inning we got to thinking that we were just as guilty of making a holiday out of the Sabbath as were the thousands who were jammed on that ball-field in St. Louis, where the Yanks and the Cards were fighting it out. What do you think about it? Were we?

—According to William Randolph Hearst's Los Angeles Examiner there were more persons arrested on drunk charges in that city last week than for any similar period since prohibition went into effect eight years ago. William Randolph, you know, is supporting Hoover and prohibition, but if we are to believe that it would seem that he's making a haul of a job of it in Los Angeles.

—Old Ed Howe, "the Sage of Potato Hill," railed against bare-legged girls and then when two dames called on him to protest his mid-Victorian ideas, he never noticed that neither of them had stockings on. Ed is one of the famous writing men of the country, but he is growing old and hasn't the eye of the writing man on the Watchman, who surprised us, several weeks ago, with a paragraph about bare knees in Bellefonte. Up to the moment of reading that self confession we had thought him to be too old, too.

—To the good Methodist sister who has written us urging that we should not lose faith because our church has gone into politics we indite this message of reassurance. Faith is not given or taken away by the dogmas, doctrines or rituals of a church. Thank God, it is something higher and finer than forms enunciated by humans just as likely to err as we. No, Mrs. —we're thinking of the Skillingtons in our church much as Christ must have thought of the money changers when he drove them out of the temple.

—We note that the Tyrone Herald has developed elephant "ears." We note, also, that the Herald announces that Miss Beatrice Vare, daughter of the contesting Senator-elect William S. Vare, is going to take the stump for Hoover in Pennsylvania. According to her program she is to ballyhoo for Hoover and the entire Republican ticket, a high protective tariff, continuing prosperity and light wines and beer. If the Herald has been listening in at head-quarters—and if it isn't what does it have elephant ears for—Miss Vare has quite a comprehensive program. We would suggest that she might make it more so were she to lift a collection for Philadelphia policemen at each meeting.

—Please don't write us any more letters about Smith and Hoover. The desk is piled so high with them now that if all were to be published the Watchman would contain little else until way beyond the fourth of next March. It's embarrassing, because we know the authors of many of them spent much thought on their arguments, pro and con. However, since we have no expectation from either Mr. Smith or Mr. Hoover of anything by way of paying for enlarged editions in which to publish the praise of their advocates, we see no other way out of the dilemma than to treat all alike and publish none. Two exceptionally thought out articles are before us at the moment: One by Will H. Fielding, of New Dorp, N. Y., who is for Hoover, another by James F. McCulley, of Bellefonte, who is for Smith. We would like to publish both, but they would take nearly an entire page in the paper and while they are much longer than most of the other letters on the desk there are scores beside them. The anonymous correspondent from Part Matilda, who sent us a marked copy of "Bob Shuler's Magazine" is advised that cutting the address label off the cover didn't have the desired result for the impress of the mailing machine is discernible on the following sheet and we observed that the magazine was originally directed to "Rev. W. C. R.—" If it was the parson, himself, who sent it he is probably just another Skillington.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 73. BELLEFONTE, PA., OCTOBER 12, 1928. NO. 30.

Hoover's Appeal to the South.

Herbert Hoover hasn't acquired much wisdom during the considerable interval that has elapsed since the delivery of his speech of acceptance. That speech consisted mainly of absurd claims of achievement by the Republican party. In his speech at Elizabethton, Tennessee, on Saturday, he repeated most of the preposterous claims and added inferentially that the defeat of the Republican party would plunge the country into an abyss of distress and disaster. Only a few days previous to that dire prediction the President of the American Bankers' association, in convention in Philadelphia, in addressing the members, declared that no matter which party is in power or which candidate is elected prosperity will continue unimpaired.

Mr. Hoover had wisely chosen a small town in the mountain section of Tennessee in which to issue his appeal to the credulity of the South. Public schools are few, information limited and intelligence circumscribed in that section, and the Republican managers probably imagined the candidate could put over any kind of bunk on the mountaineers. And the candidate "went the limit." He told that owing to "the sound policies" of the Harding and Coolidge administrations "we have come since the war to be the greatest reservoir of the world's wealth." This bunk was taken with such relish that he was encouraged to higher flights of fancy. He told them that all these fine things are built on a delicate economic system, the dislocation of which would impoverish everybody.

