

The Centre Reporter

VOL. CVIII.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1934.

NO. 8

A PARTY REBORN.

[Editorial in Philadelphia Record of February 12.]

At last a united Pennsylvania Democracy.

For decades past the meetings of the Democratic State Committee have been marked either by the lethargy of futility or the acrimony of conflicting opportunism.

On Saturday a new spirit walked at Harrisburg. Of the 113 committee members, 108 were sufficiently interested to attend at their own expense. Nor did they come to wrangle.

Personal jealousies, which have played so conspicuous a part in the misfortunes of the party were forgotten as the committeemen indulged, with virtual unanimity, the ticket and the platform.

Prime exemplar of the new spirit of self-sacrifice in the interests of harmony was Warren Van Dyke, whose 23 years of service on the State Committee entitled him to a place on the ticket in this year of expected success.

When Van Dyke stepped aside, there was none presumptuous enough to demand a place. If Van Dyke should waive his claims to party gratitude, lesser claimants were automatically estopped from rushing forward with theirs.

What caused the metamorphosis?

What brought harmony to the embattled factions of State Democracy?

The answer can be read in the platform adopted by the committee and in the history behind the platform.

Until recently the Democratic party in Pennsylvania was a shell, a shadow of a party.

"Where the spirit has vanished, the flesh corrupts."

Unanimated by any living principle, it lay supine in the shade of the Republican machine, muzzling the outworn shibboleths of "States' rights," occasionally stirring enough to grumble "turn the rascals out."

In many sections, as in Philadelphia, it was actually run as an appendage of the Republican machine. In others, it was the refuge for embittered and disappointed political hacks. The able and secure leaders it possessed found rehabilitation an impossibility under the circumstances.

Its candidates were frequently mediocre, its platform often mere vague and sullen planks against Republican abuses.

Something swept the nation in 1932. A new conception of politics, of government, of economics, of life. That New Deal spirit which finds articulation in the Roosevelt Administration has permeated the Pennsylvania Democratic party.

The State Committee takes its stand on 22 specific issues of New Deal liberalism. Among them, abolition of child labor, abolition of sweat-shops, minimum wage laws, absolute rights of collective bargaining and unionization, modernization of the Pennsylvania Constitution, consolidation of city and county offices in Philadelphia.

The planks are unequivocal, definite. In sum they mean the application of Roosevelt's national policies to State problems.

And remember that this platform, the most liberal ever adopted by a major American party, is presented to the voters of Pennsylvania, until a few years ago the most reactionary State in the nation.

The quickening that runs through America dares storm this inner stronghold of industrial feudalism.

It was inevitable that the creation of a great party objective should reanimate the party personnel. And it was inevitable that men should be found to lead the new movement.

In George H. Earle, Joseph F. Guffey, Thomas Kennedy, Thomas A. Leque and Chester H. Rhodes, the State committee has found a slate that represents a cross-section of the New Deal.

One thing they have in common.— All five are proven liberals. All five fight for its precepts with sincerity and consistency.

ROOSEVELT'S INDIVIDUALITY.

Here is the way a noted Englishman, J. L. Garvin, editor of the London "Sunday Observer," appraises the President of the United States:

Suppose that Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin and Roosevelt could meet in one room. The American President would not be dominated. He has gone through personal ordeals such as none of the others has had to endure. To keep in public life and to rise to the top of it he has had to conquer physical infirmity with an iron will. This has given him that expression of smiling but inflexible tenacity which is the marked trait of his countenance. Nothing will easily turn him from any purpose though he is quick to vary his methods when he sees cause. He has the power of winning devotion and of inspiring energy. It has been said of him that an hour of his company can set on a fast and misgivings like a sunlight cure. He took office, as we said, on that blackest day in the economic annals of the United States when all the banks shut their doors. Since then he has banished a gloom such as a nation so long the most sanguine and confident of all societies had ever known. He has radiated his own indomitable cheerfulness through the psychology of the whole American people.

HISTORIC BOALSBURG TAVERN GUTTED BY FLAMES, THURSDAY

One of Centre county's best-known landmarks, the Boalsburg Tavern, was gutted by fire which broke out shortly after midnight Wednesday night of last week, causing damage estimated at \$30,000. The blaze is thought to have been caused by sparks from a defective flue.

