

The Democrat.

Circulation Over 10,000—Largest in Centre County.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, APRIL 27th, 1911.

Vol. 34, No. 17.

KEYSTONE PARTY PAPER WINS FIGHT

COURT DECIDES IT IS ENTITLED
TO RECOGNITION.

RULING APPLIES TO CENTRE CO.

Advertising of the Auditors' Statement in Centre County Refused to be Published in the *Keystone Paper*—Not Considered Legal—May Cause Trouble.

An important decision was rendered in Pittsburgh last week that should open the eyes of the commissioners, and auditors of Centre county.

"The Centre Democrat" is the only paper in Centre county that supported the *Keystone Paper* in Centre county last fall. The *Keystone Paper* swept Centre county. When the auditors' statement was completed, "The Centre Democrat," believing that the Act of Assembly placing the "dominant" party paper, made application for the same for the information of our readers; also so that the advertisement would be legal; as well as for the financial benefit to the publisher, who he believed he was fully entitled by the fate of politics. In addition, the enormous circulation of this paper entitled it to reasonable consideration, as it is the best medium to convey the important information to the taxpayers of Centre county, who pay the bills.

When our application was presented to the county auditors, Mr. Hofer, the democrat, was impressed with the force of our claim. On the other hand, Messrs. H. B. Pontius and Robert Musser, the majority members and republicans who run the Board, were surly, impudent, and treated our demands with studied discourtesy and contempt—not being able to give a reasonable explanation for their action practically were unable to defend their course. Our claim was refused this paper, as well as the 5600 subscribers most of whom, no doubt, in the past voted for these two chronic office holders, who, for years, have "soldiered" on Centre county as auditors, by pretending to inspect the various accounts, where they were simply "farming" their job at \$3 per day, doing little more than looking important while polishing the seat of their breeches in those big easy chairs for almost three months, and then swore to their accounts and drew their money. If this was not graft, pray, tell us what the word means.

To come back to the story, a similar question on advertising arose in Pittsburgh, was taken to court and the following is the result as published in the daily papers last Saturday:

KEYSTONE A DOMINANT PARTY. JUDGE RULERS.

Organization's Supporting Paper Recognized in Court Order.

PITTSBURG, Pa., April 20.

Judge John C. Haymaker, in common pleas court No. 2, today ruled that the *Keystone Paper*, by reason of the vote of the state.

He ordered a peremptory writ of mandamus, directing the Allegheny county commissioners to publish the mercantile appraisers' list and for the *Keystone Paper* to represent the *Keystone Party* in the next campaign.

The law requires the list printed in three papers in each county, one to represent the minority party of the two organizations dominant.

If the above report is correct the same law applies in all advertising in every county of the state.

For that reason we assert that the recent advertisement of the auditor's statement is illegal, because it did not recognize the dominant party in Centre county.

Before the county commissioners can be liable for the full amount, and thereby subject themselves to more surcharges. Their recent experience with the High Street bridge should be a timely warning to them and especially their bondsmen to go slow, as different auditors may do some real auditing next year.

Soldiers to Camp in Snyder Co.

Monroe township has been selected as the site for this year's encampment of the Third Brigade of the National Guards of Pennsylvania.

A tented city will be pitched on the Pennsylvania railroad land, just north of Sellersville, and more than 2500 soldiers will camp, drill and fight sham battles within a radius of five miles from July 22 to July 27.

The encampment will include the Ninth, Twelfth and Thirteenth Regiments of the National Guards of Pennsylvania, a battery of artillery, several troops of cavalry, both regular army men and militia, besides a corps of State and another of regular army of field engineers.

Constructing Road at State College

Contractor R. B. Taylor and a force of men are at work constructing a piece of roadway at State College between Allen and Frazier streets, which the Times says is a subject of favorable comment on the part of road makers.

Before the work is placed the road is thoroughly scraped and rounded up, the centre being twelve inches higher than the outer edges. After the stone has been rounded up pulverized limestone is deposited to a pretty good depth, rolled, wetted, rolled, and rolled again, until it is so thoroughly packed that it becomes like adamant. Other streets may be similarly treated if the experiment proves successful.

