

GREASY GRILLS RECREANT INDEPENDENT REPUBLICANS

Criticises Action of a Few Who
Have Declared for Sheatz
on Insufficient Grounds.

Shows That the Machine Republican
Candidate Was Always Servile and
Obedient.—He Was Against Roosevelt
at a Crucial Time and Against
Good Government Legislation All
the Time.

(Special Correspondence.)

Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 30.

There is an element among the independent Republicans of Pennsylvania which is already "weary of well doing." This was to be expected. In the history of time there has never been a movement involving a considerable number of men which did not develop some recreants. Even the church is frequently embarrassed in its work by the bad behaviour of some professors of Christianity. Such incidents do not permanently retard the work of the Church, however. The delinquents are set aside and the civilizing and Christianizing processes go on.

Recently there has been no more promising movement in the interest of civic improvement than that which organized under the title of the Lincoln Party in this State. It was composed, in the main, of strong and earnest men influenced essentially by the spirit of progress and directed by conscience and patriotism. Such a force could not fail to command popular respect and draw public favor. That was probably its greatest danger. It attracted the support of a lot of self-seeking politicians who hoped to ride into office on the crest of its wave of popularity.

There are men of respectable antecedents and considerable means who would crack a safe if they imagined there was a commission for some public office inside which they could seize. They have an inordinate and insatiable thirst for office. Some of that sort got into the Lincoln party and because their expectation of office was not realized, they are now hurrying back to the machine. A few of them recently held a meeting in Philadelphia and decided that they would support Sheatz. They imagine that such action will please Roosevelt and get them something. False Promises and Wrong Conclusions.

These fellows, or part of them, have issued a letter addressed to the independent Republicans in which they say that the nomination of Sheatz was "a concession to decent Republicanism;" that "the good of the State will be best promoted" by his election; that such a result of the vote "will promote the overthrow of Penrose" and that it will be an "endorsement of the Roosevelt policies." It would be difficult to imagine anything more absurd. The election of Sheatz is absolutely essential to the success of Penrose's plans for next year.

How could it be otherwise? Sheatz was nominated by a convention absolutely controlled by Penrose. The fact that it was presided over by Harry F. Walton of Philadelphia is ample proof of that fact. But it doesn't depend on that evidence alone. The important thing to Penrose was control of the organization. Appreciation of this fact was shown last year in the demand for the retirement from the Chairmanship of the State Committee of Mr. Penrose's Private Secretary. The convention which nominated Sheatz unanimously re-elected Wesley R. Andrews.

The action of these so-called independent Republicans is recreancy of the worst type. But it wasn't the greatest blunder they made. The sending of a copy of their absurd letter to Hon. William T. Cressy enjoys that distinction. It gave Cressy an opportunity to expose their stupidity and hypocrisy. They have betrayed their associates in the movement of the last two years, they have misrepresented facts with respect to the movement and in relation to Sheatz and they have written themselves down as political mercenaries and adventurers.

Mr. Cressy's Proper Reply.

Here is Mr. Cressy's reply to the Benjamin Tate was in town Wednesday installing Bell telephones.

letter signed by Mahlon N. Klins, Chairman, and Cyrus D. Foss, Jr., Secretary:

Catawissa, Pa., Oct. 23.
Mr. Mahlon N. Klins, Chairman, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of October 19th, containing reasons why the cause of good government would be conserved by the election of John O. Sheatz to the office of State Treasurer, against John G. Harman. No doubt you have requested me to join you in an appeal to independent Republicans in furtherance of that proposition, because I was one of your candidates for State office last year and for the reason of my identity in the past, in and out of the Legislature, with movements in the interest of those reforms which you profess to advocate.

You say that at the last two general elections thousands of Republicans opposed the candidates of their party because it was controlled by a group of corrupt politicians for their own selfish ends; that the result led to the election of Mr. Berry, the nomination of Stuart, inspired the capital investigation, the arrest and indictment of the conspirators and finally, the nomination of John O. Sheatz to State Treasury. I have not quoted literally.