The fire was discovered about 12:15 o'clock Thursday morning when flames were seen shooting through the roof by passersby. Mrs. Myrtle Thompson who had leased the Tavern from Col. Theodore Davis Boal, and who was working in the kitchen at the time, was immediately notified of the blaze by Fred Lounberger, of Boalsburg, one of the group who discovered the fire, while his companions set out to spread the alarm.

Mrs. Thompson, with the assistance of her daughter, warned Herman Castorline, a student at the College, and William McCartney, both lodgers at the Tavern, and Miss Florence Park and Thurman Tressler, employees. Castorline was asleep in a third floor room at the time, but managed to save his personal belongings from destruction.

A call for help to the Alpha Fire company at State College brought the firemen to the scene ten minutes after the message was received, and the blaze was fought for more than two hours before it was completely subdued. A high wind caused the fire to spread rapidly before a hose could be brought to play on it.

The heavy stone walls of the historic old building helped to prevent the flames from spreading to adjoining buildings although the nearby post office was threatened by sparks for a short time. It was past 3 o'clock when the blaze was finally under control.

The two upper floors of the building were flooded with water and everything on them burned except a few articles of clothing which were hurriedly grabbed up by those fleeing from the flames. A considerable portion of the downstairs furniture was removed before it was damaged by the fire and water.

Mrs. Thompson estimated her loss in furnishings and equipment of the Tavern, which she has been conducting since last spring, at \$1,000. She had no insurance to cover the loss.

Col. Boal carried \$2,000 insurance in the Farmers Mutual company of Centre county. The company has taken measures to repair the fire damage instead of paying the insurance in cash.

The loss to Col. Boal is considerable above his sum, when personal property loss is considered. There was stored in the building antiques and other property of value.

Mrs. Thompson permitted the insurance carrier to take a cash advance of \$1,000, which would have covered her loss had it been in force.

The historic stone structure was erected in 1819, one hundred fifteen years ago, by Col. James Johnson, who the year previous had opened a store nearby. Later the place became the property of Samuel H. Stover, who during the sixties and prior conducted a hotel in it. The date of the erection of the building is cut in a large stone over the main entrance. The stone walls are unusually heavy for a building of its size. Native limestone were used.

CORN AND HOG PRODUCTION TO BE GOVERNED BY FEDERAL RULE

Farmers who have grown an average of ten or more acres of corn in the last two years and two or more litters of pigs in the same period are eligible to participate in the Federal corn-hog production control program, according to information given out by D. K. Sloan, county farm agent of Lycoming county. The information came through the Agricultural Adjustment Administrator in Washington.

As benefit payments, the eligible farmer, who signs a contract with the government to reduce his hogs in 1934, will receive \$5 a head on hogs produced for market, up to 75 per cent of the average production for the past two years. He will receive 30 cents a bushel on the estimated production of the 25-30 per cent of corn acreage taken out of production.

If the farmer is not eligible to participate in both the corn and hog divisions he can participate in either one, but such participation carries with it the agreement not to step up his production in the other division over his average for the past two years.

Further information on the benefit program for which many farmers in the county are eligible may be obtained by applying to the office of the Centre County Agricultural Extension Association.

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF THE COUNTY TO MEET

The Democratic Women of Centre county will hold their first meeting of the year in their club rooms in the Watchman office building, Bellefonte, next Wednesday evening, March 1st, at 7:30 o'clock. Dr. Wayland F. Dunaway, of the department of History, State College, will address the meeting, his subject to be, "The History of the Democratic Party." Club members, prospective members, and Democratic women in general from over the county, are invited to hear Dr. Dunaway's talk and to join the Club in its first get-together meeting for constructive work in the coming campaign.

BIRTHDAY BALL FOR PRESIDENT FUNDS RECOGNIZED BY COM.

The National Committee, the Birthday Ball for the President very graciously recognized the funds secured from the Birthday Ball for the President by the children of the Evangelical church of Centre Hall, and a few others. The ball, unique in character, was sponsored by Rev. J. W. Zang, of the Evangelical church, who forwarded all of the funds contributed.

