

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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INK SLINGS.

The Hon. Holmes' made a very graceful speech at the banquet of the League of Women Voters...

If you are against any of the amendments don't fail to vote "No" on them. Keep this in your head: A majority of the votes in favor of an amendment carries it.

Herbert Hoover is a strange man to stand silently while his campaign ballyhoosers are charging that the administration of the man who made him was not efficient.

In other words, the idea of voting for a new tax of \$17,000 on the people of Centre county for a traveling library means \$2,000 a year for books and \$15,000 for librarians, automobiles, tires, gas and chauffeurs...

Several weeks ago we confessed that we have no expectation of profit from the election of either Smith or Hoover. Letters on the desk prove that often we expect what we don't get and get what we don't expect.

The Mr. McCabe, the gentleman who made the very interesting appeal to get out the vote at the banquet of the League of Women Voters, had his figures well in hand. He showed up the delinquents in Phillipsburg, Bellefonte and State College.

The greatest kick we got out of the dinner given by the League of Women Voters last Thursday night was when we nearly went cockeyed watching one of the hopoloi harpooning bread at one table and one of the intelligentsia gesticulating with his fork at another.

Governor Smith's Tariff Views.

In his very forceful speech at Louisville, Kentucky, on Saturday evening, Governor Smith made his ideas on tariff legislation entirely clear. "First," he said, "I believe that the tariff should be taken out of politics and treated as a business and economic problem."

These are the salient features of a pledge solemnly made to the voters of the country by a man who never fails to keep his promises. If he had stopped there his pledge would have served to completely refute the preposterous statements of Herbert Hoover and other Republican spokesmen that Democratic success would mean industrial paralysis and commercial distress.

Finally, Governor Smith proclaimed to the world that he will oppose with all the vigor he can command, "the making of the tariff a shelter of extortion and favoritism or any attempt to use the favor of the government for the purpose of repaying political debts or obligations."

Mayor Mackey's Part in the Affair.

When Harry Mackey was a candidate for Mayor he openly declared that the police department of Philadelphia was saturated with crime and graft. He said he knew every grafter on the force and the source of their levy. Recent events have fully corroborated his charge of corruption.

In view of these facts the apparent efforts of those now endeavoring to expose the evil to shield Mr. Mackey from blame are futile and may as well be abandoned. He may not have received any part of the tainted money but he has aspirations which may be greatly promoted by a well filled campaign chest.

William Draper Lewis for Smith.

Every lawyer in Pennsylvania knows William Draper Lewis, of Philadelphia. For many years he was dean of the Pennsylvania University law school and the associate of Geo. Wharton Pepper in the preparation and publication of Pepper and Lewis' Digest of the laws of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Lewis had been a Republican up until the "first three months of the Harding administration," to quote his own language. Since that time he has been an independent "looking for a non-radical but constructively liberal party."

William Draper Lewis is a man of mature judgment, wide experience in public affairs, and strong reasoning power. Three months of the Harding administration satisfied him that there is no hope for real progress in the country so long as emissaries of monopoly and instruments of corporate greed remain in control of the government at Washington.

The tariff issue has also failed of its purpose. Governor Smith's Louisville speech knocked it "into a cocked hat."

Pertinent Questions to Governor Fisher.

The evidence that the Republican leaders in this State are in a panic continues to grow. Last week Governor Fisher and State chairman Martin visited William S. Vare, in his Atlantic City home, and begged him to save the party from defeat.

"To what base uses may we return, Horatio! Why not imagination trace the noble dust of Alexander till he find it stopping a bung hole?" When Vare was a candidate for Senator Mr. Fisher repeatedly said he represented nothing but a beer mug.

And how does Governor Fisher expect Mr. Vare to save the party from defeat? There is only one way with which Mr. Vare is familiar to build up majorities for the Republican party in Philadelphia, and that is fraudulent voting and false returns of the vote.

The vote on the voting machine constitutional amendment will indicate whether or not the voters of Pennsylvania favor honest elections.

Will Centre County Support Nefarious Game Law?

We promised in our columns last week to tell the voters of Centre county what part our representative in the General Assembly, the last two sessions, has played in protecting our county from the deadening effect of overripe centralization of power.

Prior to the session of the Legislature in 1925, it was possible in different localities to have a special doe season not exceeding three days, when conditions warranted it. But how was this to be done? Two hundred citizens of a county desiring to have a special season, petitioned the game commission, setting forth that the game had become a nuisance.

Certainly Mr. Holmes did not vote for the game code of 1923, but he did vote for the nefarious amendment of 1925, and cannot relieve himself of the responsibility. To date more than 56000 special doe licenses have been issued, over two-thirds of which have been issued to non-residents.

The people of Centre county want a man who will at all times work for the best interests of Centre county, and for strict home rule in all matters of local concern, hence, we believe, they will cast their ballot for Andrew Curtin Thompson.

