

Talks with the Editor

This column is to be an open forum. Everybody is invited to make use of it to express whatever opinion they may have on any subject. Nothing libelous will be published, though we will give the public the widest latitude in invective when the subject is this paper or its editor. Contributions will be signed or initialed, as the contributor may desire.—ED.

Oh! What's the Use?

It is difficult to find words to give expression, as to how we feel about this general depression, just when we think the end is surely in sight, someone comes along and cuts the string of our kite. We work hard our list of stocks to increase, then the mail brings word that dividends will cease, strict vigilance of our small savings never relaxes, but the same mail brings notice of an increase in taxes. About the time we think wifery can have a new dress or two, we are notified the premium on the insurance is due. When we think luck has changed and is coming our way, other-in-law drops in for a six month's stay.

Radio says the market is moving in an upward trend, but this good news true, are our troubles to end? Well, hardly, for just as we're ready to sing and shout, our broker wires "Send more margin or we'll close you out."

The coal bin is empty, the house needs a coat of paint, when we add up our expenses we really grow faint, soon there'll be little bread and absolutely no cake, we'll get so hungry won't know if we have back or belly ache.

In the morning we start in resolved to do or bust, but when evening comes our hopes lie crumbled in the dust, thus it goes from bad to worse the whole month long, trouble and hard times are still with us and going strong.

When we hear it is always darkest just before the dawn, with that slight encouragement we go struggling on, and when at last prosperity seems to be in our possession, we get the hardest jolt of all—CONGRESS IS AGAIN IN SESSION.

C. B. WILLIAMS.

Westfield, N. J., December 14, 1931.

Major Lederer an Avowed Candidate for Congress.

Major Eugene H. Lederer, business of State College, is out as a candidate for Congress in this district with the following declaration of principles:

Believing that our present national situation is a result of patriotic sacrifices, and not the satisfaction of political ambition, I offer my services, subject to popular approval, as the Republican candidate for Congressman from this Congressional district.

I am in favor of bringing America back home. Our forefathers lit the greatest and happiest nation of people the world has ever known. In the World War we made gigantic sacrifices of lives and money to "Save Democracy." Since that time we have been gradually losing our freedom of individual effort and opportunity. Too much of a European spirit and ideals have crept into our life-blood. We must surrender our American common sense for European theories, and should we retain the expression of the "Golden Rule" in our daily life, in exchange for European efficiency. Ours is a Republican form of government and Americans must be treated in the American way, as free-born individuals, capable of self government. The sooner we banish the European spirit from our political being, the sooner we are sure that no caste system will ever be established in this land of freedom.

Central Pennsylvania should be the most prosperous section in the United States. The Creator has blessed us with all the resources necessary to make people contented and prosperous. Where else can you find in one section coal, timber, fertile valleys, and an abundance of water? Yet with all these attributes of prosperity, thousands of e-bodied men, eager to work, are eiving undesired charity. There is st something radically wrong in any economic system that is subject to such conditions.

The back-bone of our country is agriculture, even though there are those who try to make us believe that we have become industrial. Our agriculture is struggling under a great burden of taxation, due almost entirely to the fact that food commodities are selling far below actual costs of production. To small extent is this condition due to government interference. The government should have foreseen that there would be an enormous overproduction of food commodities following the World War which raised forms of production to unprecedented heights. The government has it a near-fatal blow to agriculture by attempting to stabilize prices. I believe that it should withdraw from such practices at the least possible moment.

The government has taken the responsibility of running our banking business through the Federal Reserve system. This System did

much to finance the war and since then a great deal more to finance our late friends and enemies. When will it help finance the American business-man, the American farmer, and American home-owner? Did you ever hear of real estate or lands being called "Frozen Assets" before the international Bankers took it upon themselves to use American money and institutions for their purposes. The concentration of wealth and capital into the Federal Reserve "Wall Street" is gradually eliminating the small manufacturer, farmer and merchant from the scene of our American life.

If the Federal Reserve system allows its member banks to use, in advertising, its name to instill confidence, then the government of the United States should guarantee deposits and savings accounts. And if the Federal Board persists in assuming a dictatorial attitude towards its members, then it should also assume the responsibility of protecting these members from receivership. If our government is in the banking business, the people should be protected from losses. Is it not as honorable to protect the savings accounts of the children and workers of our land as it is to be charitable to Europe? If we must have a Federal Reserve system, let it function for the benefit and protection of the whole country, and not as a tool for the powerful investment banks of New York. As the centralization of government deprives the people of the right of self government, so the centralization of money deprives the individual of initiative.

Socially, the future holds little for our youth except to "get a job." Each year finds the professional and business opportunities limited to smaller and smaller fields. Mergers and more mergers are being formed and they limit the fields in which our youth can enter and establish individual enterprises.