Then in a solemn and sobbing tone of voice he reminded his audience that "the unit of American life is the family and the home." But the home must be entrenched in spiritual ideals and creature comforts and the tariff is the guarantor of these essentials. It stimulates commerce and preserves the home market for domestic products and "the great manufacturing industries of the South are dependent upon it." As a matter of fact the South never derived any benefit from the tariff. Its single industry has prospered because of proximity to raw materials and local labor legislation. The kindred industry in New England has languished notwithstanding the tariff. But he left nothing to conjecture in reference to the electric trust. He guarantees its prosperity.

—Governor Fisher still claims a majority for Hoover in Pennsylvania. To save his face Mellon ought to give him a new figure.

Actions Refute Predictions.

The sincerity of the claims made by Republican managers of a huge majority for Hoover in this State is brought under suspicion by the desperate efforts they are making to secure any majority at all. In recent campaigns, with ample majorities assured, comparatively little work was done in Pennsylvania. The local managers were urged by the big bosses, in a semi-confidential way, to get out the vote and that was all that was deemed necessary. Of course levies were made on the office holders for campaign funds but the money thus collected was sent to doubtful States where it was expected to "do more good." But this year things are different. Both money and work is needed in Pennsylvania now.

Accordingly the levy on office-holders for funds is made for a larger percentage and in a vastly more peevish manner and the money is not being sent abroad. The demand is made by a member of the Governor's cabinet, for the first time in the history of the State, for the purpose, probably, of giving emphasis to the demand. It is true that the bootleggers and the criminals of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh may not be able to give generously as usual this year because of the inopportune activities of the district attorneys in those citadels of corruption and Republican majorities, which may account, in part, for the more urgent demand on the office-holders. But it is safe to assume that the danger of defeat is the moving cause of the increased activity.

Another evidence of anxiety on the part of the Republican managers is revealed in their calling in their heaviest oratorical artillery. No voter under middle-age can call to mind a campaign in which the leading orators of the Republican party were called into service in Pennsylvania. But this year such "stars" as Senator Borah, of Idaho, and Colonel Roosevelt, of New York, as well as the party candidate for Vice President and others will be "on the hustings" plauditudinously pleading to save the tariff and "the old flag and an appropriation." But even these expedients may not accomplish the purpose. There is a strong current of public sentiment in favor of Governor Smith in all sections of the State.

Hamilton Fish Talks Plain.

Mr. Hamilton Fish, of New York, is so securely established as a potential leader in the Republican party that he doesn't have to employ the methods of a sycophant when he approaches the throne. This fact probably accounts for his candor during a recent visit to Mr. Hoover. Instead of flattering the Hoover hope as Senator Borah and other party servitors have been doing, Mr. Fish plainly told the Republican candidate that conditions are very bad in New York and that unless Mrs. Mabel Willebrandt is called off and the circulation of religious literature stopped, not only New York but other eastern States essential to the election of the Republican candidates will be lost to the party.

The nomination of A. B. Houghton, Ambassador to Great Britain, for United States Senator by the recent Republican convention of New York, was a particularly stupid expression of party tactics, Mr. Fish told the candidate and chairman Work. Stoughton is not now and never has been a citizen of New York State. He was Senator from Minnesota some years ago and was placed in the "lame duck" class by a large majority in 1922. In pursuance of custom he was then shifted into the diplomatic service and finally advanced to the Secretaryship of State. His operations in Mexico were so raw that he had to be "called off" but his recent exploit with the peace pact has given him temporary popularity which the party machinists are now trying to capitalize.

With this purpose in view the Republican State convention of New York nominated him for Senator in Congress. Probably the idea is to secure a vote, which may be needed, for the ratification of the peace pact and possibly the poverty of available timber of Republican faith in that State influenced the surprising action. But in any event Mr. Fish declares that it will not strengthen the chances of Hoover carrying the electoral vote of New York in November. Other Republicans of the State interpret this as an insult to the party leadership in New York and resent it as an exhibition of stupid and futile management for which candidate Hoover and chairman Work are responsible.

—The Philadelphia district attorney is still gathering in the Vare leaders and decreasing the Hoover majority in that city.

"Compounding" Crimes in Court.