The "whispering campaign" has proved a failure and its sponsors are now trying to get away from it.

Chairman Work Proved a Falsifier.

We have been waiting more or less patiently for some weeks for chairman Work of the Republican National committee, to reply to the letter of chairman Raskob, of the Democratic National committee, bearing date of October 7th. On September 28th Mr. Work stated that Governor Smith, in a public speech, had "declared that the Underwood tariff act embodied the ideal method of handling tariff legislation."

Just as our hope for such an explanation from Mr. Work as would exculpate him from deliberately and maliciously "bearing false witness," was approaching the vanishing point the information comes that Congressman Good, of Iowa, western manager of the Hoover campaign, has written to Mr. Work advising him to make no reply to Raskob. It was a needless service. Mr. Raskob had completely proved his charge by quoting the exact language of Governor Smith on the subject which was not even near like that attributed to him by chairman Work.

The truth is that one of the most startling developments of the campaign is proof positive that Mr. Hubert Work, chairman of the Republican National committee, is not only a notorious liar but an arrant hypocrite. While ostentatiously professing detestation of the "whispering campaign" he is suspicious of maintaining and financing a bureau for the circulation of campaign literature too indecent to be distributed through the mails and which is being circulated by free delivery through messengers.

Put the Farm Problem Into Competent Hands.

From the Philadelphia Record. From the language of the Republican national platform we gather the impression that God in His infinite wisdom has conferred upon the Republican party a monopoly of constructive statesmanship. If we believe in the statements solemnly made in that immortal document only Republicans are competent to govern; they only can guide the nation along the paths of progress; they hold the keys to individual happiness and general prosperity.

Let us check up on this widely-accepted assumption. For 16 years prior to 1913 the Republican party was in undisputed control of the executive and legislative branches of the Government.

In all that period the chief source of governmental weakness lay in an unstable financial system. Through four successive Republican Administrations futile efforts were made to solve the complicated problems of currency and banking.

After eight years of Democratic rule the Republican party was given another chance to demonstrate its capacity. It was almost immediately confronted with the necessity of stabilizing agriculture, just as the Democrats had stabilized finance. Its efforts have resulted, as in the case of banking, in disagreements, bickerings and miserable failure.

What is there in the Republican record to justify the belief that the Democratic party is better fitted than the Republican party to devise workable measures for the relief of the farmer? Is demonstrated incompetence a recommendation? Are broken promises a guarantee?

The farmer's problem is everybody's problem. It demands prompt and effective solution. The party which created the Federal Reserve System, after long years of Republican effort had failed, is best qualified to rescue agriculture, Republican claims to omniscience to the contrary notwithstanding.

Mrs. Willebrandt and Hoover.

From the DuBois Express. When Herbert Hoover entered the campaign for President of the United States it was announced in his behalf that he would make few speeches himself, but would rely in great measure for success upon the work accomplished by the lesser lights of the Republican party. It was not to be exactly a front-porch fight, as it was in the days of William McKinley, and as it was, in a lesser degree, in the latter days of Warren Harding, but a fight in which the lieutenants were to stand the brunt of battle, carrying the party banner along lines prescribed by the commander-in-chief.

This strategy puts up to Herbert Hoover the character of the fighting. Those American citizens who would like to think the best of the Republican standard-bearer, whether they intend to vote for him or not, have long been wondering whether he approves of such tactics as those pursued by Mrs. Mabel Willebrandt, assistant attorney general. It would be idle to speak further of her antics to Dr. Hubert Work, Republican national chairman, and, as such, manager of the Hoover campaign. He says he does not know when "she" (Mrs. Willebrandt) speaks, where she speaks or anything about it." Dr. Work obviously does not care to be bothered about the matter. He told one reporter that he had not read what Mrs. Willebrandt was saying, and would not have time to until after the election.

Cause for Removal.

From the Chicago Tribune. In one instance Governor Smith scores soundly and that is in his reference to Mrs. Mabel Willebrandt, assistant Attorney-General, who has been given so much to do in the prohibition enforcement. In what she said to the Ohio Methodist conference, by any construction of her language, she appealed to religious prejudices and urged that they be stirred and used against the Democratic candidate. It is an act for which an official should be removed from the office of the administration gives sanction, and that stands as an effective charge until it is answered equally effectively.

If Hoover would tell the public how he proposes to work out the results he promises to achieve the public would have a better chance to appraise the value of his promises.

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SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Forty-five years as organist of the First Methodist church, at Bloomsburg, one of the largest in the Central Pennsylvania Conference, have been rounded out by Mrs. Fred Holmes.

"Stop-Through Traffic" signs have proved so effective, according to Samuel Eckels, chief engineer of the State Highway Department that 5000 additional miles of highway will be designated as through highways.

Mrs. Eva G. Stiger, 36, of South Renovo, near Lock Haven, committed suicide on Sunday by drinking a cup of poison. She walked a block from her home, entered an old automobile standing there and drank the poison. She died in fifteen minutes.