The letter from the National Committee says in part:

"On behalf of the National Committee, I wish to take this opportunity to express to you and to your co-workers our gratitude for the splendid leadership and help which you have rendered in connection with our efforts to make the national birthday party such a tremendous success.

"In years to come, as the battle against infantile paralysis progresses, under the leadership of our President, I know that you will feel a just sense of gratification in having played such an important part in this worthy activity."

OLD AGE, BLIND PENSIONS, EFFECTIVE JUNE AND DEC.

Payments under the newly elected pensions for the blind law, and old age assistance acts will be made through the Department of Welfare, and inquiries addressed to the Secretary of the Commonwealth are sent to that department.

Payments under the old age assistance act will not begin until December 1, 1934. The bill, as originally drawn, provided that payments start on June 1, but it was amended to have them begin on the later date. Payments to any individual will not exceed \$50 per month, and one receiving aid under the law must have resided in Pennsylvania for at least fifteen years.

Pensions for the blind act were authorized by an amendment to the State Constitution adopted in November. Under the law the maximum payment is \$50 per month, and an applicant must have been a resident of the State for at least ten years. Payments begin June 1, 1934.

CONTRACTORS' BID TOO HIGH FOR HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION

Six contractors bid for the construction of the proposed new nurses' home at the Centre County hospital, but all of them were too high to come within the limit of funds—approximately \$40,000—available. The bids range from \$44,900 to \$55,776, for construction of the building proper, plumbing, heating and electric wiring.

CHILD OF THREE BURNS TO DEATH AT PLEASANT GAP

Her clothes catching fire during the momentary absence of her mother from the home, Margaret E. Cox, the 3-year-old daughter of Robert and Gladys Cox, of Pleasant Gap, died less than two hours later at the Centre County hospital.

Mrs. Cox had gone outside the house about 3 o'clock to do some work, and when she returned a few minutes later, she found the tot on the floor, her clothing ablaze. Appearances indicated that she had been playing about the stove, and had set fire to paper from which her clothing was ignited. She was taken to the Centre County hospital, Friday evening, where she died at 4:50 o'clock.

The funeral service was held at the home Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. R. C. Dershen, and interment made in the Lutheran cemetery at Pleasant Gap. Besides the parents, the following sisters and brothers survive: Vida, Phyllis, Robert, and Earl.

FARMERS' PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATION MEETING TO-NIGHT

Any farmer interested in a loan on livestock has a chance to get information on how to proceed for such a loan at a meeting to be held this (Thursday) evening at the Court House in Bellefonte. An able speaker will be present, as will also the director for Centre county, Harry A. Corman, of Spring Mills. At present this is the only meeting scheduled for the county. Interest rate on these loans will be 6 per cent.

COAL TRUCKERS LIABLE FOR MERCANTILE TAXES

In collecting mercantile taxes, the Department of Revenue is renewing its drive to bring all coal truckers within the tax laws.

Instructions sent to mercantile appraisers emphasize that such truckers are liable either to the mercantile or gross receipts tax. If the trucker buys coal at the mines and sells it to customers, the department ruling classifies him as a dealer and requires him to pay the mercantile tax. If the trucker is engaged only in the hauling business he is liable for the gross receipts tax.

Mercantile appraisers have been directed to investigate and classify all truckers in their counties, obtaining mercantile tax reports from these active as dealers and reporting to the department the names of those engaged exclusively in hauling.

Well, anyhow, half of ground hog weather is over, if that is any consolation.

BOALSBURG CIVIC CLUB SPONSORS QUILT EXHIBIT

The Boalsburg Civic Club, a live organization in that town, sponsored a quilt exhibit on Saturday, in the Vocational school building. The club was assisted in the work by a few men, the Vocational school teacher, so that by noon the sixty quilts presented for exhibition had been arranged. The exhibits were arranged in two classes—modern and antique. The former class presented many beautiful and artistic pieces of work, some just from the frames. In the class were also lovely applique quilts.

