Pinchot Is Shattering All Campaign Precedents

Republican Puts No Strings on Promises to "Clean Up Mess at Harrisburg" and Deals in Facts, Not Wild Oratory

By GEORGE NOX McCAIN

This is the last of a series of articles by Colonel McCain, in which he has analyzed the personalities and campaign methods of the opposing nominees for Governor of Pennsylvania, Gifford Pinchot and John A. McSparran.

This man Gifford Pinchot, Republican candidate for Governor, is different from any other candidate that I recall.

And I have campaigned with Governors and near Governors and just plain, ordinary and sub-ordinary candidates at intervals now for about four decades.

Through all these years there was one invariable style of campaigning.

It was adopted by Republican and Democrat alike, for there was neither trademark nor patent right on the process.

It wasn't a style peculiar to any one of them.

Congressmen, Governors, Lieutenant Governor, Secretaries of Internal Affairs and State Treasurers indulged in it.

"Give the opposition the very devil. Glorify your party. Don't hesitate to point with pride. Above all, don't promise anything more than you are forced to.

"If you have to promise, always leave a loophole or wedge so you can get out of it if it becomes necessary."

That was the code in brief.

Gifford Pinchot, according to the above rules of campaigning, is either a fool or a very brave man.

Why? Because he has failed to adopt it; he doesn't stick to precedent.

Doesn't Try to Dodge

Because in every promise he has made, in the hearing of tens of thousands of people, he must live a seemingly impossible task if elected.

He has actually pledged himself to carry out certain plans and do certain things.

Moreover, he has invited the people to keep him in a range of high visibility while home on the job.

If the members of the Legislature refuse to help him or break their pledges of loyalty to his program, it doesn't mean that he has exhausted his resources.

He will carry the issue back directly to the people. He has promised this.

It's a new deal on the time-honored way in Pennsylvania politics.

We're doing something of it in England, though, at the present moment.

An element among British Georgies supposed to have refused to "go along" with him.

The Prime Minister is now "carrying the issue to the people" of Great Britain. He's asking, "Are you going to stand for this?"

Mr. Pinchot pledges that he will come back to the people for a renewal of confidence in this.

Unique in Politics

It's unique in the history of Pennsylvania politics, something for other candidate has ever done in my recollection.

There has been some comment over the fact that Pinchot has not in public he was replied to or attempted to contradict anything that McSparran has said or any promise he has spoken.

There is the reason.

At the outset of the campaign, after McSparran had been named by a divided Democracy, it was decided to let McSparran make his own campaign.

It was accepted by Republican leaders as certain, from past performances, that the Democratic nominee would ultimately demonstrate his unreliability as to issues.

That by his careless and irresponsible statements, his distortion of facts and figures, and his exaggerated expressions, he would, in short, perforate "himself" again.

In at least one instance he excavated a partial and then dumbed into it. There are others.

Some time ago, after the meeting of the campaign, at Joint, during which the careless and the careless and the careless clubs was organized at Doylestown, Bucks County, there were several days to appear. Because of a switch in his itinerary, Pinchot was unable to reach Bucks County in time.

McSparran arrived with his entourage. Like a modern Sennacherib. He was equipped to smite the enemy, hip and thigh.

With Pinchot absent it was the Lancaster entertainer's opportunity.

Fine Chance to "Cut Loose"

He could say things in general on the back and leave the title to the opponent's delight, and without fear of contradiction.

The Republican women were not only disappointed, but disheartened. There was no one—no, not one—to hold high the banner of Republicanism.

There is a song man in Doylestown, principal of the public schools, Prof. Clayton Ross by name.

He is a clever and interesting singer. If a Democrat will do right, freedom of speech and the work of Dr. Finegan as Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Since inspired women requested that Prof. Ross might speak for the schools? Would he?

He would—and he did.

When the people of Doylestown and the McSparran clerks were a mass of shattered fragments and miscellaneous debris.

Wondered if McSparran himself recognized them.

