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The Centre Democrat.

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Editorial.

HON. P. Gray Meek's name is prominently mentioned as a probable successor to James Kerr, as Democratic State Chairman.

The watch contest has become an important part of County Institute. It is all that many of the teachers talk of or are concerned about.

The Logan masque ball to be held in the Bush Arcade on New Year's eve promises to be a fine affair. Good music has been secured for this occasion.

It is frequently rumored that Cyrus Goss, the former republican county treasurer, would not object to trying his hand as a candidate on that ticket for sheriff, later.

The police of Wheeling, West Va., baited for minnows and caught a whale when among the inmates of a disorderly house raided by them the Chief of Police was discovered.

Mrs. Norcross, mother of the dead bomb-thrower, says "he never drank, smoked or chewed. He did not like cards." That settles it, he must have been a genuine crank.

A KANSAS woman predicts that the destruction of the world on the evening of Christmas Day, and a number of husbands and fathers are petitioning her to make it a day or so before Christmas.

A meeting of the National Democratic Committee, to fix the time and place for holding the Convention to nominate candidate for President and Vice President, has been called to convene at Washington, January 21.

EDITOR FIEDLER is aspiring to be sent from this district as a delegate to the Republican National Convention. He would not dare, in that event, to vote for Blaine, as Harrison might lop off his official head.

MASTER Gilbert Dill, son of Hon. Andrew Dill, dec'd., has secured a position as page in the House of Representatives at a monthly salary of \$75. The appointment was made by Congressman Wolverton, of Sunbury.

The Commissioners of Dauphin co., have refused to pay the Coroner's fee for holding the inquest on the body of the late Hon. C. S. Wolfe who fell dead near the Capitol Grounds in the city of Harrisburg. They claim that a dozen or more people saw Mr. Wolfe fall and expire and that an inquest was unnecessary.

The famous E. T. Gallagher, bridge builder and contractor of Lock Haven, is very anxious to lay a patent artificial stone floor in the vaults of the court house. We had an idea that this distinguished gentleman would steer clear of Centre county after his record on the Milesburg and Karthaus bridges. Oh, no, Gallagher, keep out of Centre county.

DISCUSSION concerning the method of choosing Presidential electors is increasing. An entirely new proposition has been made, which will receive considerable attention. This plan is not to elect the electors by Congressional districts, but to apportion them in the ratios of the votes for the respective parties. In other words, to divide a state's electors in proportion as each party's vote was the total vote of the state. This method would do away with the tricks of gerrymandered Congressional districts and would practically be a direct vote by the people. No state, under that plan, could hope to go solidly for either candidate.

Can't Annex Us.

The Phillipsburg Ledger says: We learn from a Bellefonte exchange that Mr. Harry Green, of that place, has accepted a position in the Moshannon bank. Council will soon pass an ordinance confining the Bellefonters to one quarter of the town, like the Latin quarter in Rome, or Chinatown in San Francisco. If Bellefonte wasn't so much beneath us (in altitude) we'd annex it, but if we get all the people here we can afford to let the buildings go.

-Kittie Rhoads next week. Popular prices.

-Anything and everything kept by a first class shoe store-Mingle.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

IN SESSION IN THE COURT HOUSE.

A Large Attendance-Interesting Sessions Held-Prof. Etters has the Grip-Officers and Instructors-Check System Adopted.

On Monday morning the 45th Annual Teachers' Institute, of Centre county, held its opening session in the court house. The attendance was as large as usual and the room was well filled with the young lady and gentleman teachers from every section of our county.

Prof. Etters, the county Supt., was on hand though looking somewhat paler than usual from the effects of a recent attack of the grip. He had all provisions made for instructors so that everything would move along nicely should he not feel inclined to attend the different sessions.

At 10:30 on Monday morning, Institute was called to order by Prof. Etters. Prof. John Harrison, of Bellefonte, enrolling clerk, was kept busy taking down names by the many teachers. Prof. C. R. Neff, of Millheim, occupied the secretary's chair and Miss Bessie Dorworth, of Bellefonte, presided at the piano. The session was formally opened with singing and prayer.