Autumn is the proper time to fall from houses. John Bolek, Marion Heights, was repairing his house roof when he slipped, rolled off the roof, landed 10 feet below on his porch roof, then fell to the ground, where he dropped on a pile of soft dry leaves, escaping with injuries to his right shoulder.

Daniel Harman, 85, of Berwick, failed in an attempt to commit suicide on Tuesday, when a thin rope with which he tried to hang himself broke. He was unconscious when found on the ground by his daughter-in-law, Mrs. John Harman, and suffered considerably from shock and exposure, but is expected to recover.

Lycoming county has a record of 104 divorces granted and 488 marriage licenses issued in nine months of the year, up to October 1. The approximate proportion of one divorce to every five marriages in 1928 has been true for the last few years, although in the last ten years, a steady increase in the number of divorces has been noticed in the county in general.

In order that there would be no controversy over his estate after his death Moses Ross Thomas, founder of the Masada, Fayette county, called his heirs together, last week, at his home and apportioned his estate. Thomas is in his 82nd year and says he expects to live to be 100. He is in fine health. Most of his time is spent in fishing and gardening.

Mrs. John Gresho, of Upper Pottsgrove, Montgomery county, went to a small pond near her home for a bucket of water. As she stooped over the water's edge powerful jaws snapped at her hands. Her screams brought her husband, who armed himself with a shotgun and went on watch. After an hour's wait he captured a two-foot alligator. The presence of the saurian in the pond is a mystery.

A sixth finger was removed from each hand of Gladys Thelma Harer, 8 months old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harer, residing near Williamsport, the operation being performed at the Williamsport hospital. The child also has six toes on each foot but in this case an operation is not necessary. Their 15 year old son was also born with six fingers and six toes, having the extra digits removed when he was a few weeks old.

Fire badly damaged the Kappa Sigma Fraternity House, a three-story frame dwelling on the edge of Bucknell University campus, on Tuesday. Thirty students were routed from their beds. The student's personal belongings and the furnishings of the house were saved. Damage to the house was estimated at \$6,000. Students assisted the local fire department in extinguishing the blaze, which was caused by a defective fuse.

Application of Harry R. Deeter doing business as the West Branch Transit company to operate a group and party bus service between Watsonstown and Mifflinburg was denied on Monday by the Public Service Commission. The commission however, gave Deeter permission to run his buses between Lewisburg and Mifflinburg. Deeter's application was protested by the Smith Transportation Company, which operates a group and party service from Watsonstown to Milton.

The building committee of the board of trustees of Gettysburg College have selected the plan for a new library building to be erected on the campus. The new building will stand where Cottage Hall, the smallest dormitory on the campus, now stands, and the work of raising this old frame building will be started at once. The library is the gift to the college of Rev. Dr. H. H. Weber, of York, in memory of his wife, and will be known as the M. Emma Weber Memorial Library.

The nine-mile detour between Thompsonstown and Mifflinburg, on the William Penn highway, will be lifted within the next six weeks, the State Highway Department announced on Friday. Four miles of the new paving have been completed. Included in the improvements in the nine-mile stretch are relocation of the roadway for a short distance, construction of a forty-five-foot span of bridge, reconstruction of four other smaller bridges and a six-foot culvert. The entire stretch of new paving is eighteen feet wide.

Homesick and desiring to chat with members of the Uniontown police force "just to see how things were going in Uniontown," Edward Woods, formerly of that city, but for the last six months a resident of California, on Saturday night spent about \$34 for a telephone conversation from Los Angeles. He said he had just come from the beach, where he mingled with movie actors and actresses, and became homesick. His first minute's conversation cost him \$6, with \$2 for each succeeding minute. He talked about fifteen minutes.

After pleading guilty to a charge of embezzling \$15,000 from the State Teachers' college at West Chester, on Monday, Dorothy Currey, 24, former stenographer-clerk, was sentenced to an indefinite term in the Women's Industrial home, Muncy, Pa. The sentence was imposed by Judge Frank E. Hause and William Butler Winfield, after proceedings which occupied only 15 minutes. Miss Currey made no statement to the court, but a plea for clemency was made by her counsel, J. Paul McClelland. Miss Currey heard her sentence apparently unmoved. She was held in \$1,000 bail pending her removal to the home.

Flames believed to have originated from men and boys stealing into the buildings to play poker and smoke, caused the loss of \$10,000 at Lewistown, last Friday. The first fire occurred at the Hoover Lumber company's sheds in the Hollywood section when the buildings and six cars of yellow pine lumber were destroyed with a loss of \$4,000. The second blaze was at the barn at Juniata Terrace, owned by the Viscose company and leased by Cloyd Shade. The loss on the building was \$1000 and 700 bushels of wheat, 600 of oats and 50 tons of hay were burned, the loss being estimated at \$5000.