

The Centre Democrat.

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SWORN CIRCULATION OVER 5,500.

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EDITORIAL.

TWO CONVENTIONS.

The effort to have the two present organizations in this State combine and hold one Democratic State Convention, appears to have failed. Chairman Guthrie appealed to Ritter to hold one convention, and after it was organized to let the regularly elected delegates then and there in convention assembled by the vote of the majority, settle their differences and determine who shall be the future officers of the party.

In other words, Guthrie insists that the delegates settle all such questions, and not the politicians, as Ritter desires and demands. Ritter on Tuesday announced that he would not confer with Guthrie any further, and said that two conventions will be held, which means that the two organizations in this State will continue, and that two sets of delegates from this State will be sent to the National Democratic Convention in Baltimore.

We believe we have stated the situation fairly. The reader can form his own conclusions as to which gentleman is in the right, and which one seeks to continue discord in the party.

With close on to 300,000 majority for Berry, over the disorganizers, tells a tale, and also tells that the majority should rule—an old democratic Jacksonian principle.

The grand victory achieved by the gallant democracy of old Centre at the general election, one year ago, should be followed up with vigor to maintain it at the coming primaries. Lieutenants of the Philadelphia gangsters, masquerading as democrats, will just as they did a year ago, attempt to mislead honest democratic voters of a life time.

Guthrie, Congressman Palmer and Mayor Blankenburg, were elected by large majorities as Reformers, and made splendid records, gratifying to the democrats who elected them. Penrose and his allies, masquerading as democrats, are very indignant over the splendid record these men are making in behalf of the interests of the masses.

The kernel of the compromise offered by Ritter to have Guffey withdraw on the Disorganizers' ticket and Guthrie from the Reorganizers' chairmanship, would be like offering counterfeit in exchange for good money. Guthrie and his friends scorn such a deal. The withdrawal of Guffey would be a mere nothing—the democrats, at last election, by a vote of three to one gave Guffey good-bye; while Guthrie, by a large majority, carried the old republican stronghold of Pittsburg, and gave that graft ridden city a better administration, as mayor, than the city ever was blessed with, a thing that Guffey never attempted.

A New Firm.

Last week's Centre Reporter said: "Former Commissioner John L. Dunlap, was on the south side of Centre county beginning of this week. Mr. Dunlap is on the pay-roll of the state roads department in the capacity of inspector. He is not in politics, according to his parting words, but there was a twinkle in his eye that just for all the world looked as though his trip through the south side of Centre county was in the interest of the G. H. & Co., who want to continue business at the old stand." Will some one tell us what "G. H. & Co." means in the above article.

Williamsport Commercial College. Business, Shorthand and Typewriting School—a school that prepares young people for business positions. Spring term begins April 8th. Start then and be ready for position this fall. A young man completed a course in eighty-five days and is receiving \$800 a year. Write for catalogue, F. F. Healey, Proprietor. x13

Get Busy Now.

This is the time of the year that every rural road supervisor in Centre county should get busy on the job and get the highways in proper shape for the coming summer. The soft earth is now in the condition that it can be best moulded by the split log drag.

A FEW ERRORS CORRECTED.

A Few Things that Certain Newspapers Studiously Avoid.

The Bellefonte "Republican," in its statement of comparative expense of the two Boards of Auditors, the one being Republican and the other Democratic, does not state the case fully, in the following:

Republican Board, 1911. H. B. Pontius, 48 days' services \$144.00 R. D. Musser, 47 days' services and mileage 168.00 C. H. Hoffert, 48 days' services and mileage 202.14 Harry Keller, solicitor 30.00 Total \$544.14

Democratic Board, 1912. Jeremiah Brungart, salary and mileage \$162.12 S. H. Hoy, salary and mileage 129.24 W. H. Goss, salary and mileage 153.84 W. Miles Walker, clerk 141.50 D. F. Fortney, solicitor 40.90 Total \$626.70

The "Republican" studiously avoided the following facts that are most significant: Saved to the Public by the Republican Board \$600.00

Saved to the Public by the Democratic Board, from G. G. Fink 474.38 Other sur charges 101.52 Total Saved to the Public \$675.90

In their abuse of the Democrats of the present Board of Auditors the Republican papers fail to state that Mr. Fink, from the unseated land fund, which belonged to the several townships for road, school and poor purposes, took two per cent. more than the law allowed him in 1910. That this illegal taking was allowed him by the late Republican Board of Auditors in the face of the fact that Act of 1887 provides that the commission on the unseated land tax due the districts shall not exceed five per cent. Fink took seven per cent. for the year 1910, has it yet. Will he refund? Mr. Fink can not well hide behind the minutes of an incompetent Board of Commissioners, it was his duty, also, to know the law.