Prof. Etters then made a short opening address and outlined the duty of each one to contribute to the success of the Institute. Henry Houck, assistant state superintendent, was present and led the institute in singing and giving instructions in that line.

This year a check system has been adopted to insure the attendance of the teachers. When they enroll each is given a card with name and address on it. Two school directors stationed at the door punch these cards to show when they came and left at each session. At the end of the week the time spent in Institute is computed on the card and they are given due credit accordingly by their local board of school directors for the same. Some don't like this process, others are perfectly satisfied. One thing is certain very few teachers are seen roving about the streets or at the hotels when a session is in progress.

At this point an opportunity was given to interrupt the proceedings and use the valuable time of the institute for the purpose of booming the *Keystone Gazette*. It was out of place and uncalled for. County institute is not a place for the business people of the town to come and advertise at the public's expense. Prof. Etters should not have permitted it. This watch for the most popular lady is a fraud—nothing else and we are sorry to see that certain men gave their influence in that direction. "A Gold Watch worth \$25," and the teachers of Centre county, with County Supt. Etters' permission, urged to squander money for copies of a certain paper! Is that not out of place? Is that institute work? The jeweler from whom the same was bought does not want the people to understand that he sells such a watch for \$25—it would injure his business. The *Keystone Gazette* is playing a pure game of fraud upon the teachers to begin with in offering a cheap watch and saying it is worth \$25, and we are sorry to see the above gentlemen encouraging school teachers to squander money on a fraud. Then the system causes rivalry which distracts attention from institute work, and it will finally result in enmity and bitterness among those concerned.

In our opinion it is a very small piece of business. As this has become such an important part of institute work we think the public should be informed of the fact, and that each day Supt. Etters appoints six teachers to go down and spend their time counting the vote.

Prof. Etters made a mistake in this matter and we think he will see his error when he gives it his careful consideration.

Prof. D. M. Wolf then introduced a resolution expressing sympathy for Prof. D. M. Lieb who, on account of a protracted illness, has been unable to be at his post or to attend institute this year.

Dr. Horn, of Allentown, then followed with a short talk on object lessons and their use in the school room.

According to the roll call over 230 teachers were present at the morning session.

The afternoon session was opened with singing under the direction of Supt. Houck. He has the faculty of entertaining the audience and all joined in with life and vim. Prof. Groff, of Bucknell University, then addressed the teachers. He took "Physiology and Hygiene" for his subject. His talk was practical, interesting and instructive, and was appreciated by all present.

After music and a short intermission

Prof. Horn took up an interesting theme, "How to train the memory," showing the importance of attention, repetition system, etc., to strengthen that faculty.

During the afternoon Prof. Etters read out the following committee on resolutions: I. N. McCloskey, S. D. Gettig, W. E. Keene, Miss Maggie Hanna and Amelia Martin. On nominations A. E. Fletcher, J. F. Garthoff, A. G. Archey.

On Monday evening Prof. Houck delivered his lecture upon "Bound to Win." The room was well filled and all were highly pleased. The lecture was principally of an educational order and well suited for the occasion.

TUESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The session was opened with devotional exercises, led by Rev. Hoshour, pastor of Bellefonte Lutheran church. Mr. Neff read the minutes of the previous day which were approved. Then some time was devoted to the discussion of "How to prevent whispering in school," which proved quite interesting. Prof. Houck took up the subject "Work for the school" and dwelt upon the opening exercises, recitations and how to study. Prof. Groff then resumed his talk on Hygiene in which he spoke particularly of ventilation and contagious diseases. As the Prof. is the author of a number of valuable treatises on these subjects he recommended them.

The afternoon session as usual opened with singing. Dr. Horn then took up "Common Sense Methods of Teaching" the different branches in the public schools and answered a number of questions bearing on that subject. Prof. Groff gave a good talk on "History" and advocated the teaching of local and state history in connection with U. S. history. He does not take stock in the events of a war or of battles but thinks that the causes and results of them are of more information. He also recommended teaching the biographies of the prominent men of the country.