Big Circus Coming

The very best and very youngest in Bellefonte and to many older persons as well, is that we are to have a circus added to the other attractions coming this summer. Arrangements were made by the advance representative for the appearance of the Mighty Haag show here on Thursday, May 25. The Mighty Haag shows are among the best on the road and have a complete museum and menagerie of caged wild animals, elephants, camels and all that goes with a circus.

A SIDE WALK DROPS.

There was considerable excitement occasioned on Monday by the pavement in the front of Sim Baum's store giving way. For some time a depression was noticed in the pavement, and in the past few days it began settling more. Monday afternoon Red Lane stopped on the depression to test it when the pavement gave way, forming an opening five feet in diameter and eight feet deep.

Everybody stopped in amazement, not knowing what had happened. It was amusing to hear the strange queries made, and peculiar theories advanced by the town philosophers to this strange incident. Some predict that the building is liable to drop into a subterranean cavern. Others say the pavement covered an old abandoned well that stood in front of the old Conrad House.

The fact is, a deep cesspool was located at the rear of the old Conrad House that led into an open ledge of limestone rock. In time this has carried away much of the clay covering and the surface caved in.

It is not an uncommon thing to find similar sinks in other parts of the town due to the same causes, cesspools carrying away the soil that covers open caverns, or limestone ledges. Similar trouble was experienced under Crider's Exchange, where the cesspool was abandoned and the waste of the building is now carried to the sewers.

Officials Accused of Fraud.

Samuel M. Hoyer, mayor of Altoona, filed a bill in equity in the Blair county court on Friday against the officers and directors of the Keystone State Building and Loan Association of Altoona, charging them with "having wrecked the institution by improvident management, loaning money on doubtful securities and investing its funds in worthless corporations, in which they are personally interested." Mr. Hoyer alleges that "the association is insolvent" and asks the court to appoint a receiver to wind up its affairs.

The officers of the association, who are thus attacked, are James Post, pure food commissioner of Pennsylvania; James H. Craig, deputy secretary of internal affairs of the State; H. C. Barr, a former mayor of Altoona; H. E. Ferguson, a former prothonotary of Blair county; Hays W. Culp, solicitor for the Blair county poor board, and George W. Harsham, a former city controller of Altoona. Mr. Hoyer is the trustee of the poor funds which were bequeathed to the city by William T. Marriott, a benevolent citizen. Under Mr. Marriott's will these funds were invested in the association, now alleged to be insolvent, and the interest thereof is to be used to buy bread and other necessities for the deserving poor of the city. The suit will be heard in court on Monday, May 1.

Negro's Head in Laundry Sack.

The discovery of a negro's head in what was supposed to be a package of work at the Diamond City laundry at Wilkes-Barre Saturday morning caused a panic among the girls. The package was sent by mistake.

Miss Nellie Morris was opening a laundry sack when she found a human head. With a shriek she fell in a swoon. The girls rushed to her, saw the head, and with a chorus of cries seized the unconscious girl and dashed out of the room, crying that a murder had been committed.

Manager Davis found that the package came from White Haven. The collector explained on the telephone that he had taken it from a physician's office in mistake for laundry. The head was returned to the physician.

Post Office Robbery.

The Barnesboro post office was visited by a pair of safe crackers sometime on Thursday night, of the last week. The result was a water haul for the crackers. They were likely scared away before they had completed the work of blowing the safe. Entrance was gained to the office by way of a couple of barrels, a box and then through a rear window. The thief is a small one, stood in the rear of the office and the outer door was drilled and blown. The inner door, separating the robbers and a goodly sum of money and stamps, stood open and before it could be drilled and exploded it is thought the robbers were scared away.

Hospital Notes.

Operation: Mrs. May Saxon.

Admitted for treatment: Mrs. Isabel Zerby.

Discharged: Charles Courtney, Mrs. Clara Gross, Mrs. Mary Beezer, and Mrs. Lillian Kline.

There are twenty-seven patients in the hospital.