Mr. Berry Alone Achieved Results.

You will pardon me if I am unable to agree either with your premises or conclusions. The election of Mr. Berry alone brought about the specific results you earthed the gigantic capital frauds and if he had not been retarded by an unfriendly administration, the grafters would have been prosecuted long ago. The nomination of Mr. Stuart was certainly no reform movement, for it was notoriously dictated by Senator Penrose; while his election has resulted in the retention in office of all the gangsters of the old Quay regime. Even Stott, who as Secretary of the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings, covered up the grafting operations, is still a clerk in the office of the Auditor General, and in the enjoyment of the confidence of the machine leaders. Is it not a fact that the same corrupt politicians are still in control of the party, and using it as before, for their own selfish ends?

You add that "the policies of President Roosevelt's administration have the enthusiastic support of all independent Republicans," and pledge to him "for the future, as in the past, our hearty support." You will probably recall the fact that in 1905 when President Roosevelt's most cherished policy was in its crucial stage, a resolution pledging him the moral support of Pennsylvania was introduced into the Legislature, and Mr. Sheatz voted against it. Only a few days ago he declared in a speech at Pittsburg that he is in cordial sympathy with the movement to nominate Senator Knox for President, who not only doesn't reflect the Roosevelt policy but was conspicuous among those in the Senate who were denounced by President Roosevelt as railroad lawyers. Mr. Harman, who was a member of the House at the time, voted for the resolution.—(See Legislative Record, session of 1905, page 234.)

The System Rather Than Men.

You say: "We regard Boise Penrose as the centre and mainspring of the group of corrupting, contracting and corporate influences which have so long dominated the politics of the State." In my opinion Senator Penrose is not more the centre of this system than was Quay or those who preceded him. The evil is not so much men as the system. The citadel of the power of the system is the State Treasury. We have been striving for years to destroy the system and by the election of Mr. Berry two years ago temporarily achieved that result. Your proposition to elect Mr. Sheatz will restore the system and entrench it, because he owes his nomination to the machine and must depend upon it for his election. On the other hand the election of Mr. Harman will continue the policies of Mr. Berry and make perpetual the triumph of civic righteousness which his election secured.

You say that the nomination of John O. Sheatz by the Republican State convention was a concession forced by decent Republicanism, unavoidably and bitterly distasteful to the management that sought to retain power.

Senator Penrose controlled the convention which nominated Mr. Sheatz as absolutely as any party boss ever controlled a caucus. He dictated the platform, selected the presiding officer, censored the speeches and what is of the greatest significance, he held the organization in his own hands by the re-election of his private secretary to the office of Chairman of the State Committee.

You say that Mr. Sheatz is as truly one of us as if we had given the votes that nominated him.

It is a well-known fact that Mr. Sheatz is playing both sides. The Penrose people declare confidently that Mr. Sheatz is with them. You say he is against them. But why is he silent? A man's position can best be defined by himself. Let Mr. Sheatz talk to the public into the concrete and frankly announce whether he is for or against Penrose for Senator.

Your letter, in short, conveys the idea that your main concern is to re-enter the machine organization. Recent experience has perfectly proved that minority representation in the State administration is of the highest value. Plain business principles require checks of this sort, and the election of John G. Harman will accomplish that result. It will destroy the system absolutely and save the people of the State millions of dollars.

Sheatz's Record Revealed.

You say that in 1905, prior to the reform movement of that year, Sheatz stood alone in the State Legislature in urging the passage of ballot reform and personal registration acts. The only ballot reform bill introduced during the session of 1905 was "read in place" by Representative Fynewald and it was supported by the Democrats and by a few Republicans. Sheatz introduced a personal registration act with the apologetic "by request" attached.