Tuesday evening Hon. Henry Hall delivered his lecture the "Gospel of Get There."

WEDNESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Institute was called to order at nine o'clock. Rev. Houck, of the Methodist church, conducted the devotional exercises. After singing several songs the institute was open for a short discussion of words and syllables in which many of the teachers took part.

The first speaker of the morning was Prof. Groff who first spoke of local history and recommended the works published by Hon. John B. Lion, Centre county's famous historian. The Prof. then took up for his theme a short talk on rocks giving an outline of the formation and structure of the principal and important rocks found in this part of state. As Prof. Groff has taught Geology for many years, he made his subject quite interesting.

The DEMOCRAT went to press earlier this week than usual and the minutes of the remaining sessions will have to be omitted.

The following is a complete list of school teachers in our county:

- Bellefonte—D. M. Lieb, G. W. Johnstonbaugh, W. P. Hosterman, Laura Wright, J. F. Harrison, Jr., Ella Levy, Kate Herwe, Carrie Weaver, Annie McCaffery, Kate Powers, Jennie Strickland, Anna MacBride, Rose Fox, Bolla Rankin, Millie Smith, Bessie Dorworth.
- Benner District—T. L. Cruz, James Cori, Georgia Atteas, Pleasant Gap; H. N. Hoy, S. H. Hoy, John M. Woodcock, Bellefonte; Jno. P. Myers, Boalsburg.
- Joppa District—Eliza Hancock, Nannie DeLassus, Edith Zimmerman, Ida J. Orris, A. M. Butler, E. R. Hancock, James A. B. Miller, J. B. Krebs, Florence E. Orris, Edith J. Irwin, Milesburg; P. B. Loefer, Howard; H. E. Leathers, Mt. Eagle; Levi Murray, Centre Hall.
- Burnside District—Emma Midlam, Frank Loy, Pine Glenn; P. M. Bennisson, Moshannon.
- Centre Hall District—H. C. Rothrock, John G. Dauberman, Maggie Hanna, Centre Hall.
- College District—G. W. Williams, E. B. Harrison, Boalsburg; W. H. Roush, J. S. Dale, Robert Wasson, Lemont; John M. Hartwick, J. L. Holmes, N. S. Hartwick, State College; J. F. Roman, Clement Dale, Oak Hill Station.
- Curtis District—T. S. Delong, Ora J. McCloskey, Romola; Mollie K. Hall, Howard; Sadie Casselberry, Mt. Eagle; M. V. Thomas, Milesburg.
- Ferguson District—Nannie J. Thomas, A. G. Archey, Sue Dannelly, Pine Grove Mills; Annie McWilliams, Cooper Miller, Rebecca Bolinger, Frank Bailey, Edgar Bowersox, J. B. Campbell, Clara Walker, Mattie Ewing, Fairbrook; Jacob Harpster, Gatesburg; George B. Gonsen, Ellis Lytle, Rock Spring; Gertrude Osborn, State College.
- Gregg Township—D. M. Wolf, M. A. Kennelley, Mary Guise, Anna Grove, A. L. Duck, C. E. Royer, R. U. Biner, J. P. Hookman, F. F. Jamison, Harry Grove, Ada Brons, Spring Mills; Geo. I. Yearick, Geo. F. Weaver, Madisonburg.
- Haines District—W. A. Krise, Z. D. Thomas, Kate Bollinger, A. M. Martin, Aronsburg; W. T. Winkler, Coburn; R. A. Detwiler, Woodward; J. N. Myer, Orris C. Walker, E. R. Wolf, Rebersburg.
- Harris District—S. D. Gettig, C. L. Moore, W. P. Hoover, Florence E. Orris, Clara Coxey, Boalsburg; J. L. Tressler, Linden Hall.
- Howard Borough—William M. Smith, E. E. Holter, Amy J. Kline, Howard.
- Howard Township—J. L. Gardner, Theophilus Fletcher, Temple E. Hall, Howard; John T. Bowers, Blanchard; J. T. Leathers, Bertha Leathers, Mt. Eagle; Mary C. Zimmerman, Milesburg.
- Huston District—E. B. Williams, Alice Horton, Ella M. Fleck, Julian; O. D. Eberts, Fort Matilda; Mary McCellian, Martha Furnace.
- Half Moon District—Lizzie McCracken, W. B. Matern, Frank Thompson, Anna Wylie, Stormstown; Dora B. Finch, Walter T. Wyo, Loveville.
- Liberty District—I. N. McCloskey, Henry Spangler, Laura Foreman, Lydia A. Kline, Maud Snyder, W. B. Haines, W. S. Hoiter, K. S. Haines, Blanchard; J. L. Fletcher, Howard.