Mrs. Lucy Stuart, while eating chicken, swallowed a bone, lodging in the esophagus. It was removed by Dr. Harris this a. m.

A Letter From China.

An interesting communication will be found on an inside page of this issue from Rev. S. H. McClure, now a missionary located in the famine district of China. Rev. McClure writes a Bellefonte boy, being a son of Mr. and Mrs. James McClure, of Bellefonte. His description of the extent of the famine and the consequent suffering is truly touching.

Boy Shot in Fracas.

Layton Cupp, aged 12 years, a youth of Newberry, Lycoming county, is confined an unwilling prisoner at his home, by reason of having had his right leg filled with shot, the result of a shooting fracas in which a number of boys are said to have engaged. He is not dangerously hurt.

Insane Patient Escaped.

John Kreman, an insane patient of the Lehigh county hospital, overpowered Hospital Steward Walbert, while he was making the rounds of the insane ward on Monday night, seized the keys, unlocked the office in his cell and made his escape from the institution.

Marriage License.

Wm. C. Yeager - Alpha W. Va. Mabel L. Bathurst - Curtin, Pa.

BERT DELIGE PAYS PENALTY WITH LIFE

EXECUTION IN COUNTY JAIL ON
TUESDAY.

WAS CHEERFUL AND CONFIDENT

To the Last Moment—The Execution Was Orderly and Without a Mishap—Made a Brief Address—Never Faltered.

The majesty of the law was maintained, and the orderly manner of our court composed on Tuesday by the execution of Bert Delige, in the Centre county jail yard, for the cruel murder of Mrs. John Baudis, at Beane, on Sunday evening, October 1910.

There was nothing sensational in the proceedings, or of unusual interest to the public, and for that reason there was little interest shown or excitement manifested over the event in our town; therefore we deem it unnecessary to furnish our readers with an elaborate account of the last incident in this most revolting episode.

Doomed Man Prepared.

For several days prior to the execution the death watch that was kept over the doomed man were vigilant lest he might defeat the ends of justice. Reports were afloat that poison had been stealthily carried to his cell, and he was unafraid. From the day of his conviction until the last moment, on the scaffold, Delige maintained the same cool, composed and resigned disposition regarding his impending doom. He was cheerful and kindly towards all; conscious of his awful crime and ever willing, in his declarations, to pay the full penalty with his own life. He professed to have found forgiveness from a higher court, and there is not a particle of doubt, but that, when he was haled into eternity, he was fully confident that he had atoned for his sins and believed that he was at peace with his God.

That alone can account for the calm and untroubled death. On Sunday it was the privilege of the writer to pay Bert Delige a brief visit at his cell. He was at his ease, as he gave us a most cordial greeting. He was happy as a child, and the brief conversation evoked frequent smiles and kind words. He was not at all nervous, but truly calm. It was marvelous to behold; and under the conditions, almost beyond comprehension. And that was his same demeanor on his fatal day, even to his very last moment on the scaffold.

Delige's Last Day.

On Monday he was visited by his brother Walter, of Scotia, and sister Nora, of Bellefonte; and at their final parting he was much affected. After that he soon discussed some of the arrangements for the morrow. He made a special request for some dainties for the evening meal which included a dish of ice cream of which he was very fond, and the sheriff gladly supplied it. He asked Deputy Reese to aid him in dressing in his new clothes in the morning, and conversed freely with his watchman and other prison inmates. He told his watch that he had made full confession, and that he was absolutely innocent of the other serious charges alleged against him—that he did not kill John Baudis at Williamsport; that the shooting of the Williams boy at Scotia was an accident; that he was never angry, from youth, he would always have an uncontrollable passion to kill, and it was in an angry passion due to provocation that he once shot at Mr. Haugh, at Scotia.

He retired Monday evening at 11 o'clock and slept soundly until 6 o'clock Tuesday morning. When he arose he was bright and cheerful, and at once concerned himself about dressing, not waiting for the assistance of the deputy as requested. When Mr. Reese arrived he smilingly greeted him with the remark, "I played a trick on you, and dressed myself." Soon after his specially ordered breakfast was served and he ate heartily and with much relish, expressing gratification over the kindly consideration he received.

