



REFORMATION OF PENN DEMOCRATS.

Philadelphia Public Ledger, Under This Title, Asserts Reorganizers are Elevating Public Life in State.

From PUBLIC LEDGER.

At the annual meeting of the Democratic State Committee last week Roland S. Morris of Philadelphia was chosen chairman in succession to George W. Guthrie of Pittsburgh who is the new Ambassador to Japan. Mr. Morris is an able man of high character, as is Mr. Guthrie; the mere mention of their names in the councils of the Democratic party instantly indicates what wondrous change has taken place in that organization and in the public life of the Commonwealth within a short period. The Democratic party has redeemed itself.

New party rules, primary laws, various kinds of mere machinery and statutory reform may be all very well in their way but the test of genuine reform lies in the results as exhibited by the personnel of those who have charge of a party. Don't quote the platform; show the people who stand on it.

The Democratic fortunes in the State are now in charge of men like Palmer, Guthrie, McCormick, Kane, Morris, Bromley, etc. Compare these clean, patriotic, public-spirited citizens, who, while aiding their party, do not forget they have a State and a code of decency—compare them, and the present standing of the Democratic party, with that band of intriguers who lately acted as the back-door agents of a discredited Republican machine.

The old leaders were servile, distasteful and despised; they caused the Democratic party to be contemned and repudiated. They were such traitors to their own party and to their own voters that they almost extinguished the Pennsylvania Democratic party. The ring, which accepted a few offices under minority representation and a few crumbs of patronage here and there as the price

of their recreancy, were parties to all the crooked work in the legislature. They were always to be counted upon as servile tools to betray their party, the State and the people. They knifed decent men at the polls at the behest of the Republican machine leaders; they ordered their bands of mercenaries to cast votes when needed for the gang's worst candidates; they wrecked their own party by their venal treachery; they caused honest Democrats and independents to lose hope of any means of reform; they were the jackals who almost destroyed the Republican party too, by sustaining the worst elements in it and thus encouraging their excesses.

Their day is done in Pennsylvania, thanks to the valiant labors of the reorganizers, who wrought even when there was but a glimmer of hope.

What does it matter though the Donnelly wing of the party and its spokesman now rail at the reformers? That enmity is a badge of honor. What boots it even though a newspaper which craftily pretends to stand for Democratic principles vents its spleen upon the reorganizers? Organs of that sort do not want clean politics in the hands of clean and upright leaders; they want base, furtive, disreputable trading machines, in the hands of tricky men who can be used for their own secret schemes.

The reorganizers are rendering valiant service to their party to both parties and to the State. They have brought a new atmosphere into the politics of the Commonwealth; they will win the loyalty of their own followers and command the respect of the opposition. By spurring the rival party to take intelligent measures for its betterment, they are lifting up the public life of the State.

NO MORE CONVENTIONS

State Wide Primary Bill a Law—Polls Open From 7 A. M. to 7 P. M.

One of the pieces of legislation passed by the last legislature every voter in the state should acquaint himself with is the state wide primary law.

Although candidates for United States Senator and for Governor will not be nominated until next year, the State-Wide Primary goes into effect at once and good citizens should familiarize themselves with their rights under this legislation. It is a so-called "off year" in politics, but the primaries are none the less important. The signing of the non-partisan ballot measure, the nomination and the election of two Supreme Court judges and of local judges has been taken out of the realm of party politics. There remain then, under the State-Wide Primary Bill, only alderman, county officers, justices of the peace, assessors, borough and township officials, election officers and party officers to be nominated this year.

The new act lengthens the hours of the primary. The polls are to be open from 7 A. M. to 7 P. M., instead of 2 to 8 P. M., as formerly. The third Tuesday of September in odd numbered years and the third Tuesday in May in even numbered years are fixed as the primary date. This year the primary will be held on September 16th. The registration days this year fall on August 28 and September 2 and 13th.

An important provision of the act is that requiring every candidate to make affidavit that he is a bona fide candidate before his name can go on the ticket. In the past, men were put up as candidates without their knowledge and confusion resulted from their withdrawal later.

An elector can sign but one nomination petition for the same office and must declare that he is of the party named in the petition, also that he is a qualified elector of the county or district in which the nomination is to be made. The last day for filing petitions for State officers this year is August 19th, and for local officers August 26th. Some one must make affidavit that all signatures to the petitions comply with the requirements of the act. No person can be nominated for delegate, State Committeeman, or other party office unless he is a qualified elector of the party.