(Continued on inside page.)

NOT IN THE RING.

Last week Mr. James Bayard, who for the past year was one of the regular mail carriers at the Bellefonte post office, resigned his position and a new man had to be appointed in his place. It is a nice position with a salary of about \$600 per year. There were several applicants for the vacancy and, of course, but one man could be selected and the others disappointed. It is a very common thing for parties to make political capital out of such situations, but in this case the conditions are such that they have aroused considerable indignation in the community. Whether there is just cause for such a feeling we will leave our readers to infer for themselves. The situation, as far as we could learn, was as follows:

Under a republican administration, and especially under Postmaster Fiedler a republican only would get it. Among the principal applicants were A. V. Smith, John Sourbeck and Amos Mullen, all of Bellefonte. Mr. Smith has been a life-long republican and is an old soldier. He never held a public position, always was active and true to the party, perfectly reliable for the position and the income from such a source would have come very handy to him to support himself and family. John Sourbeck is one who likewise is deserving as a republican, who never received anything in the line of an office and had good endorsement.

Col. Mullen was appointed instead. When it is remembered that Mr. Mullen held the position of county detective for six years and just recently was appointed census enumerator and lastly mail carrier, it looks as though some folks were living off of the public crib eternally and other parties are shoved aside for the favorites. Now if this appointment bears any mark of fairness about it we fail to catch the point. Postmaster Fiedler is responsible for the men appointed to those positions. In this case, we are told, Fiedler says Gen. Beaver selected Col. Mullen. That sounds a little thin and is only a ruse to shift the responsibility. Mr. Fiedler without a doubt selected Col. Mullen, an old office-holder, and cast aside the strong claims of Messrs. Sourbeck and Smith.

Col. Mullen belongs to Fiedler's gang of ring politicians—the other men don't. That explains the whole affair. You must train with Fiedler, boom the *Gazette* or you will never get a position, no matter how deserving you are or how long you work for or vote the republican ticket.

Who Pays the Tariff Tax.

One of the foremost claims of the Protectionist is that the foreign shipper pays the duties. If this is true, isn't it strange that when famine threatens any country, one of the first means of relief thought of should be a diminution or removal of import duties on food stuffs? Again, the report of the Treasury department for the fiscal year 1890 shows that 6100 gallons of castor oil were imported, valued at \$2910. The duties were \$5520.

Now, if the foreign shipper paid the duty, is it not certain that he not only made us a present of the oil, but gave us besides \$2910 to get rid of it? In 1890 imports brought to the United States 664,653 gallons of spirits distilled from grain, valued at \$456,121, the duties on which were \$1,329,367. Who paid these duties? If the importers, they lost not only the liquor, but \$873,246 besides. These are, of course, extreme cases, but the truth or fallacy of a proposition is generally more forcibly shown by taking extreme cases.—*Rural New Yorker*.

-Kittie Rhoads next week. Popular prices.

-A Johnstown constable had his eyes opened on a new point of law a few days ago. He went to Homer City, Indiana county, to arrest a man whom he found at work in the mines. When the constable attempted to make the arrest the miner laughed him to scorn, saying that according to a certain new law, arrests could not be made under the ground. The constable went out to look up this point and then the miner made good his escape.