The judge was Miss Morton, who was assisted by Miss McDowell, of the Home Economics Department, State College. Prizes were awarded as follows:

- 1st—Mrs. H. C. Dale.
- 2nd—Miss Rozella Meyer.
- 3rd—Mrs. (Rev.) Wink.

The antique quilts were displayed in a separate room. The oldest was 100 years and is owned by Mrs. Charles Segner. It was made by the well-known Sparr sisters.

Another exhibit, owned by Mrs. Robert Bailey, was pieced about ninety-five years ago. Other exhibits were by—

- Mrs. John Kimpert, pieced by her cousin, Mrs. Jane Gilliland, of Mifflin county, 65 years.
- Mrs. George Fortney, calico, showing fine work, 74 years.

A quilt pieced by Mrs. E. W. Hura, at the age of eighty years, created interest, as did also a tiny cradle quilt, made about 70 years ago, for Dr. Swank, now possessed by his small grandson. Prizes were awarded thus:

- 1st—Mrs. L. K. Dale; quilt made by an aunt.
- 2nd—Mrs. Samuel Wagner, quilt made by her ancestors.
- 3rd—Miss Anna Dale, quilt given to her father about 1850.

The exhibits were visited by many during the afternoon and evening. Chairs were provided to induce lingering on the part of the patrons, while the ladies served tea.

The club chanced off a quilt made by them, Mrs. LeRoy Freely having secured it.

MR. AND MRS. J. B. CRAWFORD MARRIED 50 YEARS AGO

It was fifty years ago Wednesday of last week that James Buchanan Crawford, of near Penn Hall, and Miss Mary Miller, of Spring Mills, were united in marriage at Spring Mills, where the bride's father, the late Geo. Miller, kept hotel. The event was fittingly celebrated in the parish church of the First English Lutheran church in Freeport, Illinois, in which church the couple were active members for forty years. The affair was planned by a Sunday school class to which the principals belonged, and was carried through without their having knowledge of the celebration until their presence was wanted.

To add to the joy of the event a son, Carroll Crawford, and wife, of Western Springs, Illinois, and Mrs. Crawford's brother, Robert W. Miller, of Lena, Ill., appeared on the scene. The room in the parish home was tastefully decorated in gold and white. The bride of long ago was presented with a basket of yellow roses.

Mr. Crawford went west in 1882, but came back to claim his bride two years later—February 14, 1884. He was a son of Samuel Crawford and was reared on the James Buchanan farm, near Penn Hall. When a young man he engaged in school teaching, but the last twenty-seven years prior to July 31, 1930, when he was retired, were spent in the U. S. postal service in the Freeport post office. Mrs. Crawford has two sisters living, namely, Mrs. Tammie Keller, Milesburg, and Mrs. Ida Williams, Pine Grove Mills.

The Reporter is indebted to Mrs. C. A. Krape, Spring Mills, for the facts in this article, she having had acquaintance with the couple prior to their marriage.

PENN STATE COLLEGE IS CELEBRATING 75TH BIRTHDAY

Pennsylvania State College on Friday observed the seventy-fifth anniversary of the day on which the first group of students entered the institution in 1859.

Although the college was founded 1855 its doors did not open to students until four years later. In February 16, 1859, the first group of sixty-nine students were brought in sleighs from Spruce Creek station to Old Main, the building that housed the college and which was then not yet completed.

After hauling their trunks to the upper floors, the students were each provided with a stove for their rooms and two candles a week for light. Now the school has 4500 students and fifty major buildings devoted to education purposes.

"FLARE" VIOLATOR PREFERS JAIL SENTENCE TO \$37.50

William J. Gearhart, of Redsville, arrested last week for not having his truck equipped with "flares," preferred a jail sentence to a fine of \$37.50 and costs, and was accommodated by Justice C. W. Slack, of Centre Hall, on Thursday, at which time his case was heard.

A number of others charged with the same offense appeared before the justice and paid their fines and costs.

LOCAL TRI-HI-Y ADMITS THIRTEEN NEW MEMBERS

The local Tri-Hi-Y club is an organization of High school girls banded together with the following purpose and statement of principles:

To create, maintain and extend throughout the school and community high standards of Christian character. Objective—"To seek, to find, to share."

