

# Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., September 26 1930.

F. GRAY MEEK Editor

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

## Democratic State Ticket.

For United States Senator  
SEBASTIAN KISTLER  
of Clinton County  
For Governor  
JOHN M. HEMPHILL  
of Chester County  
For Lieutenant Governor  
GUY K. BARD  
of Lancaster County  
For Secretary of Internal Affairs  
LUCY D. WINSTON  
of Cumberland County  
For Judge of Supreme Court  
HENRY C. NILES  
of York County  
For Judge of Superior Court  
AARON E. REBER  
of Butler County  
GEORGE F. DOUGLAS  
of Philadelphia

## Democratic District and County Ticket.

For Representative in Congress  
MAXWELL J. MOORE  
of M'Kean County  
For State Senator  
DON GINGERY  
of Clearfield County  
For Representative in General Assembly  
JOHN C. MILLER  
of Ferguson Township.

## JUDGE FLEMING DECLARES

### TAX LAW UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

In a lengthy opinion, handed down last Thursday, Judge Fleming declares the new tax law defective in several sections, as it does not give the alleged property owner his inalienable right of defense against any unjust or illegal assessment of taxes, and therefore in his opinion is unconstitutional, and in his decree makes absolute the rule restraining Lyman L. Smith, county treasurer, from selling any properties for the collection of delinquent taxes.

It will be recalled that just two days prior to the advertised sale of some four or five hundred properties in Centre county for delinquent taxes for the year 1929 J. V. Bowers, of Philipsburg, through his attorney, took out a rule restraining the County Treasurer from selling his property as well as all others advertised. The court granted the rule pending argument and the sale advertised for August 4th was naturally postponed. The case was argued in due time and the court's opinion settles the question of any sale for the time being.

So far as Mr. Bowers, the plaintiff in the case, is concerned, he has gained his point. If the county treasurer, as the defendant, with the support of the county commissioners do not wish to abide by Judge Fleming's decision they, of course, will have the right of appeal to a higher court. As the tax law is a new one on the docket of the State it's constitutionality has not yet been tested, and whether the county commissioners will decide to go to the expense of making a test case of it has not yet been determined.

Judge Fleming's opinion is quite lengthy and deals mostly with the constitutionality of various provisions of the act.

## DELAWARE COUNTY NEGRO

### PAYS MURDER PENALTY.

Arthur Winder, 27-year-old negro of Delaware county, was electrocuted at Rockview penitentiary, Monday morning, for the murder of Jacob Schmidt, a Chester grocer, during an attempt to rob his store on December 26th, 1929. Robert Elliott threw the switch that sent two thousand volts of electricity coursing through Winder's body and five minutes later he was pronounced dead by Dr. W. B. McLaughlin.

Winder was accompanied to the chair by the prison chaplain, Rev. C. F. Laurer, and Rev. L. S. Moore, a colored minister of media. He had nothing to say though on Sunday he confessed to Rev. Moore that he had fired the shot that killed the Chester grocer. Winder was unmarried. His body was claimed and sent to Chester for burial.

The State school employees retirement board, on Tuesday, officially announced the retirement of Miss Ella Levy, of Bellefonte, after a service of thirty-eight years as teacher. Among State employees granted retirement is William Smith, of the Harrisburg State hospital, who is credited with twenty-seven years of service. Mr. Smith at one time was steward at the Nittany Country club and later chef at the track house, at State College.

A break-down of the electrical devices on our typesetting machines on the last two successive Thursdays made it impossible for us to get a lot of local news in type that we would have liked very much to publish.

## FIFTY YEARS AGO

IN CENTRE COUNTY.

Items taken from the Watchman issue of October 1, 1880.

The explosion of a coal oil lamp in Lyon's store, on Monday afternoon last, came near causing a big fire which was fortunately extinguished with probably a loss of one hundred and fifty dollars. The fire companies were on the ground promptly, but their services were not needed.

Mr. Alexander McAfferty was hurt on Saturday last by the accidental falling of a big stone on one of his feet. He has since been compelled to go about with a cane.

Master Mitchell Cunningham, son of Mr. Merty Cunningham, had one of his feet badly hurt, on Monday morning, by letting a bar of pig iron fall on it.

