

STRONGEST BANK IN THE COUNTY

Capital \$100,000 Undivided Profits \$30,000 Surplus \$150,000

First National Bank, OF BLOOMSBURG, PA.

3 Per Cent. Interest Allowed on Savings Deposits

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DIRECTORS:

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1907

THE BOOK TRUST.

A Harrisburg special says: "Pennsylvania's annual appropriation of \$7,500,000 for schools, independent of what counties and cities expend individually, was attacked in a speech there recently by Matthew H. Stevenson, Prohibitionist candidate for state treasurer. He declared the state outlay has jumped perceptibly since the American Book trust was formed, and intimated that disclosures interesting as the state capitol exposures might follow an inquiry into where and how the millions the state gives are spent. Stevenson charged that thousands of dollars of this money are expended in enormous purchases from the book trust, and men of utter unfitness are clamoring for the unsalaried positions on school boards. Why, Stevenson asked, are these unsalaried jobs so sought after? I know a school director in a small Washington county town who has received from the book trust enough books to start a college. They did not cost him a cent. Another school director, living back twelve miles from the railroad in an old shack of a home, has a new \$12 Webster's dictionary resting on a highly polished stand, the whole worth about \$25. It was a present from the book trust."

Dead Letter Office Swamped.

Fourth Assistant Postmaster General DeGraw is a sad and almost discouraged man. Ever since he has occupied his present post, in which he has charge of the Dead Letter Office, he has had an ambition to bring the business of that office up to date. With this end in view he has kept the clerks of the office under steady and heavy pressure week in and week out, compelling them to work themselves almost to shadows.

Finding the clerks could not realize his ambition, work hard as they might, he added to the force the clerks from two other sections of his office that had been abolished. Then he began to see daylight and glowed with the re-awakened hope that soon the dead letters of each day would be disposed of in one way or another before the day was done. Lower and lower the accumulated piles of misdirected mail grew, and finally Friday they were reduced to a point where it seemed that the next day would see the office with no work undisposed of.

Mr. DeGraw went home that night proud of his great achievement, for never before in the history of the Dead Letter Office had any Fourth Assistant Postmaster General come so near catching up with the mistakes of the letter-writing public. But there was such a difference Saturday morning.

Shortly after Mr. DeGraw took his seat at his desk Colonel James Rankin Young, of Philadelphia, chief of the Dead Letter Office, reported that the New York city post-office had forwarded it one awful consignment of 40,000 pieces of misdirected mail. Mr. DeGraw has abandoned hope of ever getting the business of the office up to date.

LESSON FOR DEMOCRATS.

In the campaign just ended there is a lesson which the Democrats of Pennsylvania should study carefully. It is the utter and absolute insincerity of so-called independent Republicans. The average Republican is a bitter and bigoted partisan. There are exceptions, of course, for they are necessary to prove the rule, but the vast majority of Republicans who profess reforms are simply disappointed place hunters who make a false pretense of reform in the hope that it will accelerate their progress into office and promote selfish and usually absurd ambitions. The recent campaign revealed these facts clearly.

Two years ago these so-called independent Republicans joined with the Democrats in the support of a Democrat for State Treasurer. It was claimed by those concerned in the government that they were influenced by purely patriotic motives but that may be doubted for a year later they came like hucksters demanding a price for their wares. We must have the head of the ticket, they said inferentially, or else we will return to the machine and everlastingly destroy all chances of permanent reform for years to come. Their demands were allowed and a fight for the place ensued resulting in the nearly half which met defeat going back to the machine. This year there being but one office to fill and no chance for dealing, the other half went back without even a ceremonial farewell.

The lesson to Democrats is to make no future combinations with selfish and sordid hypocrites professing reform. Men of the Mahlon N. Kline type, for example, have no conception of unselfish patriotism. They have an inordinate and insatiable thirst for office and like the Republicans of New York in the recent campaign would combine with any gang of crooks or plunderers who would promise them reward for their recreancy in the shape of office. Mr. Kline and those of his kind would gladly follow Durham, McNichol and Penrose if there were a prospect of a share of the plunder at the end of the journey.—Belleville Watchman.