And yet it wasn't Prof. Ross' clever oratory or shining rudeness that demolished the world.

It was facts. Cold, exact, unanswerable facts about the school system of Pennsylvania and Dr. Finegan.

The most statistics. He gave the figures under that Dr. Finegan had to prove his point.

He showed the state and state aid to schools, and the amount of money spent and the amount expended for the schools.

It was the relation of the day. Prof. Ross, in the course of the evening, had Cyclopedia M. Sparran. He was, for what purpose he could imagine.

Following the McSparran speech, the statement appeared in print, signed by Dr. Finegan, Prof. Ross, the lawyer who was a candidate for Congress and the Council's present to stay the day's work with a splitting.

Weeks after the Doylestown meeting I heard Mr. McSparran reciting the alleged statements in another county.

I have talked with those who are inclined to the belief that McSparran is using this campaign to salve a lot of sores of his political anatomy. He is "getting even" with certain people.

Makes Cruel Misstatements

When Governor Sproul entered upon his administration he selected as his Secretary of Agriculture a practical farmer and dairyman, Prof. F. Frederick Rasmussen.

At the time Prof. Rasmussen—for he was then one of the most efficient members of the faculty of State College—was about leaving for Europe by direction of Herbert Hoover, to take charge of the United States Government in a special capacity.

Mr. McSparran, as head of the grange, was consulted about this selection for Governor Sproul's Cabinet. There was no reason why he should be. There were a number of reasons why he should not be.

Recently, the hand of McSparran has been against the Sproul Administration and Secretary of Agriculture Rasmussen from that day.

It is a case entirely outside of politics.

There has been no crude or unjust or vindictive thing that Candidate McSparran could say about Prof. Rasmussen's department that has not been said.

He included the Secretary of Agriculture among those department heads who hadn't made a report for three years.

Prof. Rasmussen has not only made every report required, on time, but he has been one of the most efficient and popular members of Governor Sproul's Cabinet.

The case of Secretary Rasmussen is parallel to that of Dr. Finegan. McSparran dislikes both men and has carried the grange newspaper, against Dr. Finegan at least, into politics.

As stated in a previous article in this series, I have heard candidate McSparran use the following language at three successive Democratic political rallies: "Do you know that there has not been a report issued from any department in Harrisburg for more than three years and a half?

"The rascals don't want to issue reports. They know their deeds would not stand the light of day."

Knew Statement Was Untrue

McSparran knew that his utterance was untrue.

If he did not, then his words were the words of a man who, for sake of a temporary political advantage did not care a rap for the truth.

Even in the case of the wretched and preventable mess and muddle in the Auditor General's and State Treasurer's offices, his declaration could not stand the light of day.

The reports of the other departments of the State Government have been issued with regularity, despite a prolonged strike in the printing department of the lines practically paralyzed all the activity at Harrisburg.

Before me as I write lies a bound copy of the report of the State Department of Highways dated December 31, 1920, less than two years ago.

It is the regular report issued according to law.

And yet the Department of Highways organization, including the late and lamented Commissioner Lewis S. Sadler, the present efficient Commissioner, who was the former Assistant Commissioner, George H. Biles, has, with the Department of Education and Dr. Finegan, been the principal target of Mr. McSparran's vituperative loquacity ever since the campaign opened.

Personal attacks based on deliberate misstatement of facts or, to be more diplomatic, the most inexcusable misinformation.

Aside from his indefinite charge of wasted money, the principal groan emitted by Mr. McSparran over the Highway Department is on the subject of "detours" on State highways.

Is "Auto Detour" King

"If you elect me Governor, I shall see that these detours are done away with.

"They are unnecessary. They are created solely for the benefit of the contractors.

"We can do in Pennsylvania as they do in New York and New England. Build one side of a road and let traffic run on the other, and when that side is completed build the other and let traffic use the newly made half."

Again, and conspicuously, does the Democratic candidate display an inexcusable ignorance of basic facts.