He realized that without it was a balmy spring day, and expressed his pleasure over this condition. The most of the morning was spent in consultation with his spiritual adviser, the Rev. F. E. Paul, of the local A. M. E. Rev. P. H. N. Kepler, of the Free Methodist church.

The Execution.

A few moments after 10 o'clock Sheriff W. E. Hurley and Deputy Fred Reese went to the doomed man's cell. He was ready; he willingly consented to placing the hand-cuffs and pinning the arms back of him. At once they proceeded down stairs, through the yard to the scaffold, the two ministers preceding him, with the sheriff and deputy on either side. At the scaffold Delige, with firm step, first mounted the stairs to the scaffold, and the others followed, and took their positions facing the audience of about fifty persons. Revs. Hepler and Paul offered brief prayers and the yard, after left the scaffold and the yard, the legs the sheriff asked Delige if he had anything to say, and he replied he had. Delige advanced a few steps to the rail and, in a slow, calm, distinct voice said:

"Friends, this is a beautiful day. All I wish to say is that I know I have not many minutes yet to live. I know that I have done a bad crime and that I am going to give my life for it. I feel that when I drop I will drop into the arms of Jesus. I will soon be with Him. May God bless you all.

"I want to say that I thank the Sheriff, the Deputy Sheriff and the guards for their kindness and goodness to me. They have tried to be very, very good to me and I wish to say one word about the grub that the good wife cooked for me. It has been very nice.

"I pray all my brothers to turn from a sinful life and follow in the right path and live right with God. I hope nothing like this will ever happen in my family again and that my experience will be a warning to all persons.

(Continued on fourth page.)

CHAIRMAN GUTHRIE DEMANDS REFORMS

HAS OPENED NEW DEMOCRATIC
HEADQUARTERS.

OPPOSES GUFFEY AND HALL

And Their Gang Organization—Party Contest Will Be Bitterly Fought—Old "Machine" Fighting For Its Life—New Managers.

As our readers no doubt know, we have two separate and distinct organizations in Pennsylvania, each claiming to represent the head of the Democratic party in Pennsylvania. Several months ago, at a meeting of the state committee in Harrisburg, a special committee was appointed, by a close vote, to take steps for the re-organization of the party. The result of their deliberations was the choosing of an entirely new organization, with Geo. W. Guthrie, the former ex-mayor, of Pittsburgh as chairman, who accepted the position.

The old organization, dominated by Col. Guffey, Senator Hall, Donnelly and Ryan, with P. Gray Meek as secretary, refused to abide by the decision of the committee, and are also continuing their organization claiming to be the legally constituted head of the party.

Thus we have two supposed Democratic Headquarters at Harrisburg, and in the contention over mail, the postal authorities are withholding all mail addressed to "Democratic Headquarters, Harrisburg." Both sides are determined, and the issue may be carried later into the courts.

Recently State Chairman, Geo. W. Guthrie, issued an important statement to the members of his state central committee, that will be of general interest to all loyal Democrats and the public. It reads as follows:

Chairman Guthrie's Address.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 20, 1911.

My Dear Sir—

You have no doubt received from the Special Committee notice of my election by it as Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, and of my acceptance.

I have appointed James I. Blacklee, Esq., Secretary, who has agreed to act without any salary and will give his time to the full performance of the duties of that office. Mr. Blacklee will, as rapidly as possible, put himself in communication either in person or by letter with the members of the Committee and the officers of the various local organizations, and with active Democrats in the various districts imposed upon it of raising the necessary amount by small contributions from any who are willing to give to the cause.

I am glad to inform you that they have strong assurances that their appeals will be favorably responded to and that the party will be placed in a position of independence and self-sufficiency.

While it is the intention of the officers to keep in close touch with the members of the State Central Committee and the members of the party in every section of the State so as to be ready and able to aid the local organizations when possible, I again assure you that there will be no attempt to interfere with them or to commit the party in advance to any course of action. The selection of policies and candidates belongs not to the organization, but to the party and must be left to the free will of its members, untrammelled by dictation from any source.