Mr. Fink and certain papers, both Republican, are attempting to hide behind the minutes of the late Board of Commissioners of June 19, 1910, under which he took eight per cent. instead of five in 1911. That minute does not justify ignorance of the law. They should have known it and not exceeded its limits in their action. They had an attorney and paid him \$400 a year to advise them on the law, so had Fink, but evidently they were not asked for an opinion.

The present Board of Auditors are to be commended for the manner in which they settled the public accounts. By reason of Mr. Fink taking from the district's road, school and poor funds more than the law allowed him, the Board of Auditors had to go over the whole unseated land tax account, restate and apportion the amount due each district, for the road, school and poor. They had to correct his errors, complete his work, for which he was liberally paid and never offered to finish his work as was his duty. This consumed in time, at least four days more for the Auditors. It will be remembered that what was originally charged was taken from the road, school and poor of the districts for 1911 or 1912. What was illegally taken in 1910, must have amounted from \$250.00 to \$300.00.

While it is true the attorney for the auditors said "he could see no reason why they should not comply with Mr. Fink's request; he also said to them that it was their duty to settle accounts and not receive money; that the law relating to such subjects directs to whom money erroneously retained by any officer should be paid."

The Democratic Board of Auditors were eminently fair. For instance the old Board of Commissioners had a contract with the Philadelphia Decorating Co., to do the decorating necessary about the Court House for \$7990.00. They paid the company \$349.00 more than this contract called for, without a single word of explanation or anything to show why it was done. None of the Commissioners could tell why. Instead of surcharging this, as was their right, the Auditors had the old board or their clerk appeal to the Decorating Company, the company would give no heed to their letters. Then at the Auditors' suggestion they appealed to Mr. Harris, the architect, and with his aid the Decorating Co. made a statement showing that the \$349.00 was paid for extra work.

The records and receipts on file in the Commissioners' office should have shown this. So it was with many other things. Three or four times the Auditors adjourned to give the old Board of Commissioners time, whose accounts should have been ready for the Auditors at the time fixed by law for settlement, to get in shape. All this delay of the former Commissioners of course made some expense, but it was not the Auditors' fault.

There is another thing which riles certain newspapers and causes them to howl at this Democratic Board of Auditors. They undertook and did cut down the cost of printing the County Statement of the Auditors' Statement in 1911 by the former Auditors, cost a total of \$1682.80. The Democratic Auditors believed this tremendous cost should be reduced. They adopted another method and the publishing and distribution of the report for 1912, not cost over \$650, another saving of \$992.50.

The public will understand why certain newspapers are so diligent in their abuse of the Democratic Board of Auditors and their clerk, who as shown above, were looking to the interest of the people who pay the taxes. Let justice be done, it is but fair to say that all the Democrats of the Board did, Mr. Goss heartily concurred in.

These same papers make a great howl because the Auditors hired a clerk. This is their right. Long ago it was settled by the Courts that "County Auditors, regardless of the sanction of the County Commissioners, can avail themselves of an accountant, at the expense of the county." It is apparent without argument," says the Court, "that County Auditors elected from the body of the people and especially all new ones, cannot be expected to have the technical knowledge requisite of their official duties." The Board of Auditors, now in office, performed their whole duty and it seems satisfactory to all the people—except a couple of Republican newspaper publishers. (X)

Killed by Train He Waited For. Harry Gensburg, a prosperous clothing merchant of Mifflinburg, was instantly killed Monday afternoon in front of the Pennsylvania station at Milton, Pa. He was struck by the train he intended getting on.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FRONT.

(Continued from Page 1)

managers refused him the nomination for no other reason than to make certain the election of the Republican nominee, whoever that might be. "The Reporter favors reorganization of the Democratic party because it believes, as do the great majority of the Democrats of Pennsylvania, that the managers consulted with the public leaders in the state and agreed to and did hold the Democratic state convention in 1910 before the Republican convention, so that the Republicans would have the advantage to know just what the Allentown convention would do. That is the only instance in all political history where a minority party held its nomination first.

The Reporter favors the reorganization of the Democratic party in Pennsylvania because it believes the leaders of the "old guard" are not sincere; they have placed personal ambition in the past above party success, and there is no evidence of reluctance to be able to elect the Democratic party in the state is of more concern to them than success at the polls; these leaders have been accused of all kinds of crookedness—crookedness without name and name—no man can lead except to the detriment of the party and to the advantage of the Republican organization.

"The Reporter does not believe that the "old guard" leaders are in sympathy with the Woodrow Wilson movement in Pennsylvania; there is no evidence of it; the candidates for national delegate intimately connected with the "old guard" give no hint as to their choice for presidential candidates; the "old guard" is always opposed to "dicker" with the hope of getting a crumb for the leaders, no matter where it comes from.