Nomination petitions for State officers must be filed with the Secretary of the Commonwealth four weeks prior to the primaries. All other petitions are to be filed with the County Commissioners three weeks before the primary. In case a candidate dies after the time for filing nomination petitions, the original signers may suggest a new candidate. Vacancies after the primary are to be filled according to party rules. Each candidate may have two watchers at the primary.

New penalties provided by the act are: a fine of \$100 for signing more than one nomination petition for any one office.

[Continued at foot of next column.]

FLYNN ENROLLMENT BILL.

Voters Must Enroll to Enter Primaries Now—New Measure Becomes Effective This Year.

The Governor recently signed the Flynn party enrollment bill, the last of the progressive election measures in his hands. This bill requires a voter, when registering, to state his party affiliation. He must accept the ticket of this party when he votes at the primaries. The bill is aimed to prevent party raiding by restricting the primary vote strictly within the parties.

Refusal to designate his party prevents a voter from participating in any primary except a non-partisan one. An elector not registered as to party can vote at the primaries for law judges and for municipal officers in second and third class cities. In first, second and third class cities enrollment is made a part of personal registration. In boroughs and townships the register assessor does the work.

Within 45 days from the signing of the bill register assessors outside the cities of the first, second or third class, must make enrollment of all electors in their districts and yearly thereafter on annual assessments. If any voter is not at home the assessor is to leave a certificate to be filled out by the voter and returned, showing his party. The assessors are required to sit at the polling places on the 62 and 63rd days before the primary to complete his roll.

If challenged as to his enrollment, a voter must swear that at the last preceding November election at which he voted, he cast his ballot for the majority of the candidates of the party he designates. In such computation the 35 presidential electors are to be counted as two candidates.

Penn State Appropriation.

Pennsylvania State College will get from the state in the form of appropriation \$1,226,000. This is a reduction from the original appropriation of about a quarter million. In 1911 State got \$895,000.

\$4.00 a Day for Jurors.

Governor Tener has signed a bill which increases the compensation of those serving on juries in the county courts from \$2.50 to \$4.00 a day. The present rate of mileage is also allowed.

August begins tomorrow and with it the picnic.

[Continued from Previous Column.] Assistance to voters shall be given only by a sworn statement that the voter cannot read or has physical disability, which would prevent him marking the ballot. This provision is a severe blow at the corruption of electorates so long practised by the machine, and increase the difficulty of carrying elections through bribery of the voting booth, and marking his ballot for him to make sure of the delivery of the goods paid for.

TWO BARN BURNED.

D. G. Wagner Barn South of Centre Hall and Charles Klingner Barn Near Boatburg Struck by Lightning and Consumed.

The elements played havoc with personal property in Penns Valley on Wednesday of last week, the loss being two barns, well filled with this season's crops, horses and cattle.

The one barn destroyed was that of D. G. Wagner located south of Centre Hall on the cross road leading to Tussey Sink. It was a large structure, 80x45 feet, and was erected by the late Jacob Wagner, father of the present owner.

The bolt of lightning struck on the west side of the building, and in a very few minutes the whole interior was aflame. From reports received at this office there was some great hustling done by Miss Edna Wagner, daughter of the proprietor, and George F. Potter, Jr., a neighbor. It was through their efforts that much of the stock and eight horses were taken from the burning structure, the young lady entering for the last time when fire was dropping from overhead and the litter at her feet aflame. It was to rescue an animal that had previously been taken to safety, but with animal instinct, in its excitement rushed to its burning quarters for safety. There was real bravery and heroism in the deeds of these two on an occasion when many young women and men would have been comparatively helpless.

While the effort to save the stock was going on in the basement of the barn, Mrs. Wagner, woman like, was endeavoring to procure the supply of meat stored in the granary, and stayed at her work until it became necessary for her to make escape by jumping from the overshoot to a ground floor, a distance of from ten to twelve feet.

THE INSURANCE.

Mr. Wagner held insurance in two companies, the local Grange Company and the Lykens Valley Company. The barn was insured in the former company and the remainder in the latter. The items insured are:

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------|--------|
| Barn | ..... | \$1000 |
| Stallion | ..... | 500 |
| Wheat | ..... | 500 |
| Oats | ..... | 66 |
| Hog pen | ..... | 50 |
| Implement shed | ..... | 50 |
| Implement | ..... | 229 |
| Binders, mowers, etc. | ..... | 250 |
| Other goods | ..... | 55 |
| Total | ..... | \$2790 |

The insurance figures are actual, and settlement was made by both companies on the day following the fire.