Mrs. P. F. Sturgis, of West Union, Iowa, who was formerly Miss Rachel Irvin, of this county, is in town visiting at the residence of George H. Weaver Esq. Mrs. Sturgis is a sister of Mr. Daniel Irvin, of Julian.

The corner stone of the Reformed church, now being built at the corner of Linn and Spring streets, in this place, will be laid at 10 o'clock Sunday morning, October 10. Rev. E. V. Gearhart D. D., president of the Theological seminary at Lancaster, will preach the sermon.

Cow Lost.—A dark red cow, with dark stripes, belonging to Dr. Dartt. She is about five years old has large horns and medium sized body.

The new Methodist church on Buffalo Run will be dedicated on Sunday.

The Lauth artesian well on the Beck ore bank near Jacksonville was finished last Friday. It is down 448 feet but does not yield as much water as is needed. The well at Taylor bank, at Gatesburg, is down only 244 feet and is throwing 120 gallons per minute.

Wesley Gray, Horace Elder and Daniel Cowher, all of Half Moon, lost their little infants last week from that fatal disease, pneumonia.

Mr. Will Curtin, of Philadelphia, son of Governor Curtin, Democratic nominee for Congress, was in town last week and stayed over until Monday. Mr. Curtin looks exceedingly well and was warmly greeted by his many admiring friends.

The Democratic meeting at Mt. Eagle last Monday night, was largely attended. Messrs. Fortney, Reber and Neff were the orators. Col. P. W. Barnhart presided and Geo. D. Johnson was the secretary.

A terrible fire broke out on the farm in Nittany Valley belonging to Joseph Long, last Tuesday a week. The tenant, Sol Tice, was threshing with a steam appliance and a spark from the engine set fire to the straw. It blazed up so quickly that there was little chance to save anything. 900 bushels of wheat went up in flames along with the barn, corn cribs and nearby sheds. The fire was so hot that six horses that were out in the barnyard were also burned to death.

Miss Annie Burchfield, the young daughter of Register Burchfield, met with a severe accident last Saturday evening. The family had been out for a drive and upon their return she attempted to jump out of the carriage without assistance. In some way her clothing caught and she was thrown onto a stone, rendering her unconscious. Doctor Dobbins was summoned, but it was a long time before she came to. She recovered, however, and is now almost well again. (Editor's Note: Annie is now Mrs. Albert Walton, of Philipsburg. We went to school with her and our impression always was that lucky would be the man for whom she would grow up to pour the breakfast coffee.)

The seventh annual reunion of the veteran soldiers of Centre county at Unionville was a grand success. The special train that left here at 9 o'clock had twelve cars and everyone was so packed that passengers at Milesburg and the intersection couldn't get on. Unionville was ready to meet it and the other specials that came in for her citizens had out done themselves in the way of decorations. The homes of J. Miles Kephart, Mr. Leathers, "Tony's" father, and Dr. Cambridge were wonderful to behold, the way they were decorated. The picnic grounds had been put in good order by a crowd of young men volunteers among whom we learned that Dan'l Peters had done yeoman service. The parade formed on Allegheny street, marched up to Church, out Church to Chestnut and down Chestnut to the grounds. J. C. Hicklen was chief marshal. His assistants were Austin Curtin, J. B. Shipley and Robert Cambridge. Then followed a drum corps, the Pleasant Gap band, Co. B, Bellefonte fencibles, Gregg post G. A. R., Lemont cornet band, Veterans, Washington Cornet band and more veterans. The people of Unionville served dinner to the entire assemblage and words fail us for a proper report of how good it was. Among the notables who were there and spoke were Rev. J. A. Woodcock, Col. D. S. Keller, Capt. Austin Curtin, Ex-Governor Andrew G. Curtin, Rev. W. A. Ridge, Maj. R. H. Foster, D. F. Fortney Esq., Col. D. H. Hastings, Col. James F. Weaver and John Hamilton. Spring Mills was elected as the place for next year's reunion. (Editor's note: The reunion at Spring Mills we attended. It was there that we saw the lady we told you about two years or more ago. She had pre-empted the only rocking chair on the porch of the hotel and vowed all the while that she would never eat a bite in such a "hell hole." If you have forgotten the tale or didn't read it we'll retell it if you write for further information.)