-John J. Porter, whose home is near Petersburg, Huntingdon county, sentenced his dog to be shot, the animal having been accused of an undue fondness for mutton. Sentence was accordingly executed, the ball entering the dog's head a little above the right ear and coming out at the left eye. But eighteen days after this event Mr. Porter discovered the dog near his residence, still living, but almost dead from the loss of blood and exhaustion. The poor brute was carried home and is rapidly recovering.

GREAT TUGS OF WAR

Men of Ten Nations Pitted Against Each Other.

AMERICA "DOWNS" OLD ENGLAND,

And Charley Mitchell Dubs the British Representatives "A Lot of Bloomin' Jays"—Norway Defeats Canada, Germany "Downs" Switzerland and Ireland Yields to Italy.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The great international tug of war tournament began last night in the Madison Square garden. Nearly 20,000 persons witnessed the contests, among whom were the well known pugilists, Jim Corbett, Charley Mitchell and Frank P. Slavin. In selecting the teams Messrs. McNeill and Sanderson, the promoters and managers of the tournament, have chosen men who are built like giants. They have agreed to pay each competitor \$5 a day during the week for his work and will divide \$1,000 in prizes among the best teams—\$500 to first, \$300 to second, \$150 to third, and \$50 to fourth.

The first contest was between the Canadians and Norwegians. The conditions were that the men must pull until one side or the other gained seven feet of rope. The Canadians got the better of the drop, and maintained their advantage for nearly twenty-five minutes, but after that it was plain the Norwegians had all the endurance, and at the end of twenty-nine minutes they had pulled the Canadians clear off their feet.

Ten brawny Scotchmen then took the mark against an equal number of Danes. The Scotchmen had it all their way from the start, and in a little less than eight minutes had the Danes off their feet. Then came the contest that naturally excited the most interest of the evening. To the strains of the "Star Spangled Banner" ten magnificently developed specimens of American manhood marched to the front. They had as opponents ten stalwart men who posed as the representatives of England. Everybody, of course, wanted to see the lion get his tail twisted, and they did. The Englishmen lost their grip from the start, but only succumbed after a desperate battle lasting thirty-five minutes. Charley Mitchell was very much disgusted at the showing of his countrymen, and declared them to be a lot of "bloomin' jays."

The Americans in this contest had a clever system of "heave" which meant two or three inches at every assault. Slowly but surely the rope was pulled away from the Englishmen. At the end of a half an hour the white ball showed only two inches of the goal mark. There the Englishmen clung for dear life, but at the end of five minutes more they were gone, and the crowd howled itself hoarse.

Next came the Germans and the Swedes. The German ten consisted of eight brewers, one machinist and one butcher, and their anchor, Adolph Hitzel, weighed 285 pounds. The Germans beat the Swedes in 2 hours and 34 minutes. This is the longest on record, beating the longest previous record by 14 seconds.

The Italians, amidst great excitement, defeated the Irish team in 30 minutes.

SECRETARY ELKINS.

The West Virginian Takes Proctor's Portfolio in the Cabinet.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, has been nominated to be secretary of war. The appointment of Mr. Elkins does not, it is said, in any way affect the use or non-use of Mr. Blaine's name for the presidential nomination. Mr. Elkins is here and says this much himself. He does not credit the position given him to the influence of the secretary of state, and yet he says he would not disown any influence his association with Mr. Blaine may have with the president in reaching the conclusion to appoint him to the secretaryship of war. It is known now that this portfolio was tendered to him at Cape May last summer. At the time he first refused it. He wanted General Nathan Goff of his state, provided for first. Now that General Goff is made a United States circuit court judge, Mr. Elkins feels that he can well take the war office.

An Heroic Brakeman's Death. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 19.—William C. Griesh, the young brakeman in the employ of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, who nobly risked his life at American street and Lehigh avenue, to snatch from danger and impending death under the wheels of an approaching train a poor woman who was picking coal along the tracks, died yesterday in the Episcopal hospital of the injuries he received in his noble effort. Brakeman Griesh was but 26 years old.