What Will Congress Do?

Prices of all kinds of necessities of life continue to advance and are readily approaching the point that is inaccessible to most families. Even men of moderate means are forced to gravely consider the question of supplying the table. It used to be said that American mechanics had meat at every meal while those in Europe were fortunate if they got meat at their Sunday dinner. There is danger of the European cuisine being forced upon us because of the excessive prices of necessities. We must have vegetables, bread, shoes and raiment whether we have meat or not and we are being compelled to a choice in the matter.

All the high prices are not the result of tariff taxation but most of them are ascribable to that evil. Tariff taxation increases the cost of production in every line. Farm implements, tools, stable equipment and everything else used on the farm are increased in cost by tariff taxation. The producer fixes the prices of farm commodities by the cost of production and the consumer pays the price at the last analysis. As Mr. Havemyer, president of the sugar trust testified, the tariff is the mother of trusts and trusts are the agents through which exorbitant prices are fixed and forced upon the people.

Congress will meet three weeks from next Monday and if the majority of that body is so inclined a revision of the tariff that will remedy the evil may be completed by the middle of January. It will not be necessary to resort to free trade. In fact that would neither be desirable, nor possible, for tariff taxation is necessary to meet the fixed charges of the government. But there can be such a modification of the tariff schedules, within that time, as to bring prices to a just level without impairing the fair profits of the producer. Will the coming Congress perform this service for the people?—Belleville Watchman.

How to Make Money.

If you have an hour to spare each day, write to the Circulation Department of The Philadelphia Press, Philadelphia. State what paper you read this in and they will send you a handsome book of advice that will tell you how to make more money for a little work you can perform, easier than anything you ever tried before in your life. You can verify this statement for the price of a postal card. DO IT TODAY—NOW.

Automobiles and Scared Horses.

The all pervading automobile has contributed an entirely new form of activity and interest to life. It has brought with it many advantages and some drawbacks. The reckless drivers of motor cars have led to the attempts, not always wise to regulate and restrain the movement of automobiles on the highways.

In Indiana the Legislature has endeavored to give those riding on or behind horses some protection from automobiles. It passed a law providing that the driver of an automobile on meeting anyone riding, driving or leading animals shall stop his automobile "upon request or signal by putting up the hand from any such person or persons so riding, leading or driving." A case arose where an automobile met a nervous horse drawing a buggy containing two girls. One of the girls was driving and giving her whole mind and both hands to the vain attempt to control the frightened horse. The other girl signaled the driver of the automobile to stop. He did not stop. The result was disastrous, and the question arose, was the automobile liable to the penalties for disregarding the automobile signaling law?

The lower court thought he was not, because the one driving the horse made no signal. The Supreme Court reversed this decision, and held that the automobilist violated the law when he did not stop on the signal of the other girl in the buggy. In the judgment of the Court those who are riding in a conveyance, though not holding the reins, are "driving" in the popular use of the term. This is an instance where a Court reads sense into a law which the framers of the act unintentionally left out. The signal is the thing, not the particular person who gives it. The driver of a frightened horse is incapacitated from signaling very much, whereas a passenger is free to wave both arms, and instinctively does so if there is any chance of checking thereby the cause of the horse's alarm.

We have no such law in this State, yet most drivers of automobiles will not disregard signals to stop. Usually he will not wait for a signal if he sees that his machine is likely to cause a runaway. He will avoid causing any such catastrophe if he can, but if, like the man in Indiana, he speeds ahead regardless of consequences and indifferent to the signals he would doubtless find that the victims of his recklessness are not remediless, even though the statutes of the State are silent on that point.—Ex.

Bloomsburg Souvenir Books, 48 half tone pictures, 25 cents, at the COLUMBIAN office.