BARN'S CONTENTS

The barn was well filled with this season's crop, the storing of the grain having been completed the day previous. An estimate of the contents is noted:

| | | |
|--|-------|--------|
| 17 loads of grain, estimated 300 bu. | ..... | \$ 300 |
| 70 tons of hay at \$15.00 per ton | ..... | 1050 |
| 200 bushels ear corn | ..... | 60 |
| 200 bushels oats | ..... | 100 |
| 60 bushels old wheat | ..... | 60 |
| Stallion | ..... | 500 |
| Implement, gasoline engine, harness of all kinds, tools, wagons. | ..... | 2790 |

It will be seen from the above that Mr. Wagner had but light insurance, as the items estimated foot up over \$3000. To this must be added the value of the barn, which was over \$1500, hog pen and sheds. He estimates his entire loss at \$5000, and the insurance was just about one-half of that sum.

KLINGNER BARN BURNED

The second barn destroyed in a similar way was that of Charles Klingner, located about one-half mile south of (Continued on page 4)

Bills Signed by the Governor.

Reeser bill, making bounties on noxious animals and birds as follows: Wildcat, \$4; gray fox, weasel, \$2 each; goshawk, great horned owl and sharp-shinned hawk, 50 cents.

Validating ordinances not signed in ordinance book by Burgess. [This bill applies especially to Centre Hall, as many ordinances enforced for years had not been signed by the Burgess. The books show the name of the Burgess appended, but the signatures are simply transcribed by the clerk.—Ed.]

Carter bill increasing salaries of members of General Assembly to \$2000 and allowing full salary to be paid in case of death, to estate of deceased member and to successor in unexpired term, the Governor saying the revenues do not justify the increase and that it would pay salaries twice.

Gramley bill equalizing educational advantages, insufficient revenue.

The Matt bill, carrying \$1,547,000 provided for pensions to men who served one year or less, and the Gray bill for the emergency men carried \$810,000, were both vetoed.

Next to the joys of the first baby in the family comes those following the possession of an automobile. Of course, this opinion of the writer is one born of observation and not of experience.

LETTERS FROM SUBSCRIBERS.

A. P. Wieland Writes from the Big Wheat Belt of Canada While on Business Trip.

Editor Reporter:

I have been coming into Manitoba once a year on a business trip (this is the third year) and my home folks keep forwarding mail. Among the bunch to night were four back numbers of the Reporter which I have just finished reading, sitting out in the open on the veranda of the hotel, and by the way, it is 9 p. m. and I am still able to read without the aid of artificial light; that seems a bit strange to me as no doubt it will to you the perfectly plain when you go to reckoning latitude from Washington, D. C. In reading your paper, which by the way I have had regularly sent me since I left Wm. Wolf's employ, in March, 1889, and always read with interest, I threw me into a quite reflective mood, by its rather breezy collection of news matter, particularly when digesting four issues all at one sitting. In this connection I might say time takes me back when as a clerk in Wolf's store I knew to speak to or by sight about everybody in the valley from Penns Cave and west to Lemont, knowing to a reasonable certainty the bounded district of your circulation, felt new at first hand from this big north west country might add some interest to your readers who are more or less interested in agriculture.

While we all recognize the north west part of our own country and that of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia as the "bread basket" of the western continent, in fact, the world, and while perfectly marvelous in its fertility and summer climate, the winters are long, cold and extremely severe when compared with home, when I say home I mean Pennsylvania which is not lame on much by way of comparison except handling the liquor question, labor laws and vice.

This section belongs to the basin or watershed drained by the Red River of the North and flows its way into the Winnipeg and Manitoba Lakes and finally Hudson Bay. Its area begins really about Fargo, N. D., and extends northward about 600 miles and to the northwest about 1000. About 75 per cent. of this total area is as level as a floor, has a heavy black top soil varying in depth of one and a half to five feet, thus assuring a fertility almost unequalled anywhere, but similar to the black soil in the celery growing district about Kalamazoo, Mich., and Canastota, N. Y., except it is referred to as gumbo, and when wet during or after heavy rains makes travel nearly impossible. It sticks to ones shoes as tenaciously as chewing gum. If you have had that sort of an experience you can judge its consistency. It however contains every element, so soil experts claim, to grow abundant crops of wheat, oats, barley and rye the hardy warm enough for good corn. In appearance it is much like Illinois and Indiana soil, but it lacks warmth. Geologists claim at an early age this was all under water or as a big lake district, thus this black heavy sediment finally settled to the Red river lines the only drainage outlet.