I believe that one great cause of dissatisfaction in the past has been the policy that party action instead of reflecting the free choice of its members, simply registered the arbitrary decisions of self-constituted leaders, who determined in advance the policies to be adopted in each election and no longer prevail. In order to restore confidence and to reunite the party, its members must be satisfied that not the will of any man or faction, but the collected will of all will prevail in controlling the party's action.

In order to make the party more promptly and surely responsive to the will of its members and also to meet recent changes in the election laws of the State, some changes in our party rules are necessary.

For these purposes I would suggest for your consideration the following as the most pressing:

1st. As far as possible the rules governing the election of members of the State Central Committee should be uniform and in accord with the policy underlying the primary election law. So long as radical differences between the different counties remain, entire equality cannot exist.

2nd. Whenever a Congressional District is composed of two or more counties, there should be a Chairman for such District, to be selected either by direct vote at the primaries, or by the Congressional Candidate in conjunction with the chairman of the district committee. Such counties comprising the district should have charge of the Congressional campaign in such district.

3rd. The state chairman shall enter upon the discharge of his duties immediately after his election, and shall serve only until his successor has been elected. In any year when a state convention is held, he shall not be elected until after such convention, and the nominees thereof shall have a voice and a vote in the selection.

Under the present system, as you know, the new chairman, although elected in July, does not take office until the January following his election. This is manifestly unfair.

Every fair-minded man should admit that when the people, through primaries and conventions, have selected new committees and new candidates, and have perhaps adopted new policies to meet new issues, the new committees coming fresh from the people, should be able to select as their chairman one who they know is in entire sympathy with them and in whom they and the candidates will have entire confidence. Sometimes they might re-elect the old chairman, but on the other hand, it might happen again as it has before, that the old chairman represented influences to which they were opposed and from which the party desired to be free; yet under the present rule, they would be obliged to accept him as their leader in the campaign on which they were entering.

No supposed convenience can justify such a system. Its only real purpose is to provide a device for perpetuating the control of a faction even though the people should elect a convention hostile to it.

4th. The State Chairman, the chairman of the convention, and the candidates nominated at it, should have authority to appoint an Advisory Committee to supervise the State Campaign.

This was the system which prevailed when the Democratic party was a vital and growing force in the State. It will give to the people through the convention a more direct connection with and control over the State Campaign, as the majority in the convention will be able to inject its own spirit and purposes into the campaign.

Of course, all such suggestions must be submitted to the committee, and approved by the full committee, the State Convention, and the party. There are other provisions in the rules which should be changed in order to increase the control of the party over the organization; it is probable that if the so-called "Austin Act" goes into effect, still other changes will be necessary to comply with its provisions.

In ample time for your consideration and action, attention will be called to these points. I am, very truly yours, GEO. W. GUTHRIE, Chairman.

OPINION AND DECREE ON LIQUOR LICENSE

WHY THE APPLICATION AT CENTRE HALL WAS GRANTED.

IT WAS DEEMED NECESSARY

The Remonstrance by Temperance People Not Sufficient Grounds for Refusal—Mr. Runkle Highly Commended as a Landlord.

On Friday, April 18th, Judge Orvill granted liquor license for the hotel at Centre Hall, James Runkle the proprietor. There was a large remonstrance against this applicant solely on the ground that citizens of that community did not deem a liquor license necessary in that place, and were opposed to the sale of liquor on general principles.

In granting this license court filed an opinion and decree that may be of interest to many of our readers as it defines the position of the court on several important points:

OPINION AND DECREE.

This is the same application that was before us a year ago and refused for a technical reason, namely, failure upon the part of the applicant to file his application in the time prescribed by the Act of Legislature regulating this procedure. In refusing the application, however, we distinctly held that it was for the above stated reason only, and that upon the evidence submitted we would be obliged to hold that the application would have been granted upon its merits. As a matter of fact Mr. Runkle has been the owner and landlord of this particular house for a long period of years, and has been managing his house with little or no complaint so far as the same has been brought to the attention of the Court, at least. Upon many occasions the Court has determined judicially that there was a necessity on the part of the traveling public for a hotel in Centre Hall, and in fact there has been a licensed hotel in this building for many years even prior to the ownership of Centre Hall itself is a point of considerable business and is, probably with the exception of Millheim, the leading business centre in all Pennsylvania.