If evidence were needed to prove that the Volstead law is inadequate for enforcement of the prohibition amendment to the constitution of the United States it was abundantly provided in the Federal court at Philadelphia, last week. Eleven defendants were put on trial for "illegal sale of liquor and maintaining a common nuisance." The penalty for "illegal sale" of liquor is imprisonment. That for "illegal possession" of liquor is a nominal fine. When the defendants were arraigned under an agreement between their lawyers and the district attorney representing the government, they pleaded guilty to "possession," the other charges were dropped and they escaped with a fine.

The United States district attorney in Philadelphia is a Vare politician. No explanation was given for dropping the more serious charges of illegal sale of liquor and maintaining a common nuisance, and the sitting judge was powerless to prevent the "compounding" of crimes involved in the transaction. But it served the purpose of a conspiracy to defeat the ends of justice and impair the processes of law. It is well and widely known that the illicit dealers in moonshine are indifferent to fines. They can reimburse themselves in a few days of business and they brazenly continue the nefarious traffic. But a jail sentence is a serious matter and by collusion can easily be avoided.

This is one of the principal reasons why the enforcement of the government are servile tools of the Republican machine rather than servants of the people, and the bootleggers and liquor dealers are supporters of the machine which protects them. It is because of these facts that a vast number of good citizens, men and women who believe in and want temperance throughout the land, demand such amendments to the Volstead law as will make collusions between corrupt officials and criminal liquor dealers impossible. The election of Governor Smith as President will achieve this result beyond question.

—What this country really needs is a guide who can point out the abiding place of the prosperity that is so freely talked about.

Problems in Farm Economics.

The American Bankers' association which completed its fifty-fourth annual convention at Philadelphia, last week, revealed the deep interest of its members in the matter of farm relief by adopting a resolution on the subject. "We believe," the resolution declares, "that an important contribution to remedying the agricultural depression lies in the adoption of methods which will lower the unit costs of production, and believe that the agricultural colleges and experimental stations are successfully developing the means by which they may be accomplished." No doubt there is a good deal of truth in this statement of the case if the farmers have patience to wait the completion of the process.

The last speaker on the subject in the convention was Dean Russell, of the University of Wisconsin, said to be "nationally recognized as an authority on farm economics." He said, "the future success of the farmer lies in improving his labor income rather than in the unearned increment due to advance in the price of his farm." This may also be accepted as a truism. But since deflation of farm values after the close of the world war no farmer has depended upon an earned or unearned increment of that sort. It is not clear either how he may improve his labor income so long as the prices of his products are going down. The labor income of the farmer is the difference between the cost of production and the price obtained for his product.

The inference to be drawn from both the resolution of the convention and the speech of Dean Russell is that farm relief cannot possibly be accomplished by legislation. Admitting that legislation may not be the best method of achieving the result, and that relief by legislation might be temporary, it is nevertheless certain that it is possible. The fact is amply proved by the effect of tariff tax legislation on manufacturing industries. The same men who deprecate legislation for the farm relief advocate it for protection of manufacturers. The day the President vetoed the farm relief bill he approved a measure providing for liberal bonuses for ship builders. This discrimination needs explanation.

—Pleading guilty is an easy way for grafters to break the chain of evidence that is leading too close to the higher-ups. Most of the Philadelphia grafters are likely to adopt that method.

What Price Centralization?

For the past few years our State government has been directed with alarming rapidity toward the centralization of its functions in the hands of a few men, the heads of bureaus. Local government and local administration, will in a relatively short time become completely submerged if we follow the path along which we are traveling at the present time.

We are fast becoming a "rubber stamp" government rather than a government "of the people." How this menace has directly affected us recently, can be demonstrated by a few of the measures passed at the last two sessions of the Legislature: First, the change of the House Rules so as to substantially prevent minority members of the committees from bringing proposed bills on the floor of the House and before the public eye.

Second, allowing bureaus, such as the Highway Department, to create penal offenses by their fiat, without legislative enactment. Third, condemnation of private property without knowledge of the owner, and without compensation being paid to the owner for its condemnation.

Fourth, placing in the hands of a small body of men practically the entire control and regulation of the killing of the wild game which by law belongs to the people of the Commonwealth as a whole.

Fifth, the diversion of taxes from the localities in which they are collected and needed, and placing them in the hands of centralized bureaus for expenditure, without regard to local necessity. Other changes in our government, less significant than those set forth above, might augment this list to considerable proportions. These that we have mentioned, however, are not simply dangerous from a point of policy, but have actually become an abuse.