"At the primary election, Saturday, April 13th, every Democrat in Pennsylvania will have an opportunity to say whether the discredited leaders shall continue to dominate the Democratic party in such a manner as to be of benefit to the Republican party in the county, state, and nation.

"Because Chairman Guthrie refuses to make compromise with the Guffey-Hall-Donnelly discredited element, he and the reorganizers all over the state are accused of being arbitrary. Mr. Guthrie, as the head of the reorganizers, believes it is the privilege of the rank and file of the Democratic party to say who shall be at the head of the party in the state, and entertaining that Democratic spirit it he refuses to treat with the men who have betrayed the party in the past.

"The Democrat who favors the reorganization of the party must on April 13th attend the primaries, and cast his ballot for candidates for delegate to the state and national conventions, as well as for county chairman, who favor reorganization. A CANDIDATE WHO WILL NOT EXPRESS HIS BELIEF ON THIS QUESTION IS NOT TO BE TRUSTED. The reorganizer must lay aside personal friendship when he marks his ballot on April 13th. The question to be decided is, are we to have in Pennsylvania a Democratic organization free from Republican influence, or is the Democratic party to continue, as in the past, a convenience for the Republican party? Are the nominees for state offices to be the choice of the majority of the Democrats, or will the Republican candidates to be named by the Republican organization as they were at the Allentown convention?

"Undoubtedly the great majority of Democratic voters in the state want an organization truly Democratic, free from Republican influence and men at its head who will shun personal political favors from Republican bosses. This can be had only by voting for men at the coming primaries who favor reorganization."

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

For County Chairman: We are authorized to announce that Arthur R. Kimport of Easton is a candidate for election for the position of Chairman of the Democratic party of Centre County.

For National Delegate: We are authorized to announce W. A. Haggerty of Clearfield, Pa., a candidate for Delegate to the Democratic National Convention from this congressional district, subject to the decision of the Democratic voters at the primaries, Saturday, April 13th, 1912.

For National Delegate: We are authorized to announce William Hanley, of Bradford, a candidate for Delegate to the Democratic National Convention from this congressional district, subject to the decision of the Democratic voters at the primaries, Saturday, April 13th, 1912.

For National Delegate: I hereby announce myself as a candidate for Delegate to the Democratic National Convention subject to the decision of the Democratic voters of the 21st Congressional District at the April Primaries, to be held at the residence of Woodrow Wilson for President. JOHN C. BARCLAY, Clearfield, Pa., Feb. 26, 1912.

For National Delegate: To the Democratic voters of the 21st Congressional District of Pennsylvania, I hereby announce myself as a candidate for delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Baltimore, June 25th, 1912.

I stand for that type of democracy represented by William Jennings Bryan, Champ Clark, Woodrow Wilson, and our other progressive leaders, and will oppose the nomination of any man who fails to measure up to that standard. I favor the reorganization of the party by the elimination and retirement of the men whose leadership has led to the respect and confidence of a large majority of the party. The Democratic Party must remain true to its principles in the Nation, and purge and purify itself in the State.

On the foregoing I submit my name for the action of the voters at the April primaries. ASHER R. JOHNSON, Bradford, Penna., February 16th, 1912.

For Assembly: We are authorized to announce that Robert M. Foster, of State College borough, will be a candidate at the Spring primary election, Saturday, April 13th, 1912, for the Democratic nomination for the office of Assemblyman from Centre County.

For Assembly: We are authorized to announce that Geo. A. Beezer, of Bellefonte borough, will be a candidate at the Spring primary election, Saturday, April 13th, 1912, for the Democratic nomination for the office of Assemblyman from Centre County.

For State Delegate: We are authorized to announce the name of J. T. Preece, of Leont, a candidate for Delegate to the Democratic State Convention, subject to the decision of the Democratic Primaries, to be held Saturday, April 13th, 1912.

For State Delegate: We are authorized to announce the name of A. Weber, of Howard, as a candidate for Delegate to the Democratic State Convention subject to the decision of the Democratic primaries, to be held Saturday April 13th, 1912.

FROM RUSH.

Thinks Funds Should be Returned to Where They Belong.

Editor of the Centre Democrat: I noticed in last week's issue of the Gazette an article in which its Editor attempted to ridicule the present Board of County Auditors for having compelled ex-treasurer, G. G. Fink, to disgorge \$474.38, which he illegally kept from the different townships of the county during the year 1910. He also brazenly admitted in the same article that the ex-treasurer was guilty of the same offense in 1910 by having kept an unlawful commission for the disbursement of the Road, School, and Poor funds for that year, and now brazenly insinuates it was approved by a Republican Board of County Auditors. He fails, however, to state in the article the amount he took from us in the year 1910.