Exposition Deep in "Hole."

Owes at Least \$1,000,000 More Than Assets Are Worth.

The Jamestown Exposition owes at least \$1,000,000 more than its assets are worth, and the directors are seriously worried over what to do about it. The suggestion that the Exposition be reopened next year is still before a committee of the directors, and a report will be made at a special meeting of the directors on November 15.

A financial statement of the Exposition shows liabilities of \$2,400,000, as follows: Due the Government on the \$1,000,000 loan, \$900,000; due on the Exposition first mortgage bonds, \$400,000; due on current liabilities, \$668,000; due on stock subscriptions to Exposition, \$432,000. The assets include \$600,000, estimated value of the sewerage, etc., and \$500,000 in unpaid stock subscriptions collectable, which would leave a debit of something over \$1,000,000, if the assets are realized upon as estimated.

Federal Judge Waddill has declined to enjoin the disposition of the \$200,000 unnegotiated bonds of the Exposition \$400,000 bond issue, on the ground that there was no necessity at this time for such an injunction. This leaves the Bankers' Committee, on whose hands the \$200,000 in bonds remain, to negotiate or dispose of them.

The Court held that John Monk, who has a claim of \$17,000 against the Exposition, and who sought to enjoin the disposition of the \$200,000 in bonds, is sufficiently protected.

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If you're seeking something in the line of garments--a little more nobby--a little more individual than the average clothier shows, you'll find it here.

We are proud of our line of SUITS,

Overcoats and Rain Coats.

It proves to us that our selections were just right.

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Right at this time when good housewives are buying Furniture and Kitchen Ware, our extra values will make this store the mecca for nearly all of them.

Now just a word as to this Furniture. We only ask that you look all around—compare ours with other stock and we feel confident of your verdict—"I CAN DO BETTER AT PURSEL'S."

And the Kitchen Helps—we can only mention a few in the space of course, but if you have a need in that line come here. We will save you money every time.

Furniture.

- Rocking Chairs 1.50 to 15.00. Parlor and Library Tables 1.50 to 22.50. Buffets 20.00 to 39.50. Side Boards 10.00 to 35.00. China Closets 20.00 to 40. Extension Tables 5.00 to 35.00. Dining Chairs 4.50 to 25.00 a Set. Couches 6.75 to 39.00. Chiffoniers 6.00 to 22.50. Bed Room Suits 16.50 to \$100. White Enameled and Brass Beds 5.00 to 35.00.

Kitchen Helps

A full and complete line of the justly celebrated Eidlweiss cooking ware 10c to 1.50. Rochester Nickle ware in Chafing dishes, tea and coffee pots, syrup jugs and what not—all guaranteed. Scrub Brushes 10c to 25c. White Wash Brushes 25c to 50c. Wisp Brooms 10 to 25c.

Kitchen Helps

- Floor Brushes 1.00 to 1.50. Wall Brushes 60c. Stove Brushes 15 to 25c. Washing Machines 7.50 to 9.50. Clothes Wringers 1.75 to 3.50. Carpet Sweepers 1.75 to 2.75. Cedar Wash Tubs, (three sizes) 90c., 1.35 and 1.75. Painted Pine wash tubs 75 to 90c. Galvanized wash tubs 80, 90 and 1.00. Wash Boards 15 to 40c. Wood Scrub Buckets 20c. Galvanized Buckets, 10 qt. size 20c., 12 qt. size 25c. Fibre water buckets 35c. Heavy Tin water buckets, 12 qt. size 40c., 14 qt. 50c. Enameled water buckets 38 to 90c. Heavy Tin Wash Boilers (with lid) No. 8 for 1.25 and No. 9 for 1.35. Heavy Tin Wash Boilers, copper bottom, No. 8 for 1.35 and No. 9 for 1.50. All copper Wash Boilers \$3

F. P. PURSEL.

BLOOMSBURG, PENN'A.

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