Bellefonter Completes Thirty Years With Telephone Company.

Thirty years of continuous service in the telephone industry was completed on Monday by John Tomner Harris, vice president and general manager of the central area of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, whose headquarters are in Harrisburg.

It was shortly after he had been graduated from Pennsylvania State College, in 1897, that Mr. Harris obtained employment in the plant department of the Telephone company, and during the three decades that since have elapsed he has risen by progressive stages to his present important post. The central area of the company embraces, roughly, all the territory between Altoona and Reading and between the northern and southern boundaries of the State. Mr. Harris directs the activities of 3,800 employees in this large section of Pennsylvania.

A son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry P. Harris, he was born October 29, 1876, in Bellefonte, and after completing his public school education entered Penn State. He began his telephone career at Altoona with what was then the Central Pennsylvania Telephone and Supply company. He was appointed district manager for the company at Philipsburg January 1st, 1900, and was transferred to Altoona as local manager a year later. He remained in that post for six years.

He then was appointed traffic superintendent for the Pennsylvania Telephone company, at Harrisburg, in January, 1907, and during the following year was made division traffic manager for the then newly-organized Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania. In this capacity he had charge of the operating forces in the entire Harrisburg division. In 1920 he was transferred to a corresponding office in the Pittsburgh division.

He was appointed general traffic manager at Philadelphia in March, 1923, and held that position until May 1, 1926, when he was transferred to the central area as general manager. His title was changed to that of vice president and general manager August 25, 1927.

His duties as an executive of the company take him to all parts of the presides, and he is widely known large telephone area over which he has throughout Central Pennsylvania.

—When Andrew Curtin Thompson goes to the Legislature we're going to urge him to introduce a bill that will relieve counties like ours of the expense of printing ballots that are not necessary at all. In order to provide space for candidates for whose party there hasn't been a single registrant in Centre county the ballot here will have to be of blanket size. It will cost the county at least nineteen hundred dollars to print it. In addition, the Sheriff's election proclamation, because of its size, will cost at least \$2317.60—probably twice as much. It's robbery. Not that the print shops and the newspapers will charge one cent more than their regular rates, but there is a lot of needless State printing and advertising. Why? Simply because it is a form of subsidization, and, unfortunately, there are not enough honest and unselfish newspapers in the country to protest against such needless waste of the taxpayer's money.

—An Iowa farmer's daughter is for Smith not only because she wants to see a smile in the White House but because she "wants to see a smile in the farm house." What a psychologist this girl is. Smiles come from the heart. You never saw a cruel or selfish heart smile with a ring that you knew was true. Look at Al Smith's face. If you know anything at all of physiognomy you will know that there isn't a line furrowed there that indicates anything but good will for every person and every thing about him.

—Tomorrow at 2:30 p. m. station W. P. S. C., will broadcast the State-Bucknell football game, play by play. State College is easy to get on your radio and it has been our experience that reception from W. P. S. C. is fine.

—H. T. Craven, of the Philadelphia Record, is worried about the whereabouts of Vice President Dawes, and by the same token somebody ought to say something concerning the present location of Tom Cunningham.

—Mayor Mackey laid the lines for graft when he turned the police of Philadelphia over to the political leaders. Maybe when the graft is traced to its destination his reasons will be revealed.

—Subscribe for the Watchman.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Suit to recover \$5000 damages has been brought by Miss Mary Carns, a Newport school teacher, against R. W. Berger, because of an automobile accident at Amity Hall, last May, in which Miss Carns alleged she was badly injured and her face disfigured.

—Mrs. Frances C. Jakabcin, of Reading, recently re-elected supreme president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Union of America for the tenth successive year, has refused a cash gift of \$1000 voted her by the directors. She heads an organization of more than 50,000 women, with many more in junior bodies.

—More than a "million dollars" in currency rests at the bottom of a pulp pit in the mill of the Schmidt and Ault Paper Company, at York, Pa. The paper money and bonds were sold by the Farmers' Trust company, Lancaster, as junk. They were issued by the Confederate government during the Civil war.

—Dr. George H. Ashley, State geologist, says that Pennsylvania's culm and silt banks in the anthracite region are worth \$200,000,000. Dr. Ashley's statement follows a survey of the situation, just completed. Culm and silt banks are refuse rock and dirt piled up from mine excavations. Coal in small sizes is mixed with the cast-off earth.

