# THE CARLISLE MERCURY

Established 1867

Entered at the Carlisle Postoffice as second class matter.

WARREN K. FISHER, EDITOR
GRIMES CAYWOOD, NEWS EDITOR

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

| | |
|---|---|
| One Year (in advance) | $2.00 |
| Six Months (in advance) | 1.00 |
| Three Months (in advance) | .50 |

DEMOCRATIC TICKET

FOR GOVERNOR—William J. Fields, of Olive Hill.
FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR—Henry R. Denhardt
FOR SECRETARY OF STATE—Mrs. Emma G. Cresswell
FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL—Frank E. Daugherty
FOR AUDITOR—W. B. Hanson
FOR TREASURER—Edward Dubman
FOR SUPT. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—McHenry Rhoads
FOR COM. OF AGRICULTURE—Chell Coleman
FOR CLERK, COURT OF APPEALS—John A. Goodman
FOR RAILROAD COMMISSIONER—Clifton T. Grant
FOR REPRESENTATIVE—Amos W. Stamper

THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 13, 1923


## DEMOCRACY'S CANDIDATE

In the selection of William J. Fields as the Democratic leader in the approaching campaign, the Mercury believes that a wise choice has been made.

Though Mr. Fields may be lacking in the ability to mount the rostrum stump and spell the voters to sleep with long-winded platitudes, with fine phrase and rounded periods, he has other qualities of mind more substantial, if not so ostentatious.

Will Fields is an honest man. He is sincere and stands up for what he believes to be right. He has proven himself a conscientious public servant. He has that rare quality of plain, everyday common-sense so vitally necessary to real accomplishment in business and politics. That measure of sentence he has already achieved has been won by hard work, by persistent effort. When one considers that the handicap of comparative poverty and lack of early educational opportunities have been surmounted by him, one begins to realize that his record of accomplishment is no ordinary record; one begins to feel that the man has a natural strength and a determination that would make him not only an acceptable executive, but a most able one.

Mr. Fields is a Mountain man, and the people of the Mountains like him. They have shown that repeatedly. We were told recently of a Republican who walked eighteen miles to vote for Will Fields. He said he had split logs with Will, years before. That speaks well for Mr. Fields. A man who makes friends and then holds them is more than apt to be all right. That he can be a friend and that he is not afraid to "speak right out" for a friend and for a cause he believes to be right was proven by his open support of the late Campbell Cantrill.

John Fox, the novelist, used to say that the only difference between those who came on through the mountains of Kentucky to found the settlements and those who remained in the highlands was "the slipping of a bridge." And we have noticed, through our association with men of the Mountains, while in college, that given the opportunity, the Kentucky Highlander more than often outstrips his brother of the Lowlands.

The Mercury is willing to make the prediction that, given the opportunity, William J. Fields will make not only a good governor, but an extraordinarily good one.

## THE AMERICAN FARMER

(The Louisville Post)

In the current issue of the magazine, "Good Housekeeping," the following appears as a leading editorial:

The backbone of the country is declared by statesmen, by the bankers realize it, but the rest of the country does not. Lulled by reports from the Department of Agriculture stating that farm products are worth only billions of dollars each year, and by newspaper comment that the farmer's lot in that class to be a happy and prosperous one, the city dweller goes complacently on without giving one thought to the sad upon whose labor nearly all other activities depend. We think of him only when a food shortage comes, and there is plenty of food now. Prices are much too high when they are compared to prices paid to the producer, but apparently he is the victim of the impression that prosperity prevails on the farm. As a matter of fact, depression, as the farmers are talking about under the open skies of America. Labor is at a premium everywhere in the country, and are bringing the producers the lowest prices in many years, making it impossible for farmers to employ labor at the prevailing price. The result is that the rural districts are being drained of their man power. This is leaving the farmer, both owner and renter, in a situation that is full of grave peril and which should be considered as a mere buoy. The time of prosperity is running high in the cities, but in the country are unemployable farms and farms half run for will not pay the taxes.