McSparran even were he elected Governor would be helpless in the hands of a Republican House and Senate. He knows that.

What he does not know apparently is that the State Highway Department is not responsible for the condition or length or location of detours.

That is a matter of law. It is in the hands of the Legislature.

It would be wise for Mr. McSparran to read up on the subject—better still, to get reliable information from some honest Democratic lawyer on this and other subjects.

Or an engineer to build one-half, in length, of a concrete road at a time, strip, aradle pouring by on the other half!

On the subject of detours, which every auto owner recognizes as an unfortunate, but necessary, evil, I direct Mr. McSparran's attention to this fact:

Existing legislation does not permit the expenditure of State highway funds upon any roads except State highways or State aid highways.

As a result the Board of County Commissioners of every county undertakes for the sake of the benefits that will accrue to the county, to arrange and maintain all detours during construction work.

New England roads, to which Mr. McSparran refers, as I know, are much wider than the highways in Pennsylvania, which are from sixteen to eighteen feet, and it is possible to do there what cannot be done here.

Mr. McSparran, in his overwrought zeal for the "plain people" promises to bring about a condition where every township shall build its own State highways with funds furnished by the State.

Wildly Specious Pleas

This work is to be supervised not by engineers but by local road supervisors elected by the townships as at present.

It is another of his wildly impractical, specious pleas to the farming element among our people.

It is a suggestion of local graft dangled before the eyes of a certain class; a sop to catch the rural vote.

No State in the Union has attempted to put in operation any such impractical, nay, idiotic, highway system.

A system of patchwork roads, built by impractical, non-technical amateurs would be the result.

The great army of 600,000 motorcar owners in the State would rise as one man to curse the originator of such a system were it instituted.

But it's McSparran's idea all the same, and he has voiced it on the platform and from the stump over the State.

Enough has been shown, I think, from extracts alone as taken from the public addresses of the two candidates, Pinchot and McSparran, to indicate their economic policies. The commonsense constructive ideas of Pinchot and the hopelessly indefinite promises of McSparran based on a mixture of misinformation and socialistic scheme.

I desire to do Mr. McSparran the justice to say that he is sincere in his belief that his election as Governor would benefit the Commonwealth.

Also that he would try honestly to give the people an efficient administration according to his ideas and conceptions of government.

Appeals to Class Prejudice

But if these ideas are founded on the mass of misinformation, the distorted facts, the exaggerations and the wholly unreliable character of most of his campaign utterances, nothing but confusion could be the result.

Mr. McSparran appeals to class prejudice, always the hallmark of a Socialist. It stamps him as a radical, and a socialistic radical at that.

This was the urgent objection made against him by the conservative leaders of his party when his nomination was rushed through by the Democratic Committee.

He has justified this charge, and hence we find a considerable element of the old-line Democracy covertly against him, or at least indifferent to his success.

Mr. Pinchot has indulged in no bombast or vilification.

He says frankly there is a "mess at Harrisburg." He pledges his honor to clean it up.

He will have a majority of a Legislature committed to his plans.

McSparran would not only have no Legislature to indorse his fantastic schemes, but he would be helpless without it.

The conclusion of the whole matter, therefore, is that hope for the future, economically and in the way of clean, efficient government, lies in the hands of Gifford Pinchot, Forester, of Pike County, and not in those of John McSparran, "dirt farmer," of Lancaster.

McSPARRAN CALLS PENNA. ROAD COSTS EXTRAVAGANT

Democratic Nominee and Candidates Tour Susquehanna County

John A. McSparran, Democratic candidate for Governor, and other State candidates were received by large crowds in their tour of Susquehanna County yesterday.

A meeting was held in Montrose, the courthouse being inadequate to hold the number who wished to attend. McSparran compared the cost of State roads in Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio, giving figures, which, he said, showed Pennsylvania's extravagance and wasteful methods.