Mr. Editor, what I would like to know is how long does the Statute of Limitations run for any offense of this kind? Can't our School Treasurer, Road Supervisors, and Poor Overseers of this township force the ex-treasurer to give up this money he took from us in 1910? I think it is the duty of our township officers to consult counsel in this matter, as we need the money to help educate our children, and it will come in handy just now, too, in helping us to make a comfortable home which we purchased recently for our poor and unfortunate citizens. I hope our officials will look into the conduct of our ex-treasurer and get this money back if possible. I voted for Mr. Fink, but did not think then he would do such a thing. TAX PAYER, Phillipsburg, Rush Township, March 23, 1912.

MOSHANNON. Edward Kelly was slightly injured on last Friday. William McGowan driver for Kelly Bros., stuck in the mud on Friday with a load of sand. Bertha says if she can't get a fellow with a nice horse and buggy, she will take a Walk-er. How about it George?

Lawrence Snyers, the photographer, of Phillipsburg, was a recent caller to our town one day last week. Clark Warner and Jacob Emenhizer spent Saturday evening and Sunday at Runville.

Anyone wanting an expert machinist, just call on George Cartwright. James McGilly, of Philadelphia, is still working on the coal tipples at No. 5; keep on, Mr. McGilly, you are doing fine.

We are sorry to hear of the sudden illness of Mrs. Katie Watson on Windy Hill. Rayd Holt and son Walter spent Sunday with their family at Cooper.

The Chapel Dedication. On Palm Sunday, March 31st, 1912, at 2:30 P. M., the Olive Branch Union Chapel in Colville will be dedicated. Sermon by Rector John Hewitt. Sacred music appropriate for the occasion. Collection to provide seats and other requisites for the chapel. The chapel trustees and officers of the Bible school extended a gospel welcome to all who can attend for the encouragement of this suburban religious institution founded, according to apostolic appellate in "the name that is above every name," for "all labourers together with God."

—Gent's 50c nobby neckties, special at 25c. Finkeltine's Busy Bee store.

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BLANCHARD.

A party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Heberly at Blanchard, Saturday evening, March 23rd, in honor of the birthdays of three of the family, viz: Edward and two sons, Reuben and Milford, all three occurring within two weeks of date. It was a complete success, both old and young enjoying themselves in the parlor and sitting room, passing the evening by singing old songs and general conversation while the younger took charge of the kitchen where they made things lively with their games. At 10:30 excellent refreshments were served, after which the games and singing were resumed with renewed energy. At about 11:30 the guests started to their homes with the thanks of Mr. Heberly ringing in their ears for the fine rocker which they had presented to him.

S. B. Baumgardner, of Gregg, in company with Wm. T. Lingle, gave the Democrat a call. Mr. Baumgardner, twenty-seven years ago, left Lettstown for Michigan, and has come in with his fitting to make his home in Georges Valley, as tenant on one of the farms of Mr. Lingle, above named. Glad to add so worthy a citizen to our county.

MARRIAGES.

Lucas-Shay. At the Reformed parsonage, Wednesday afternoon, March 20th, Mr. Orrin D. Lucas and Miss Della Mae Shay, both of Milesburg, were married by the Rev. Dr. A. M. Schmidt.

Hall-Weaver. On Thursday evening, March 21st, John F. Hall, of Howard, and Clara M. Weaver, of Hubersburg took the vows which made them husband and wife. The ceremony was performed at the United Evangelical parsonage at Clintondale, by Rev. R. S. Daubert. Mr. and Mrs. Hall will make their home near Hecla Park. May their married life be long and blessed with joy.

Hoy-Vonada. Wednesday afternoon, March 20th at the Reformed parsonage in Bellefonte, the Rev. Dr. A. M. Schmidt united Mr. Edward Hoy and Miss Mary Vonada in holy wedlock. Both the bride and groom are well known residents of Nittany Valley. Mr. Hoy being the son of John Hoy, Jr., of Hubersburg. Mr. and Mrs. Hoy will make their home with Mr. Hoy's parents.

—One pint tin cups the kind used at farm sales, \$1.50 per hundred good ones. Finkeltine's Busy Bee store.

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OUR GREAT OVERLOADING SALE NO MAKE BELIEVE OR FAKE SALE.

In order to reduce our stock, which is immense for the room we have, we are offering very Great Bargains in every line at this Great Sale. Note these prices, as the bargains given at this sale, will be the greatest ever given in Bellefonte. Sale starts

Saturday, March 30th, for 15 Days Only

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Table with columns: MEN'S SHOES, DRY GOODS, LADIES WHITE GOODS, LADIES SHOES, CHILDREN'S SHOES, BLANKETS, DRESS GINGHAMS, LADIES' WAISTS, OVERALLS AND SHIRTS, SWEATERS.

WORKMAN'S BARGAIN HOUSE, Allegheny Street, Bellefonte, Penna.