There are exceptions to this broad statement, but those exceptions seem, there is no reason to believe that nowhere by as the situation is painted, the drawing is much overdone. Here in Kentucky, largely, the first believes, through the work of the co-operative societies, it has been possible during the last few years to grow tobacco and make money. The cotton of the South still demands a good price. But the bottom was long ago shot out of the market for wheat and corn and queens of other products of the farm. The simple, inescapable facts are that the farmers are making money, and a great many of them are losing money. That such a situation is bad be thinking person will deny. What, then, is possible in the way of remedy?

Before attempting to point the finger to the real fundamental trouble, something should be said of the quack nostrums that are being offered by the radical Republicans of the West—LaFollette, Brookhart, and the rest of them. These gentry are trying to delude the American farmer into the belief that his condition can be helped by wrecking the railroads, and by destructive raids upon the banking capital of the nation. The fact is that the LaFollette remedies, although they would injure everybody, would injure the farmer most of all.

It is perfectly true that freight rates are oppressively high. How they can be lowered in the face of existing railroad costs is not easy to determine. As for "credit facilities" for the farmer, the majority of farmers realize by this time that what they need is better prices for what they sell and not additional borrowing power.

The real source of the malady is easy to find. The farmers of this country are able to produce from thirty to per cent more foodstuffs than the people of this country can consume. If this surplus can be marketed abroad, the farmer is certain to be prosperous—nothing can keep him from being prosperous. But if this surplus cannot be sold abroad, it is simply inevitable that a part of the production cannot be sold at all, and that portion which is sold will bring ruinously low prices.

This is the whole story. There exists in old whole situation not one other essential fact. Of course our government may not assure to our farmers customers abroad with money to pay for what they want. But at least our government can refrain from interposing obstacles. And yet our government has done that very thing. The Fordney-McCumber tariff bill functions chiefly to keep American farm products out of the markets if the world. There is simply no doubt of the truth of this.

We say to the nations that would take our wheat and corn and pigs that they are free to buy in America, but they may not sell in America. Of course they cannot buy if they do not sell.

The existing tariff iniquity is, then, the main stumbling block in the way of the sensible recovery if thirty farmers But the American farmer is profoundly interested in the economic recovery of Europe. And yet the party now governing America insists in "isolation." If the American farmer may be made to grasp the significance of these facts before this November a year, a Democratic candidate for President may sweep this country as decisively as Harding did in 1920.

## SHINNY ON YOUR OWN SIDE.

The Lexington Leader says: "It will soon become very apparent that the affairs of the Democratic party in Kentucky are again absolutely in the hands of men who are committed to the gubernatorial system of conducting political and public affairs."

In the name of Frank Blair and your Gubriated party, Leader, why steel crocodile tears over us? If you have tears to shed, prepare to shed them, when your own gubernatorial candidate, carefully hand-picked by one absolutely committed to the spoilsman system, takes to the stump to defend, explain and attempt to extol the Morrow administration.

## SECRETARY WALLACE "SPILLS THE BEANS."

(Elizabethtown News)

The Democratic party is indebted to Secretary of Agriculture Wallace for the confirmation of all that this Nefarious organization has been saying about the distressing condition of agriculture and the causes of the same.

The most pertinent thing that Secretary Wallace says is that "The farmer could get along fairly well on the present prices of what he had to sell, if prices of what he must buy were correspondingly low." But prices of what he must buy have not been correspondingly low, and the farmer could get along fairly well on present prices of what he had to sell, if prices of what he must buy were correspondingly low, and that is not what things remain high. That is what hurts."