Slogan—"Pure thoughts, pure words, pure actions."

Platform—"Self improvement, Christian fellowship, united service."

Into this organization, at a meeting held in the High school assembly room, on Thursday evening, there were admitted thirteen new members. Worthy of mention is the fact that the members of the original organization were present one hundred per cent.

Miss Haines was in the chair. The Tri-Hi-Y movement came out of the need for similar organizations for girls to that of the Hi-Y for boys. The "Tri" in the name stands for the all round development of club members: spirit, mind, body, and the multi-training agencies, home, church, school, which it serves.

The organizations—Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y—are under the regulation of the Y. M. C. A. who issue permits for their organization.

After the induction service, the young people engaged in games, music, contests, etc., and closed with refreshments.

MORE SUB-ZERO WEATHER.

Two mornings last week it was again below zero. Wednesday morning mercury stood at 3 below, and Saturday morning, 5 below. Relatively speaking, it was quite "warm" for we had only to think back a week earlier when 20 below made these recent small figures look weak.

Tuesday morning of this week mercury dropped to 3 degrees below zero, carried on the wings of a gale.

COLLEGE PRODUCES LAMB FOR PRESIDENT'S DINNER

When the Pennsylvania State College recently shipped five half-house lambs to New York City the best one was bought by a representative of the Treasury Morgenthau to be served at a dinner in honor of President Roosevelt, according to a report received by W. L. Henning, in charge of sheep husbandry at the college.

This lamb was the most perfect specimen he had handled. R. E. Williamson, of the commission merchants, T. A. Williamson and Brother, wrote to Professor Henning. He reported that he was highly gratified to have such a lamb to fill the order from Washington.

Two of the five lambs graded very fancy, two were good at \$5 each, and one was of lower quality at \$5. These lambs were between 6 and 8 weeks old.

REPORT OF THE CENTRE-CLEARFIELD CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S CLINIC UNIT

During the year 1933 there have been held eight regular all-day clinics and eight half-day follow-up clinics. At these clinics five hundred ninety-one examinations have been given. There have been fifty-two corrective operations performed, forty-seven casts applied, sixty-five X-Ray examinations given and six hundred sixty-five physiotherapy treatments given. The total hospitalization for crippled children during the year was 1940 days.

Beginning with June 1, 1933, the State aid for the clinics has been administered by the State Department of Health instead of the State Welfare Department, as formerly. This has made it possible to eliminate some of the field workers since, in their places the State Health Nurses do the home follow-up work for this class of patients. In this way more money will be available for the conduct of the clinics, however, paradoxically, more clinics will need to be held as these nurses are finding many new cases needing care.

CHINESE COSTUME PLAY BY YOUNG PEOPLE'S MISS. SOCIETY

The Young People's Missionary Circle of St. John's Evangelical church of Centre Hall will present a Chinese costume play, Monday evening, February 26, at 7:30 o'clock. The cast is as follows:

- Mr. Wong..... Donald Rubie
- Mrs. Wong..... Ruth Zang
- Madam Wong..... Angeline Hess
- Two Chinese Maids, Lillian Bender
- Lillian Rickett
- Mal Tsung (Mr. Wong's daughter)..... Ruth Hartley
- Mr. Li..... Reuben Rickett
- Lucile..... Elda Doris Zang
- Mary..... Marie Snyder
- Dorothy..... Evelyn Hess
- Margaret..... Catherine Bender
- Lila..... Lois Rubie
- An American Maid, Geneva Hess
- Mr. Walter Lee..... Jay Runkle
- Two Chinese Men Servants..... Francis Snyder, Lawrence Bender
- Mei Hu..... Bruce Hartley

Everyone is invited to attend. An offering will be lifted for Missionary purposes.

On Monday Postmaster General Farley announced the following appointments of acting postmasters in Pennsylvania: East Pittsburgh, George V. Beech; Harrisburg, Ramsey S. Back (effective February 23); Johnstown, Frank J. Stuberly (appointment of Mrs. Warren Worth Biley rescinded); Monaca, George W. Weinman.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

Miss Rebecca Rhoads has been very ill at her home in Washington, D. C.