Robert E. Pattison told of the results of "centralization as we see it in Pennsylvania." He denounced the administration for "creating jobs as sinecures for a horde of hungry officeholders."

Meetings were held at New Milford and Hallstead in the afternoon, culminating with a big rally at Susquehanna late in the afternoon, and another at Forest City in the evening.

FAREWELL TO RECTOR

St. Simeon's Church Pays Tribute to Rev. George Walenta

Farewell services were held last night for the Rev. George Walenta, rector of St. Simeon's Episcopal Church, who is leaving that church for missionary work in the neighborhood of Brainerd, Minn.

The Rev. Albert Holt, rector of Christ Church, Franklinville, preached the sermon. In the chancel sat the Rev. Albert Holt, of Christ Church; the Rev. Perry Austin, of St. Luke's, and the Rev. John McGregory, assistant at St. Simeon's.

The congregation will present the departing rector a purse of gold.

$20,000 FIRE IN HIGHTSTOWN

Plant of Grover Brothers Almost Wiped Out by Incendiary Blaze

Hightstown, N. J., Oct. 24.—Virtually the entire plant of Grover Brothers & Co. was wiped out by fire this morning. Several buildings of the firm, which deals in hay, straw and grain, were burned to the ground. The only structure that was saved was one containing several carloads of potatoes. The loss is estimated at $20,000. Three of the buildings were not insured.

But for the heavy rainfall yesterday a large part of the residential sections of Franklin and Monmouth streets probably would have been destroyed by the burning embers which fell over this section. The origin of the fire is unknown, but the authorities believe it the work of an incendiary.

ASKS WIVES' REBURIAL

Will of Frank Engle, of Ogontz, Orders Bodies Transferred

An order to exhume the bodies of his first and second wives and have them reburied in Abington Cemetery is contained in the will of Frank Engle, of Ogontz, probated at Norristown today. His third wife and his daughter Mary divide the estate.

The residue of the $35,000 estate of Amanda Richmond, late of Whitemarsh, is willed to the endowment fund of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, Whitemarsh. To Cavalry Episcopal Church, Rockdale, Delaware County, is given $1000. Mrs. Richmond was found asphyxiated in her home last week. David Johnson, Jr., of Chester, is named executor.

The three children of Mary B. Schively, Wyncote, inherit her $2500 estate.

THOMPSON LEFT $167,000

Valuation Is Placed on Estate of Dead Clubman

The late George Lee Thompson, well-known clubman, whose death occurred recently, left personal property amounting to $167,298, according to an inventory filed.

Other inventories of personal estates filed today include that of Maria Person, valued at $8,102.58, and Arabella L. H. Hooter, $12,551.70.

GARLAND'S "SOUL MATES" ARE THREATENED BY MOB

Millionaire Idealist Also Receives Warning of Tar and Feathers

North Carver, Mass., Oct. 24.—"If you have not gone your separate ways by the 20th of October, you will be dragged from your beds, stripped, lashed, tarred and feathered, and ridden out of town on a rail. Complaints of your shameless and indecent love cult have been ignored by you, and you have bothered this community long enough."

Such is the communication received by Doris Benson, one of the beautiful young "soul mates" of Charles Garland, who, with her companion, Alice Edgerton, college girl of refinement, is sharing the "chicken-coop" love colony with the millionaire "idealist."

Garland has received a similar message.

The countryside is aroused by actions and love creed of Garland, who estranged his wife by declaring his love for Lillian Conrad, Philadelphia art student, who lived with him as his "soul mate," only to be deserted when he found new soul affinities in the Misses Benson and Edgerton. Police action is demanded.

BRIDE-ELECT OF KAISER UNDER CARE OF SPECIALIST

Princess Hermine Directs Chateau Work Previous to Marriage

Doorn, Holland, Oct. 24.—(By A. P.)—Princess Hermine of Reuss has been, for the last week at the Chateau of former Emperor William here, actively directing the work preparatory to her marriage to the ex-Kaiser next month. She is arranging for the installation of furniture and the decoration of her apartments.