Secretary Wallace, however, fails to state the exact which produced this discrepancy between the present prices the farmer gets for his products and the prices he pays for what he has to buy. He does not tell that the policy of the Republican party has destroyed the foreign market for the farmers' surplus which fixes the price of his products. He does not tell that the Fordney-McCumber Tariff bill passed by the Republican party was passed for the benefit of the manufacturer, and that it would not have been passed unless it enabled those manufacturers to increase the prices of their products to the limit and the desired and intended results and has put up from fifteen to fifty per cent what the farmer has to buy. He does not tell how the members of the farmers' bloc in Congress deserted the farmers by passing a dairy an agricultural products with the promise that it would raise the price thereof, in order to allay their constituents, and then put tariff rates imposed upon them in the sole interest of the manufacturers, and which the Republican farm bloc supported.

He does not tell them that wheat, the main money crop of the Western farmer, on which all other crops are based, a bushel was placed, is selling lower now than for ten years and that the machinery with which the farmer cultivates and harvests his wheat costs him thirty per cent more than it did before the Republican party came into power.

He tells them enough when he says they can't get along because what they have to buy is not on the low level of what they have to sell. The farmers know this as well as even better than Secretary of Agriculture Wallace. They care made this diagnosis. That is, they knew what has produced this condition. The question is will they save the $100,000,000 a year by electing a Congress next year who will repeal this iniquitous tariff law which puts an unnecessary burden on them to enrich a class of Republican pets.

## THE PROPOSED "CUT-OUT"

(A. A. Berne in The Woodford Sun)

The question of cutting out the tobacco crop in 1924 is a most important one. The first thing to consider is: Is it necessary? We Kentuckians are an excitable people and propaganda stirs us up mightily.

In 1920 the cry was raised that there was an over-production of tobacco. The growers, immediately fell in line and began to cut down crops, they could to create a "boom" market for their one product. They did so. We feel to them that there would be a shortage of tobacco. They got no more than as hard as they could, and they also succeeded in cutting the quality of quality was. The manufacturers, finding that the growers had obligingly cut down the crop, could not afford to force down the price of their own crops, but the farmers refused to sell it. They came to Lexington and announced that they could not part of the crop and that the quality was so poor they could pay very little for it. Some men sold their poorer grades to speculators, but the most of them got a pound in January and February 1921.

The fact that he manufacturers were rather tiring of forcing the market when the same speculators who bought the poor tobacco from farmers were able to sell it to the manufacturers at from 5 to 8 cents per pound prices ranging from 7 or 8 cents to as high as 25 cents.

Had the Burley Association been in existence then, and had it been strong, tight and refused to get into a panic, he would have realized what he crop was worth, and would have held it for what manufacturers buy part of it for almost what they paid for it, and not for what speculators for still less.

The Burley Association has proved that there is an overproduction. The farmers have proved it themself planting a poor price for his own product. The farmers have proved that there is no "bear" market for the manufacturers. Why cut out?

Is this contentment based on actual facts? Is it based on the fact that at this time last year, the Burley Association had received 112,000,000 pounds of 1921 tobacco, had sold 80,000,000 pounds of same, and had on hand approximately 32,000,000 pounds of entirely inferior, tobacco, grades are what most tens enough. This year they received approximately 100,000,000 pounds, and the desired and intended results and has put up from fifteen to fifty per cent what the farmer has to buy. He does not tell how the members of the farmers' bloc in Congress deserted the farmers by passing a dairy an agricultural products with the promise that it would raise the price thereof, in order to allay their constituents, and then put tariff rates imposed upon them in the sole interest of the manufacturers, and which the Republican farm bloc supported.

He does not tell them that wheat, the main money crop of the Western farmer, on which all other crops are based, a bushel was placed, is selling lower now than for ten years and that the machinery with which the farmer cultivates and harvests his wheat costs him thirty per cent more than it did before the Republican party came into power.

He tells them enough when he says they can't get along because what they have to buy is not on the low level of what they have to sell. The farmers know this as well as even better than Secretary of Agriculture Wallace. They care made this diagnosis. That is, they knew what has produced this condition. The question is will they save the $100,000,000 a year by electing a Congress next year who will repeal this iniquitous tariff law which puts an unnecessary burden on them to enrich a class of Republican pets.