Winnipeg, the chief city of Manitoba, has a population of about 160,000, tho it had but a 1000 thirty-five years ago. I am sure its rapid growth was due, first to soil fertility, secondly the railroad companies and British Government are wonderfully active in their ideas of development, and the homestead laws governing and regulating the parceling out of these land areas.

Twenty-two railway tracks radiating from this city eastward to the western provinces are the correct figures, while the transcontinental line of the Canadian Pacific alone has 120 miles of sidings, in all its system measures 16,000 miles. That's some railroad, isn't it?

Their coaches invariably seat 84 passengers, the P. R. R. at home seat 64, some few 72, yet gain by way of comparison. For safety or speed they have nothing on the east, but it is a big country doing big things. The small farmer has no business mixing in except as a truck farmer near a city. Traction engines of the Frick or Case type, propelled invariably by gasoline, for power to which are attached a gang or battery of 6, 8, 10 or some times 12 plows, turn over as much as 25 acres in a day. They also furnish power to pull 3 or 4 binders all hooked up in a string, each having its individual operator to a binder, but one service power outfit. Immediately following this is our thrashing outfit, which I have seen operate at night with a portable electric light outfit as a part of the equipment, of such a large capacity that two men stand at the feed board cutting sheaves open. I notice large steel dome-like tanks out over these large farms where the grain is stored in bulk and then sacked and shipped during the winter or at a time the best market offerings are

made. Their barns as a rule are not as large as the acreage would seem to warrant, due of course to the fact of early threshing and the stacking of hay and alfalfa.

The fair just closed here for the western provinces. The people are great on publicity or getting together, capturing the other fellow's idea and boosting. There are no knockers—everybody pushes or gets out of the other fellow's way. The city province join in maintaining a permanent exposition building in which books are maintained promoting education, exploration, navigation, conservation, arts, science, manufacturing, good roads, agriculture, resources, fruit growing, commerce, in fact every department that makes for uplift and building up a country. The real estate men are thick as hops, and think you queer if you at once do not agree that these provinces are about all that happened; like the people of California, ready to cut your acquaintance if you don't agree to buy their climate at a fancy price. Nevertheless the tide from the states has been strong and in less than five years, eighteen and a half million of our people have crossed over and become Britains. Almost every nation seems represented here. I observed a large book concern offering bibles in a choice of 48 languages, and the waiting line at the general delivery window was the greatest I ever saw, not excepting the N. Y. and Boston postoffices, and exceeded only perhaps by Oklahoma, when I was there three years ago. All this proves nothing except that travel is large, and the population more mixed than elsewhere.

A farmer's boy by birth, prompts me to have nothing in mind but the espousal of truth and common sense and I would say to the boy of the east, work well where you are; be sure there is something better somewhere else before you make a change. If the west has been flirting with you, come out look it all over, you will be better satisfied. See Winnipeg, and some of the beautiful scenery in the Rockies and through to the coast. After you have looked it over Centre county will look more permanently good than ever. So in this connection I might say to the person really intent on going west, do not overlook the possibilities of Wisconsin and Minnesota, in and about Duluth, south of Estwood from Lake Superior—a frost proof section of country with proven results in fruit raising, that pales into insignificance the ably edited booklets in some of the irrigated lands about which we all know and in which I prefer not mentioning names or being personal, since I am in neither the western real estate business nor have I any land to sell.

But I sure have written a lot and still have not said some things I meant to, space forbidding.

Sincerely Yours,
A. P. WIELAND.
Winnipeg, Canada.

Odd Fellows in Large Gathering.

A large assembly of Odd Fellows came together Saturday evening in the hall of the Centre Hall lodge to witness the work of conferring the third degree by Spring Mills lodge. The work was most commendable and evinced faithful preparation on part of the visiting order. The candidates who took the highest degree a subordinate lodge has power to confer were: Messrs. Richard Brooks, W. F. Colyer, Thomas DeLaney, John W. DeLaney, and Charles T. Crust.

After the ceremonies an hour was devoted to social intercourse and the partaking of a lunch prepared by the local order. It was an evening of real enjoyment and profit for the eighty or more brothers present.

4 to 1 Baseball Victory.