The government with its numerous bureaus and commissions is making our political structure top-heavy with bureaucratic government. This paternal spirit which is constantly advising the farmers how to raise more grain and the mothers how to raise their babies should devise some means for the farmer to profitably dispose of his grain and the poverty-stricken mothers to feed their babies. And the ex-serviceman should be able to find a bed for his ill that came to him through his efforts to "Save Democracy." Let these bureaus and commissions direct their efforts toward finding jobs for the miners, steel-workers, mechanics, and laborers. Let these agencies, if we must have them, function for the greatest benefit of the masses rather than be research bureaus for the great and mighty.

The Constitution of the United States was established and ordained by the people. The first duty of a Legislator is to enact into the law the will of the majority of the people. He is the servant of the people in the Congress of the United States; to provide for the common defense; to insure domestic tranquility, to promote the general welfare and to secure blessings of liberty for Americans for all time to come. The remedy is in our hands by putting men into Congress who will see that we get justice and a fair deal.

I firmly believe that all the attributes of prosperity lie within the confines of our own country, and that by using our good American common-sense, with which the Creator has amply endowed us, we will again enjoy the liberty and happiness which is our birthright.

EUGENE H. LEDERER, State College, Pa.

Mr. Camp's Cheerful Philosophy. "HERE'S TO 1932"

Tyrone, Pa., Jan 6, 1932.

"We have passed through a panic, suffered from a crash on the stock market, and are now more than half way through the depression, and I am still rich.

It may be true that I have much less to live on than I had a year ago, but it is certainly true that I have just as much as ever to live for. The real values of life are unshaken and solid.

The depression has not lowered the value of a single friendship. Neighbors still greet us in the same old cordial way, business associates believe in us, and our sons hold us in high respect. The wife's welcome at the close of the day has not depreciated in the least, and our daughters continue to lavish their affection on us with the same old extravagance.

My faith in the goodness of God is unshaken. By that faith I am emboldened as I face defeat and despair. The prayers my mother taught me and the faith in God instilled in me by a devout father remain as priceless treasures no depression can touch.

No nation becomes great by becoming rich. Neither does a man find enduring satisfaction in life by owning something—only by becoming something. The most degrading poverty is that which results from killing the spirit that the body may be served.

This depression is a challenge, not a catastrophe. A generation that has conquered the air and sent planes circling the globe, which has plunged into the deeps and disported on the ocean's floor, which has climbed above the clouds and lived in the stratosphere, is now faced with the challenge to rise above its dependence on mere things and seek an emancipation of the spirit of man.

A financial crisis can wipe out profits and bring business to a standstill, but character is beyond its reach. It can rob us of all we have, but it cannot affect what we are. The deepest satisfaction of life—those which come from sharing and serving—remain secure.—I am still rich because I am independent—rich—none of my wealth depends upon business conditions or market reports."

H. L. CAMP

Mr. Camp is general manager of The Wilson Products Company, one of Tyrone's most stable and successful industries. It is a fine spirit that feels that it is rich merely because it has just as much to live for as ever and if all of us could catch it we think the corner that Old Man Depression is hiding around would soon be reached.—Editor's Note.

Hugh Awakens Old Memories.

Ventnor, N. J., Dec. 22, 1931. Dear Geo:

I wish you all a Merry X-mas and a Happy New Year. I enclose a \$1.00 bill for "Wesley." You will remember Wesley and I were in the same Sunday School class, "Wide Awakes", and graduated about 1898, you being our teacher.

Sincerely HUGH N. CRIDER

We had forgotten the period in our life that Hugh recalls, but both he and Wesley are to be congratulated that they escaped the calamitous effects of our poor attempt at teaching Holy Writ. While a Senior at State College we taught a class of very promising boys. In June, 1890, we graduated and came to this office to work as a reporter. In pursuit of news we ventured into the court house to report the following August term of court and there we beheld eight of the ten members of our State College Sunday School class being sentenced to the Huntington Reformatory for chicken stealing. We knew then that Sunday School teaching was not our calling and are surprised that we ever had the temerity to attempt it again.—Editor's Note.

A Voice from the South.

Hartsville, N. C., Jan. 5, 1932. Dear Watchman:

Hope you and your family are well and enjoyed the holidays, just past.

My, I laugh 'til the tears run down my cheeks at the way you go for Governor Fincher. Do you think Al Smith will make another try for the Presidency or do you believe he has lost heart? Governor Roosevelt would make an excellent man and as for Hoover I think it is high time for him to retire. In fact the sooner he does it the better it will be for the country. You certainly give him all that is coming to him, too.

I pass the Watchman around to my neighbors here in Hartsville and though all are strangers to Bellefonte they all clamor for the good old sheet.

JAMES A. McCAFFERTY

Being Irish, of course Jim writes with a Blarney Stone in his hand. We do not think that Al Smith has lost heart, nor do we think he will be a candidate for the nomination for President this year.—Editor's Note.