## The Williamstown News says:

President J. C. Stone, of the Burley Tobacco Growers' Co-operative, who addressed the tobacco growers here last Saturday, is of the opinion that talk of a cut-out of next year's crop is premature and entered at present be unnecessary. He contends that no one is being taken of all the burley tobacco grown this year and until this is completed it will not be possible to determine whether there is an overproduction or not. He says that a cut-out is impossible because of the utter lack of confidence and easy confidence of the association. He advises growers to keep quiet on the cut-out proposal for the present.

We are republishing an editorial writer by Mr. A. A. Berne, in his Woodford Sun, in which he discusses the proposed "cut-out" of the Burley tobacco crop. Mr. Berne is one of the sanest thinkers, as well as one of the most able editors of a country newspaper in the state, and we hope that every reader of The Mercury who values tobacco will read what he has to say in regard to passing a crop You will find it well worth while.

The Mercury hopes that our neighbors of the Ashland district will look with favor upon the candidacy of Virgil Chapman to succeed Mr Cantrill in Congress. Mr. Chapman is a young man of ability and energy. Mr. Berne is one of the sanest thinkers, as well as one of the most able editors of a country newspaper in the state, and we hope that every reader of The Mercury who values tobacco will read what he has to say in regard to passing a crop You will find it well worth while.

If the Committee decides to take the responsibility for the nomination of a candidate for Governor and name Congressman William Fields of the Ninth district they will have made the best possible selection from the Cantrill forces.—Elizabethtown News.

Battling Siki, the negro pugilist, has come to this country to see the Dempsey-Firpo fight and challenge him with—Siki is "hard-boiled" and a farmer to the white patrons of Paris cafes. To parody the advice of Horace Greeley: Stay North, nigger; stay North!

The Lexington Leader fears that Mr. Fields, if elected will find himself helpless in the "hands of men absolutely committed to the spoils system." Say, did you ever see anybody successfully dictate to a native Kentucky mountain-man?

A Chicago girl left her husband who was earning $200 a week, and without waiting for the formality of a divorce, married a plumber. Gosh! Young men entering upon a career should learn to plumb.

Had the Psalmist who wrote: "Children are a heritage of the Lord: Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them," lived in this automotive era, he would have written it "Stever full of them."

An advertisement in the Mt. Olivet Tribune- Democrat says. "For Sale—Ford roadster for sale of trade. Quiet and gentle to drive. It is being exposed of because of no fault." This is a case of being gentle, but unbroken.

## THIS IS MY CITY

Every town in Kentucky an Ezekiel of spoilsmanism a center of health and thing of beauty, as seen by Dr. F. E. Blackley, assistant secretary of the State Board of Health, if each town were to live up to the slogan of the one that planeits its railroad station with the following:

"This is my city. And because I love it, I shall try to make and keep it beautiful. How undertaken is no secret to beauty, I will not throw trash on the streets nor in the parks, nor in any public place. And since health is essential to beauty, I will not expectorate, nor do anything else to spread disease germs in any place where people congregate. I shall keep my city be clean, and beautiful, so shall it be wholesome."

Dr. Blackerby, who also is director of the Bureau of Public Health Work was returning to Louisville when he had time to wait in a town which had little town for a train connection. This sign in large bold letters hung the wall in a station and believes that similar signs in other towns would be useful record made in the last few years.

He says that other towns may like as a motto and believes that similar signs in other towns would be useful records of lectures on health and clean.

"Its generally the most dreamly persons in a town who disapprove of pictures, whereas this sign reaches everyone," he said.

## DECREASE IN MARRIAGES, SAME NUMBER DIVORCES

A recent bulletin from the census bureau at Washington gives some interesting statistics on marriage and divorce in Kentucky. In the report there were 24,202 marriages and 1,692 divorces granted, as against 23,- 1,692 divorces granted, as against 23,- 1,692 divorces granted, as against 23,-