—Read the Watchman and get all the news.



DON GINGERY, OUR CANDIDATE FOR SENATOR.

In Don Gingery the Democrats of this Senatorial District have an inspiring candidate. Sharp as a steel trap, pleasing in personality and a whole cable of live wires Mr. Gingery not only inspires; he enthralls all with whom he comes in contact. He is not a stranger to many Centre county voters for he has been a hardware salesman for many years and visits most of the towns in the county regularly.

He is a son of Dorsey J. Gingery and was born at Woodland, Clearfield county. His father was born at Martha Furnace, this county, and was one of the members of the family so well and popularly known through the upper Bald Eagle valley.

Mr. Gingery was educated at Mercersburg Academy and Ohio Northern University, where he prepared to become a civil and mining engineer. He followed his profession a short time, but was attracted into the fields of salesmanship and ever since has been known as an outstanding business getter. For a while he sold woolen and knit goods with the entire United States as his territory. But such extended traveling kept him out of touch with his home county and he gave that up to take on his present work, which permits him to live in Clearfield and have some home life with his family of four children.

He has been prominently identified with the social, political

and church life of his District. For years he was identified with the N. G. P., having risen from a private to captain and the staff of Gen. Wiley. Commande of the 2nd Brig., N. G. P. He has been chairman of the Democratic committee of Clearfield county, a member of the Democratic State Central Committee and the State Executive committee. He served ably in the Legislature during the 1915 and 1916 sessions. A few years ago his name was favorably mentioned as a probable nominee for Lieutenant Governor of the State.

Mr. Gingery is just the kind of a man we need to represent us in the Senate. He has been around a bit. He knows the game at Harrisburg and he could be counted on not to vote for any legislation with his eyes shut.

He doesn't want to go to the Senate merely to show that his faction of a party controls the 34th District. He wants to go there because he thinks like many of the rest of us, that Pennsylvania needs some Legislators who think more of the people than of building up a machine that will keep them in office perpetually. For that reason, especially, we think Don Gingery should be supported by every Democrat in the District and every Republican who is tired seeing his party being used as if it were the personal political asset of whoever happens to be on top when offices are to be filled.

## ANNUAL DRIVE FOR

### Y. M. C. A. MEMBERSHIPS.

At a special workers meeting, held at the Y. M. C. A. on Monday evening, the following committee was appointed to conduct the annual membership and financial campaign: George Hazel; Frank Crawford and Phil Johnston, assisted by J. K. Johnston and L. C. Heinemann, president and secretary respectively of the "Y."

The first general meeting of all workers will be held on Friday, September 26th, at 6.15 P. M., at which time general plans will be announced, teams will be selected and the work of securing the funds for the coming year will begin in earnest. Supper will be served by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A., Mrs. M. R. Johnson, president.

Business depressions are caused by dissipation, dishonesty, disobedience to God's will—a general collapse of moral character. Statistics show this plainly. With equal precision they show how business depressions are cured. They are cured by moral awakening, spiritual revival, and the rehabilitation of righteousness. The "American Bankers' Association" can provide capital. The "American Statistical Association" can measure results. But the association which goes to the real root of the matter is the "Young Men's Christian Association." This latter has far greater possibilities than the others combined.

To bring back prosperity, people must be "conditioned," as the psychologist says. They must be conditioned in right ways of working and living on all sides of the triangle of physical, mental and spiritual values. The economic welfare of our nation can be directly promoted by supporting our Young Men's Christian Associations. They are indispensable agencies in laying the foundation for better times. Any lessening of support of the Young Men's Christian Association at this critical juncture is like withholding seed at the very moment when all hands are sowing for a life-giving harvest. Business men should to-

BUTLER.—Americus M. Butler, for many years a well known resident of Howard, died at the Lock Haven hospital, at 1.55 o'clock last Saturday afternoon, as the result of collapse, following a serious operation.

He was 74 years of age and was a life-long resident of lower Bald Eagle valley. He followed farming most of his life but retired a number of years ago and moved to Howard. During his residence there he held various borough offices. At the time of his death he was president of the Howard Cemetery Association. He was a member of the Methodist church, Lick Run lodge No. 311 I. O. O. F., and Howard Grange No. 259.