—Struck by a trolley car in Lock Haven on Thursday, while coasting in his toy wagon, 5-year old Norman Gehret, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Gehret, Bennage Heights, was critically injured and died the same night in the Lock Haven hospital without regaining consciousness. The child crashed into the car, which crushed his arm and shoulder and injured his head, before the motorman could stop the trolley.

—Laning Harvey, of Luzerne county, Republican nominee for the State Senate and former State Game Commissioner, has offered a reward of \$500 for the arrest and conviction of the highwayman who shot and seriously wounded George Meiss, State game warden, of Forty Port, and Harry Hyman on the Nescopeck Mountain last Tuesday night. They are both in Hazleton State hospital in a serious condition.

—Vandals broke into the Presbyterian church at Vira, Pa., broke off the steps of the organ, cut the cords of the piano, wrecked the church clock, tampered with the electric lighting system, and tossed the large Bible from the pulpit and wiped the floor with it. The church was never locked and had just been renovated throughout at a heavy expense. Officers expect to make arrests before the end of the week.

—After 23 years spent behind the bars, James Salerno, oldest "lifer" in the eastern penitentiary, has been pardoned. He is 76. The State Board of Pardons recommended a pardon for Salerno, who was originally sentenced in 1905 to be hanged for the murder of his step-daughter in Lycoming county. The death sentence was subsequently commuted to life imprisonment. Three previous applications for pardon were rejected by the board.

—Walter Bagnel, aged 35, who a few weeks ago took over the management of the Kline hotel at Middletown, Pa., was found hanging from a rafter in a barn in the rear of the structure. Despondency over the death of his wife about a year ago is believed to have been responsible for the act. Bagnel went to Middletown from Baltimore, Md. The Kline hotel is owned by Harry Kline, who went to Middletown from Bellefonte over forty years ago and had had personal charge of it up until a few weeks ago.

—Officials of the Harrisburg Welfare association are looking for a man who a few days ago opened an account at a Harrisburg bank with a deposit of \$2,000.01 and then drew a check for \$2,000 on the account. He gave the check for the money to the association. They are looking for the man to thank him, for he had deposited the \$2,000.01 in crisp green and yellow-backed bills and a copper penny. The check conveying the money was accompanied by a note signed a friend. Investigation has revealed that the name and address given by the man when he opened the account were fictitious. The bank honored the check, however, and the association has its money.

—Secretary of Highways James Lyall Stuart has decided that the operation of ice cream trucks and similar vehicles, dripping salt water upon pavements of Pennsylvania highways, will not be permitted, and that, unless such trucks are constructed to prevent dripping, the owners will be prosecuted for violation of the motor vehicle code. Laboratory tests of the Department of Highways have conclusively demonstrated that sodium chloride, or common salt, has an injurious effect upon concrete, and highway officials have taken this action to prevent deterioration through the dripping of salt water from ice cream trucks or other vehicles carrying salt water.

—Because her husband is in prison and her three children are in a charity home Mrs. Ida Rinehart, 21, of York county, wanted to die. She swallowed some poison but officials at the York hospital say she will recover. The young mother was found in Farquhar park, York, Pa., in apparent agony from the effects of the poisoning. Mr. Harry Billel, the girl's mother, said that her daughter left home Tuesday, asserting that she was not coming back. She returned home the same night and was denied admission to the house. Nothing more was heard of the woman until she was found ill in the park. The parents claim that Mrs. Rinehart is beyond their control and that they have no interest in her future.

—Alleged to have fished John C. Snyder, contractor on the new Altoona High school annex, of lumber and copper valued at more than \$2,000. H. T. Thomas and J. E. Helsel have been arrested and each is held under \$2,000 bail to await hearing before Robert A. Conrad, alderman. According to Snyder and Gill, Helsel had been given a subcontract as drayman on the job. Thomas was the foreman. They combined, the plaintiff alleged in his information, to systematically steal supplies belonging to Snyder. Snyder places his loss at \$2,150 and declared in making the information that such estimate is "very conservative." In investigation it was learned, the officer says, that much of the copper, valued at \$150 was sold in the city to junk dealers. Several persons who had bought the metal produced cancelled checks, which they contended were tendered in payment. Helsel denies all knowledge of the theft or that he was associated with Thomas in any way.