Dr. Schmidt, of Berlin, is at the chateau to attend Princess Hermine, who requires a specialist. The arrival of Prince Fuerstenberg and another confidential court adviser at the chateau is announced.

A NEW ARABIAN NIGHTS

"Beautiful Belinda" has started on a wild and weird tale for the entertainment of "Beneath Bedlam." Thousands are following her flights of fancy in the All-Star Comic Section of the Sunday Public Ledger. "Make It a Habit."—Adv.

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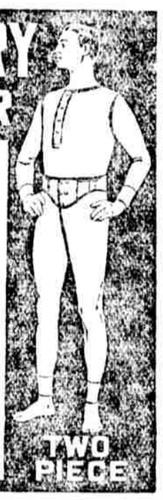

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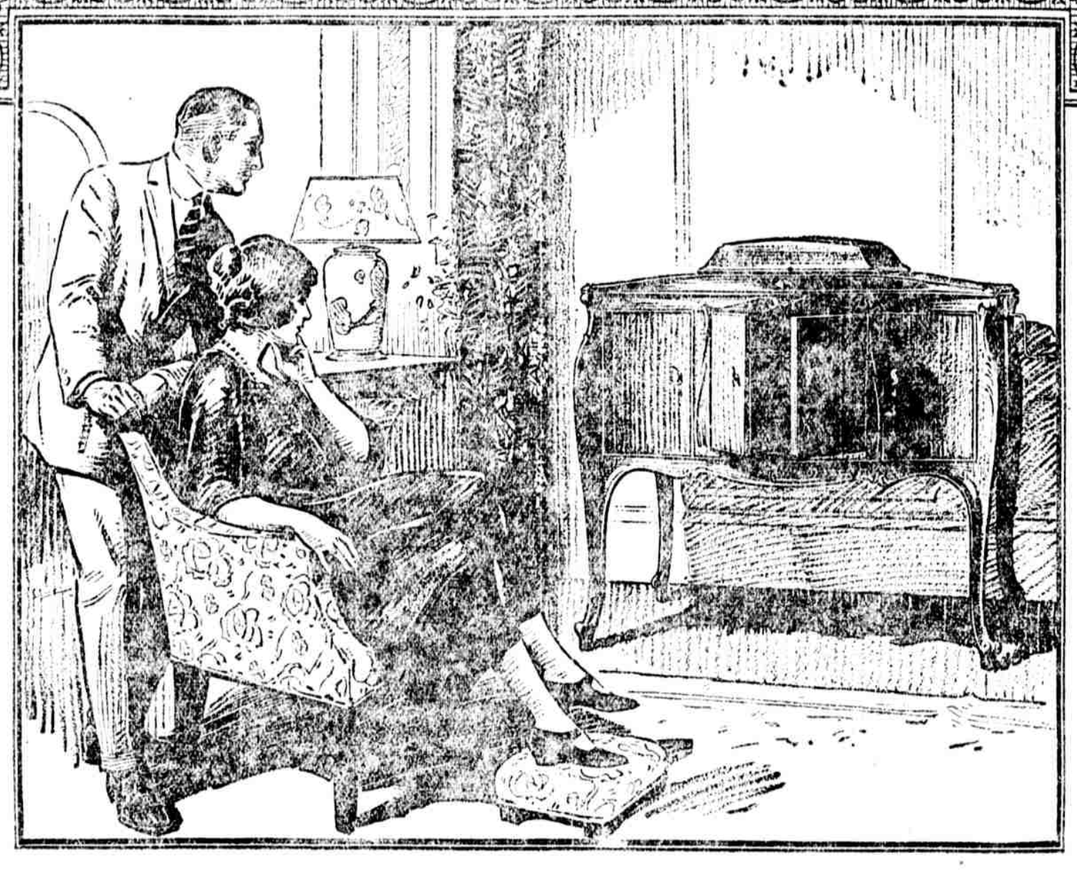

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