We Are Hoping That Charley's Wishes Come True.

Wadsworth, O., Dec. 14, 1931. Democratic Watchman Dear Friend:

Here's wishing that the bugle will sound truce to all your cares, disappointments and sorrows and that peace, joy and good will may prevail with you throughout the glad season and the coming year.

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year! Yours CHARLEY DANNLEY

Not a Bad Fault, at That.

Penna. Furnace, Pa., Dec 15-31. Dear Friend:

Having passed my 86th birthday anniversary I am getting to the time in life when people are a little slow. Perhaps that will account for my delay in sending in my renewal subscription.

What I now find wrong with your paper is that it is so interesting that it makes it seem so long from one Friday until the next.

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season I am Yours JOHN B. GOHEEN

The letter from Mr. Goheen is only one of very many we received during the closing period of the old year. The expressions of appreciation of the Watchman and esteem for those who produce it quite overwhelmed us. They were the real bright spots in our Christmas season, because they assured us that while we had little else we did have the priceless friendship of many, many persons whose friendship is not bestowed on those unworthy of it.

We would like to publish all of these letters, but since lack of space precludes that we here express sincere gratitude for everyone of them.—Editor's Note.

The officers and directors of the Centre county Association of Philadelphia held a meeting in the office of William S. Furst Esq., on Tuesday of last week, and decided to pass the annual banquet this year. The regular picnic will be held in June, as usual, according to the announcement of John C. C. Beales secretary.

KNOW YOUR MOTOR CODE

In calling attention to the perils attendant upon coasting the Keystone Automobile Club points out that the practice is prohibited by the Vehicle Code. Section 1024 of the Code provides that the driver of any vehicle when traveling upon a down grade upon any highway shall not coast, with the gears of such vehicle in neutral or the clutch disengaged. The penalty for violation is a fine of \$10, or five days' imprisonment in default.

The Department of Highways has spent thousands of dollars in the erection of warning signs on dangerous hills," says the Club statement. "These signs are provided for the protection of the motoring public. Every Pennsylvania motorist, through license fees and gasoline tax, has contributed to their cost. It would seem logical that the motorist ought to observe a warning that he has paid for; yet many drivers ignore the signs, to their own peril and that of other users of the highway. "The safe rule for motorists, regardless of the presence of signs is to go into second gear when in doubt about the steepness of a hill. This is particularly true in winter, when the roads are wet or icy. It is much easier to control a car in second gear than in high gear. "But regardless of condition, coasting should always be avoided."

PATROL MILEAGE

TOTALS 5,408,429 MILES

Capt. Wilson C. Price, superintendent of the Pennsylvania State highway patrol, announced that the organization has patrolled 5,408,429 miles of highways since the first of the year. The report covers the first eleven months of 1931. Last month the mileage covered totaled 300,212 miles. The November report shows 6870

investigations of accidents and complaints made last month. Investigations made this year number 76,601. In November, patrolmen gave 71,209 warnings without arrest and 515,271 since January 1. In the first eleven months of the year the patrol collected fines amounting to \$369,609. Last month's collections were \$27,158.

—Read the Watchman and get all the news worth reading

Roger Babson, the noted Economist, who in 1929 predicted the collapse of prices, says:

"The worst is definitely over. Business is on the way back.

"Prosperity will return when fifty-one per cent. of the people get right spiritually—Have Faith! Work, Love, Pray; do good. Do not hoard money."

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IT'S AT

FAUBLE'S

The Charred Match

CHARLIE, the hired man, hunted for the liniment. Old Nell was limping again. It was dark on the barn floor, but Charlie struck a match and found the bottle, tossing the charred match-end aside.

Before he had finished with Nell, a thin whisp of smoke was curling from the barn door. It grew quickly to a billowing cloud. Then Charlie heard the crackle.

"Fire!" He rushed to the farmhouse and seized the telephone. "Fire at Farmer Blake's!" he shouted to the operator.

The alarm was spread. Neighbors raced to the rescue. The town's fire company clanged along the highway. Working feverishly, Charlie and Farmer Blake drove out the livestock and battled the flames. Then help came and the worst was over. Once more the telephone had saved the day!

The modern farm home has a telephone



Farm 2

Good Printing

A SPECIALTY at the WATCHMAN OFFICE

There is no style of work, from the cheapest "Dodger" to the finest

BOOK WORK that we can not do in the most satisfactory manner, and at prices consistent with the class of work. Call on or communicate with this office.

Employers, This Interests You

The Workman's Compensation Law went into effect Jan. 1, 1916. It makes insurance compulsory. We specialize in placing such insurance. We inspect Plants and recommend Accident Prevention Safe Guards which Reduce Insurance Rates. It will be to your interest to consult us before placing your Insurance.

JOHN F. GRAY & SON State College Bellefonte

MODERN WOMEN

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