I have served in the Legislature during all the time of Mr. Sheatz's membership there. He voted for a few inessential measures and against vitally important ones. But he was not a militant reformer by a long way. On the contrary he voted with the machine. Usually the exceptions only proved the rule of his servility to the machine. Sheatz voted against the Philadelphia "ripper" but served the machine by voting against an amendment which would have destroyed its evil effects.

I do not concur in your opinion that the good of the State will be subserved by the election of Mr. Sheatz, or that such a result of the election will promote the overthrow of Penrose. On the contrary, to my mind, it will entrench Mr. Penrose impregnable in his position as party boss. In view of these facts I am constrained to support John G. Harman for State Treasurer, and believe that his election will guarantee the results which you pretend to aim for.

Very truly yours,

W. T. CRESSY.

LOCALS.

All praise to the weatherman.

On account of the illness of Mrs. Daniel Rossman, of York, her parents, Mr. and John C. Bible went to that place Thursday of last week. Mr. Bible returned Monday, leaving his wife to take care of the daughter.

The Willard Bazaar is advertised in this issue. This is the up-to-date store in Bellefonte, and it will be to the reader's advantage to carefully read the Willard Bazaar advertisement, and then go to the store and reap the profits.

Commissioner J. L. Dunlap drove to Coburn the other day to consult with Commissioner J. C. Weaver on business that came before the board. Mr. Weaver, who had not been able to be at the court house on account of illness, is able to be up and about his home, but at this writing has not risked going to the county seat, fearing the after consequences of the attack of typhoid fever.

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APPLICATION FOR CHARTER.—Notice is hereby given that an application for charter will be made to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on Friday, the 15th day of November, A. D. 1907, by J. G. Spangler, Wallace Wilson and John Meyer, under an Act of Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations," approved April 24, 1874, and the supplements thereto, for the charter of an intended corporation to be called CENTRE HALL ELECTRIC COMPANY. The character and object thereof is the supplying of light, heat and power to the public in the Borough of Centre Hall, in the County of Centre, Pennsylvania, and to such persons, firms, associations and corporations therein and adjacent thereto as may desire the same, and for those purposes to have, possess and enjoy all the rights, benefits and privileges of said Act of Assembly and its supplements.
W. H. & J. S. WOODS,
C. C. BREWSTER, Solicitors.

APPLICATION FOR CHARTER.—Notice is hereby given that an application for charter will be made to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on Friday, the 15th day of November, A. D. 1907, by J. G. Spangler, Wallace Wilson and A. Walters under an Act of Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations," approved April 21, 1874, and the supplements thereto, for the charter of an intended corporation to be called PENNSYLVANIA VALLEY ELECTRIC COMPANY. The character and object thereof is the supplying of light, heat and power by means of electricity to the public in the Borough of Millheim, in the County of Centre, Pennsylvania, and to such persons, firms, associations and corporations therein and adjacent thereto as may desire the same and for those purposes to have, possess and enjoy all the rights, benefits and privileges of said Act of Assembly and its supplements.
W. H. & J. S. WOODS,
C. C. BREWSTER, Solicitors.

TO REPORTER SUBSCRIBERS.

In order to induce the Centre Reporter readers to solicit new subscribers this offer is made:

Any present subscriber to the Centre Reporter who sends to this office one and one-half dollars, will receive one year's credit, on his or her subscription, and can have the Centre Reporter sent one year to any person not now on the subscription list.

Note—This offer will not be extended to present subscribers who ask their own paper discontinued within one year.

How to Cure a Cold.

The question of how to cure a cold without unnecessary loss of time is one in which we are all more or less interested, for the quicker a cold is gotten rid of the less the danger of pneumonia and other serious diseases. Mr. E. W. L. Hall, of Waverly, Va., has used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for years and says: "I firmly believe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to be absolutely the best preparation on the market for colds. I have recommended it to my friends and they all agree with me." For sale by The Star Store, Centre Hall; F. A. Carson, Potters Mills; C. W. Swartz, Tusseyville.