The remonstrance deserves and is entitled to every respect and consideration, because of the number and character of its signers. It would appear upon its face that it represents a majority of the citizens of Centre Hall, and that upon the issue of local option or prohibition in Centre Hall, would unquestionably vote affirmatively. While the petitioner has presented considerable evidence bearing upon the fitness of the applicant, the character of his house and the public need for such a house in Centre Hall, the remonstrance has seen fit to produce no testimony at all, relying entirely upon the number and respectability of the remonstrants, and the fact that the house in Centre Hall, no licensed hotel in the Borough of Centre Hall during the past year.

At the time of the oral argument counsel for remonstrance did not hesitate to state to the Court that no objection would be made either to the fitness of the applicant or the character of his house or equipment, but argued that because the general public had been well served during the past year in a building without a license that it was a demonstration of the fact that there was no need for the present year of having a hotel. In addition the learned counsel attempted to make a distinction between the need for a hotel and the need for a license on the part of the traveling public. Upon the latter question we have decided, however, to be convinced. We can find no authority for such a legal position, even when carefully studied by no means sustains it. On the contrary, the whole theory of our license act as expressed by our appellate courts is entirely against it. As to the other argument, while we admit that it is specious, yet in view of all the facts it is not fair to the applicant; Mr. Runkle, recognizing that he had lost his license during the year 1910 because of mere technical irregularity, and having almost everything invested in his hotel property, continued to manage the hotel and to entertain the traveling public, no doubt, with the hope and expectation of having his license renewed at the next license court. That he would continue to do so after becoming convinced of a fixed determination on the part of the Court to refuse his license, is hardly believable. There is, therefore, no special incumbent upon him to so conduct his business as to give as little cause of complaint as is possible.

Now, to wit, April 18, 1911, the application of James W. Runkle for hotel license in the Borough of Centre Hall is hereby granted, extra police licenses, authorized during the Spanish War, when a plot to dynamite the capitol was feared, were still on the payroll, drawing \$19,000.

Oil at Barnesboro.

A resident of Barnesboro while drilling a water well, struck oil, which is flowing at the rate of 100 barrels an hour.

A score of Pittsburgh oil men left the city last night for the purpose of leasing all the ground available in that vicinity with a view of drilling.

As soon as the oil was struck the fortunate Barnesboro man immediately notified a Pittsburgh oil man, and a special train was made up at Sharpshooter and two car loads of piping were rushed to Barnesboro and the oil tanked.

Monumental Graft Disclosed.

The special report of Representative Palmer, of Pennsylvania, which led to the purging of the House payroll and saving \$152,000 in salaries, was made public and record breaking securities were revealed. A thirteen-year-old daughter of the Chief Doorkeeper was drawing \$1,200 a year as "clerk to the doorkeeper." Thirty-eight extra policemen, authorized during the Spanish War, when a plot to dynamite the capitol was feared, were still on the payroll, drawing \$19,000.

St. Marys Glass Works Burned.

The Pierce Glass bottle works at St. Marys was destroyed by fire early Tuesday morning of this week. The loss is estimated at \$50,000, the only thing saved being the stock house. The plant employed 133 men and boys and had a monthly payroll of nearly \$10,000. It is stated that it will be rebuilt. The glass works was one of St. Marys best industries and its permanent loss would be a loss to the town.

OPINION AND DECREE ON LIQUOR LICENSE

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The Shaffer-Hazel Reunion.

The committee of arrangements of the association of the Shaffer-Hazel families, through L. A. Shaffer, president, announces that the reunion will be held this year on Thursday, June 15th, at Hecla Park. It will be in the form of a basket picnic, and all relatives, friends and neighbors who are in