He is survived by his wife, one son and three daughters, Harry Butler, of Howard; Mrs. D. M. Bennett, of Mill Hall; Mrs. G. A. Ekdahl and Miss Carrye, at home. He also leaves one brother, Frank T. Butler, and a half-brother, George Swartz, of Bradford.

Funeral services were held at his late home at 2.30 o'clock, on Tuesday afternoon, by Rev. M. S. Q. Mellott, assisted by Rev. M. R. Yingling. Burial was made in the Schenck cemetery.

WILLIAMS.—Mrs. Bertha Clark Williams, widow of the late Shadrack Williams, died at her home in Unionville, on Wednesday of last week, following a long illness. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Clark and was born in Buffalo Run valley, at her death being 53 years, 4 months and 23 day old. She was a member of the Baptist church.

Her husband died several years ago but surviving her are two children, Clark and Grace Williams, both at home. She also leaves the following brothers and sisters: J. E. Clark, of Lorain, Ohio; George, of Tyrone, Mrs. Mary Pennington, of Altoona; Mrs. James Clark, of Houserville; Mrs. H. K. Mattern, of Julian; Mrs. George Gummo and Mrs. Charles Hartsock, of Buffalo Run; Mrs. H. F. Jackson, of Altoona, and Miss Grace, of Fleming.

Funeral services were held at her late home, in Unionville, at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning, after which burial was made in the Williams cemetery, at Martha Furnace.

NEIDIGH.—Mrs. Mary Neidigh, widow of William Neidigh, died on Sunday evening, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charles Simpson, at Pennsylvania Furnace, as the result of a heart affection, with which she had suffered for some time.

She was a daughter of Jacob and Nancy Johnstonbaugh and was born at Boalsburg on October 19th, 1857, hence was almost 73 years old. Her husband has been dead for some years but surviving her are two daughters, Mrs. Simpson, with whom she made her home, and Mrs. Edward Harris, of Tyrone. She also leaves two brothers and a sister, John Johnstonbaugh, of Bellwood; David, of Altoona, and Mrs. Anna Miller, of Williamsport.

Funeral services were held at two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon by Rev. Charles Rishel, burial being made in the Pine Hall cemetery.

KEPHART.—Miss Dora Kephart, a member of one of the old-time families of Buffalo Run valley, passed away at the family home, at Fillmore, at 1.45 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, following a prolonged illness.

She was the oldest daughter of Caleb H. and Amanda Gray Kephart and was born at Fillmore about 75 years ago. All her life was spent on the home farm. She was a lifelong member of the Methodist church and a woman who had the love and respect of all who knew her. She never married but is survived by one brother and two sisters, S. Gray Kephart and Miss Laura, at home, and Mrs. James Parsons, of Toledo, Ohio.

Funeral services will be held at her late home, at Fillmore, at 10.30 o'clock tomorrow morning, burial to be made in Gray's cemetery.

ROBINSON.—Roy Russell Robinson, of Port Matilda, died at the Philipsburg State hospital, on Saturday, as the result of uremic poisoning. He became ill while working in Nevada, last spring, and came home for treatment, but instead of improving his entire system became infected.

He was the second son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Robinson and was 27 years, 4 months and 25 days old. In addition to his parents he is survived by three brothers and two sisters, Theodore, Lawrence, Harold, Dorothy and Jennie. Funeral services were held by Rev. J. F. Winkler, at 2 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, burial being made in the Presbyterian cemetery, at Port Matilda.

DAVIS.—Mrs. Roxanna Dugan Davis, wife of Paul Davis, died at her home in Washington, D. C., on Sunday, September 14th, following a brief illness. She was a daughter of Edward and Margaret Royer Dugan and was born in Bellefonte 25 years ago. In addition to her husband she is survived by her parents, one sister and four brothers, Charles J. Dugan, of Altoona; Frank, Norman, Elwood and Grace, all at home. The remains were brought to Bellefonte and funeral services held in St. John's Episcopal church, Wednesday of last week, by Rev. Stewart F. Gast, burial being made in the Union cemetery.

## PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM

### GIVEN VALUABLE PAINTING.

An oil portrait of Col. Samuel Miles, of Revolutionary fame, has been presented by the daughters of the late F. Patts Green—Mrs. Kate Dinges, Mrs. James R. Hughes and Miss Emma Green—to Philadelphia for the new Parkway museum which when completed, will be the largest museum in the world.

The portrait is about 16x24 inches in size and was painted from life considerably over one hundred years ago by Charles Wilson Peale, an ancestor of the late Senator S. R. Peale, of Lock Haven. Col. Miles, as stated above, served in the Revolutionary war and was the first mayor of Philadelphia following the revolution. He married Katherine Wister, of Germantown, a member of one of the most prominent Quaker families of that city. Col. Miles spent the greater part of his active life in Philadelphia and was closely identified with the early history of that city, but eventually moved to Centre county and located at Milesburg, that town being named after him. He died in 1805.

Col. Miles was the great, great grandfather of the Green sisters and the oil painting had been handed down through generation after generation until it came into possession of the F. Patts Green family quite a number of years ago. That it is regarded as a valuable historical portrait is evidenced in the fact that the Green sisters have had offers ranging from \$2500 to \$5000 for it, one of which came from the curator of the Yale museum, but because of its historical value to Philadelphia they decided to present it to that city for the Parkway museum.

The portrait was boxed and shipped to Philadelphia several weeks ago at the cost of the museum.

## CENTRE COUNTY NATIVES

### DIE FROM ACCIDENTS.

Two natives of Centre county died last week as the result of accidents. They were Howard W. Fletcher, of Jersey City, and Thomas Irwin, of Woodland, Clearfield county.

Fletcher died of injuries sustained in a fall from a railroad trestle to a paved street below. He was 58 years old and a son of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Fletcher, of Howard. He is survived by his wife, a step-daughter, his father, two sisters, Mrs. J. F. Condo, of Howard, and Mrs. P. A. Louncy, of Vandalla, Mo., and one brother, Walter Fletcher, of Philadelphia. He was buried at Newark, N. J., last Thursday.

Irwin's death occurred on Thursday from injuries sustained in a fall down a flight of stairs in his home when he got up hastily in response to the sounding of a fire alarm. He was 67 years old and a son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Irwin, of Union township. He married Viola Holt, of Unionville, who survives with three children. He also leaves one brother and a sister, Jesse Irwin, of Unionville and Mrs. Thomas Peters, of Hecla. Burial was made at Unionville on Saturday.

## NIGHT-BLOOMING CERESUS

### PROVES BIG ATTRACTION.

A night-blooming cereus at the home of Mr. and Mrs. David R. Foreman, on north Spring street, proved a big attraction for "the neighbors" on Wednesday night of last week. The flower began to open shortly after six o'clock in the evening and was not in full bloom until about midnight, when it was about as large as a breakfast plate, with a penetratingly sweet fragrance. Two more buds on the plant opened on Thursday and Friday nights but they were not nearly as perfect in flower as the first one. In fact the last one did not open more than about one-third of the way.

Mrs. Foreman's plant grew from a small ship she secured five years ago and now stands five feet in height. There is a prevailing belief that the plant will flower only once in twenty years, but this is a myth. It will flower every year if it receives the proper attention.

The night-blooming cereus is a member of the cactus family and naturally is native of the hot desert, where it thrives in profusion. When the plant has matured, from three to five years old, the buds are set during a hot, dry spell. Then the rainy season causes them to burst into bloom. Similar treatment with the domesticated plant will bring blooms every year.

## BUSINESS BLOCK BURNED

### IN PHILIPSBURG.

Philipsburg had a disastrous fire, on Tuesday morning, when the big A. B. Lansberry hardware store and the store of the Jones Hardware company were completely destroyed, with all their contents, entailing an estimated loss of \$200,000. The fire started in a shed along the Pennsylvania railroad and spread rapidly to the main store building. Firemen from all nearby towns responded to a call for assistance. All the property was partially covered by insurance.

—Always we expect rain in the equinoctial season. And yesterday expectations were fulfilled.

—Subscribe for the Watchman.