Mrs. T. L. Moore spent the week-end with her daughter, Miss Miriam, in Hershey.

J. M. Lynn, manager of the Coburn plant of the Sheffield Farms, Inc., has been seriously ill at his home in Coburn for the past several weeks.

Prof. H. A. Surface, of Selinsgrove, is a candidate from Snyder county to succeed himself as a representative in the lower House of the State Legislature.

D. J. Nieman and daughter, Mrs. Mamolen, of Nieman's Department store, Millheim, are in New York City making spring purchases for their store.

Prof. O. R. Wagner, principal of the East Penna Valley High school and E. A. Tyson, an instructor in the same school, are continuing their class in psychology at Penn State.

The narrow bridge on Route 5, in Burnham, is to be replaced with a reinforced concrete structure. Bids will be opened on March 2. The bids will include nine-tenth mile of bituminous surfaced road.

The sixty-sixth session of the Central Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, will be held in the Pine Street church, Williamsport, the Rev. W. E. Watkins, D. D., pastor, beginning April 18.

While Mrs. Ralph Musser, of Mill Hall, is a patient in the Lock Haven hospital following an operation, two of her children, Isabel, 4 years, and Hunter, 8 months, are being cared for by her sister, Mrs. F. V. Goodhart, at her home here.

During the present winter 1050 rabbits were liberated in Union and Snyder counties, a part of 50,000 consignment released throughout the State. There were also released in various sections of the State 4,000 quail, 2,000 ring-necked, and 1,000 turkeys.

Mrs. Alwilda Bitner underwent an operation at the Lewisburg hospital, Saturday morning. Dr. Cassidy, surgeon. Her condition since has been very favorable. Mrs. Bitner is the mother of Samuel Bitner, with whom she makes her home for part of the time.

A range of 70 degrees in the temperature locally in less than a week's time, shows the vagaries of the weather man. From 20 degrees below zero to 50 degrees above is some big jump. The first figures were registered February 9th and the latter figure, February 15th.

Orders for 15,000 tons of steel costing \$1,000,000 have been placed with five Pennsylvania steel companies by the Pennsylvania Railroad as part of its \$77,000,000 electrification and equipment program. Orders also have been placed for more than 1,000,000 pounds of copper wire and cable.

Lester Garbrick has moved into the dwelling house owned by Bradford & Co. located near the firm's mill. The place was recently vacated by Lester Weaver, who moved into the tenement house on the Old Fort farm, owned by W. F. Bradford. He will conduct the farm beginning April 1st.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Mrs. Henry Morgenthau visited the North-eastern Federal Penitentiary, at Lewisburg, one day last week. The President's wife and the wife of the secretary of the treasury, traveled in a small roadster. After looking over the institution the ladies went on to Ithaca, N. Y.

The youth of Germany is being brought up to hate foreigners, we are told. This, however, is but reversion to man's natural instinct. One does not need to be taught to distrust strangers. His need is to be taught not to hate and distrust all those who speak another tongue or whose color differs from his own.

Rev. J. W. Zang is attending the sessions of the Pennsylvania Conference on Social Welfare being held at the Hotel Brunswick, Lancaster, Feb. 20, 21 and 22. He will visit the East Pa. Conference of the Evangelical Church which is being held in Harrisburg this week. During his stay in Harrisburg he will visit with his mother.

A postal card received from D. C. Mitterling, who is taking baths at the Hot Springs, Arkansas, health resort, says: "Weather fine here; today real warm. Lawns are green and some flowers." Mr. Mitterling left Centre Hall the day preceding our "18 below" present from the weather man, consequently, basking in the southern climate, he knows nothing of what we went through.

Three members of the Woodward C. C. C. camp were injured last week—two of them in pursuit of their daily labors. On of these, Elmer Benner, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Benner, of Woodward, was cut in the leg in welding an axe; another, a young man from Reading, Vincent Kohler, split a knee cap with an axe; and the third, a young man named Shirk, from Laurelton, had the thumb pulled off his right hand when he attempted to hold the drive shaft of a water pump on the camp tracks while the motor was driving it.