Centre Hall added another victory to its string by defeating Pleasant Gap Saturday afternoon, on the latter's grounds. The score was 4 to 1. The game was a battle principally between pitchers and Bradford for the locals and Lose for Pleasant Gap both twirled in excellent fashion. The former allowed five hits and the latter only four; neither pitcher handed a base on balls to a batter, so perfect was their control.

Dr. George Hosterman was induced to act as arbiter of the game, and although twenty baseball seasons have rolled around since he performed in that capacity, no reference to the book of rules was required in making his decision.

Electric Current Kills Boy.

A current of 3000 volts passed through the body of Leverett Bingham, aged fourteen years, at Lewistown, when he picked up the end of a broken electric light wire. His body was badly burned and death was instantaneous.

The Dale family reunion will be held at Oak Hall on Saturday.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

Three inches of rain fell during Wednesday and Thursday of last week. The Grange exhibition and fair will open on Grange Park, Centre Hall, September 13th.

The date for the Reformed reunion of the Aaronburg charge has been changed from August 2 to August 23.

Millheim will hold its annual picnic in Dr. G. S. Frank's woods, west of that town, on Thursday, August 14.

August 8th the Lewisburg Journal will issue a souvenir edition to commemorate the one-hundredth anniversary of the erection of Union county.

If you chance to see a large Packard truck dashing over the country, it will likely be a Bigelow car erecting sign posts on the roads taken over by the state.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hefner, and two little children of Altoona are at the home of Mrs. Hefner's mother, Mrs. Rebecca Emerick. Mr. Hefner is employed in the yards of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. William B. Bressler of near Spring Mills on Tuesday night of last week. The Bressler family, previous to moving to Gregg township, lived on the Lose farm near Centre Hall.

Rev. E. E. Henney was substituted by the presiding elder to hold quarterly conference meetings on the Sugar Valley and Penns Valley charges. He is now located at Benton, and on this mission was accompanied by Mrs. Henney.

Elmer Bollinger and his sister, Mrs. O. H. Silence, of Bridgewater, S. D., after a visit of several months with relatives and friends in Millheim and vicinity, left for Altoona where they will visit friends for a week before returning to their far western home.

Rev. R. R. Jones will leave for Mt. Gretna, Saturday, where he will attend the Missionary Conference of the Reformed church, which will be in session from August 2 to 9. Before returning home he will visit at Allentown and vicinity, the home of relatives of Rev. Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Bible of Altoona are spending their vacation at the home of Mr. Bible's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Bible near Centre Hill. Mr. Bible is assistant manager of the men's furnishing department in Gable & Company's store, in whose employment he has been for four years.

The Lutheran congregation at Lewisburg has selected as its pastor Rev. H. C. Rose of Johnston, and he will assume his duties on September 1st. The congregation has also decided to build a new parsonage to cost about \$6000, which will take the place of the one destroyed by fire some time ago.

E. L. Stover of Millheim had the misfortune to sever an artery in one of his lower limbs, and to stop the flow of blood the surgical aid of Dr. C. S. Muser, Dr. R. G. H. Hayes and Dr. John Hardenburg became necessary. He is now getting along nicely. Mr. Stover was in the act of cutting a large belt, when the knife he was using slipped and penetrated the limb with the above result.

Last week mention was made of the success of Charles M. Smith as a general manager of a supply store at Frugality. Mr. Smith has decided to change positions and become a salesman for the wholesale drygoods and notion house of Biltner, Hunsicker & Company located at Allentown, and is now at Frugality packing his goods preparatory to shipping them to Sunbury, where he will reside. He has had experience in this line of work, and has been successful in it.

Bellefonte is very much pleased with the Chautauques, and intimates that next season the experiment will be repeated. The sessions were very liberally attended by residents of Centre Hall, and it is the unanimous opinion that every number was good. The entertainers and lecturers, however, were not of a higher class than those who appear in Centre Hall under the lecture course, and since attending the Chautauque our people conclude that the lecture course is not as highly appreciated as it should be.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank McClellan and little son of Oshanter, Clearfield county, and Frank Long of Washington, D. C., the other night made a trip to Mrs. McClellan's old home near Centre Hall. Mr. McClellan is a railroad man and this accounts for his making the trip in an auto car at the odd hours. On their return on Sunday, Mrs. Charles E. Flink and son Harvey accompanied them to their Clearfield home, while Mr. Long remained at the D. Geiss Wagner home where his wife and three children had previously come.