Austria's Emperor Seriously Ill. PARIS, Dec. 22.—The Vienna correspondent of La Prix telegraphs that Emperor Francis Joseph, who, some days ago, was suffering from a cold, but had almost entirely recovered, has had a relapse and is now a victim of the prevailing epidemic of influenza. The dispatch further states that the emperor's attack is of a rather serious nature.

-The reason Mingle's shoe store is so popular, they are careful to handle only the most reliable class of goods and customers have the assurance of receiving full value every time.

SIGNIFICANT VOTING.

An analysis of the votes cast in the democratic caucus for Speaker, develops some strange and rather significant sectional expressions which all parties would do well to appreciate.

Crisp and Mills, the two leading candidates of the party, are both from the south, but Crisp received more than double the number of Southern votes given to Mills. The general vote of the Southern states between these two Southern leaders was 54 for Crisp and 29 for Mills, while the Middle states voted 20 for Crisp and 13 for Mills.

Next to the singular significance of the southern vote between Crisp and Mills, the vote of New England and the West is most instructive. New England gave 10 votes to Mills and 1 to Crisp, and the Western states gave 29 to Mills and 9 to Crisp.

These peculiar sectional divisions are not in any measure accidental. The Middle states, the centre of conservatism in democratic politics, give 20 votes to Crisp and 13 to Mills, and it is obviously the conservative sentiment of the South that gives Crisp more than two to one of the votes from that section.

The special lesson of the overwhelming majority for Mills over Crisp in New England and the West, is the emphasis it meant to give in favor of the most radical tariff reform. It was not expected that any more radical tariff revision could come from Mills' election as Speaker than from Crisp's success; but New England and the West fairly represent their sections in striving to give the greatest possible impetus to the lowest tariff taxes.

If these expressions of the West and of New England were the mere individual views of radicals who won accidental success in politics, they would be of little moment; but when it is considered that they to-day represent the clearly dominate sentiment of the people of those sections, it is high time for conservative tariff men to appreciate the peril of persisting in high war taxes in time of peace.

The greatest peril to the maintenance of a conservative protective policy is the abuse of protection in the prostitution to monopoly greed by oppressive taxes on the necessities of life and of life. It is this gross perversion of the protective policy that has driven once protective New England and the West to the very verge of free trade; and it is the recoil of public sentiment in those sections that makes their democratic and even some of their republican congressmen strike for the most radical reform.—*Philadelphia Times*.

PRIVACY OF THE BALLOT.

The new ballot law is being freely debated all over the state. The following clip from the Harrisburg Star.

The machinery to be used in conducting elections in Pennsylvania is now being selected by the authorities in power for the purpose, and when the booths and tables to be decided upon are named by the state government the same will be used at every voting place in the state at all future elections. The duty of deciding on the make of this machinery or furniture has but one object in view, namely, to place the voter beyond the control or overbearing influence of any man or set of men, and to afford him every facility to vote his convictions and his preferences as to measure and candidates. By the process of having all tickets printed by authority of law, and furnishing the voter at but one source of supply, all tricks in the way of spurious tickets are overcome by impossibility of success therein. There will be no spurious tickets admitted to the source of supply and no man can tell how another votes by the appearance of his ballot. This will guard the secrecy of the ballot more rigidly than it has ever enjoyed such an advantage in Pennsylvania.

The furniture to be used in future elections in this state, and the situation in which the citizen is placed at the moment he is to deposit his ballot, guard him against all interference by outsiders. The old practice of a crowd of "workers" surrounding a voter, each intent in an effort to force a certain ticket into his hands, will be abolished. No outsider will be allowed to carry tickets to supply voters therewith, and we take it the old custom of sending tickets enclosed in envelopes to citizens will be abolished. The voter can only obtain his ticket inside the railing where the voting is to be done, and when he prepares that ticket it will be done inside of booths which the state authorities are to order built and where no curious eye can overlook his action.

-Have you seen the new stock of overcoats just received at the Philad. Branch?