

An All-Time High In Penna. Construction

(Prepared for the Centre Democrat by the State Planning Board, Department of Commerce.)

According to the Dodge Reports up to and including April of this year, residential building contracts in Pennsylvania have reached a new high...

Parallel to this boom in dwelling construction has been an impressive growth in non-residential building in the Commonwealth...

The State Planning Board of the Pennsylvania Department of Commerce points out that the total of highway construction contracts in Pennsylvania for the past two years exceeds that in any other state in our nation...

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Doubts That Fair Trade Ruling Will Hit Pennsylvania

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Rickard pointed out that the high court opinion affects interstate fair trade contracts only, while Pennsylvania's own fair trade law provides for local agreements between the distributor and retailer...

The drugist group was instrumental in having State fair trade laws set up in 1935. State legal officers, meanwhile, are studying the Supreme Court action which will affect them.

Rickard said "manufacturers are just as much interested in fair trade as responsible retailers. They don't like the idea of some stores selling their nationally advertised products at cut prices, as a come-on for the sale of inferior merchandise."

Countdown Graduates At Juniata College

The role arts and letters play in the life of the graduating students was emphasized by one of the nation's foremost scholars...

Dr. Paul H. Lang, professor of musicology at Columbia University and editor of The Musical Quarterly, addressed a graduating class of 87-48 men and 39 women.

Great Grandfather Wins Boy In Suit Against Mother

James A. Cowher, 78, receives old age assistance and lives in a tiny three-room house in Shawville, Clearfield County.

The house lacks lights, running water, modern bathroom facilities, and the feminine touch altogether. Despite these apparent handicaps, Cowher won a victory in the State Supreme Court recently in a bitter-

ly-contested legal battle for the custody of his six-year-old grandson, Andrew R. Graham.

The State's highest tribunal, brushing aside the doctrine that there is no substitute for a mother's love, ruled in effect that the elderly great-grandfather is more fit to care for the boy than Andrew's own mother, who is divorced.

It wasn't a clear-cut victory. The court split 5 to 2 in its decision, with two Philadelphia Justices, John C. Bell Jr. and Allen M. Stearns, writing a heated 15-page dissenting opinion.

However, the majority ruling questioned the mother's fitness on the grounds that she has only 10 per cent normal vision; used improper language; and had adopted a harsh attitude toward the child.

The developments that led to the unusual ruling were these: In 1944 Andrew's parents, David R. and Anna May Graham, were married, and Andrew was born the same year. In 1949 the parents were divorced in Cleveland, Ohio.

Under the Ohio divorce decree, the great-grandfather was given custody of the child, but the mother later had this order changed so that Andrew was to live with her, her sister and the sister's blind husband in Arizona.

Cowher refused to give up the child. The mother brought suit in the Clearfield County court, but Judge F. Cortez Bell sided with

Permanent Organization Set Up to Oppose Dam Construction

Essay Winner



Miss Mimi Hoover

Miss Mimi Hoover, of Dix Run, is the winner this year of the Temperance Essay Contest prize, presented at Bellefonte high school Senior Class Night, Thursday.

The award was donated by the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Bellefonte.

Miss Hoover also is the winner of another award, the Sophomore English Prize, which was donated by the Bellefonte Women's Club.

Lease Area Of 112 Acres

Winner and Murphy 17th Group to Bid

Winner and Murphy Oil and Gas Land Development has announced that they had obtained the coveted Scarborough lease of 112 acres on the Ferney Anticline.

This property is owned by Pearl Scarborough of Williamsport. The anticline, south of the Leidy field, runs from north of Lock Haven, Clinton county, to Pine Creek in Lycoming county.

They were the 17th gas and oil organization to bid on the Scarborough land which is the highest elevation, 2908 feet, on the anticline axis.

Such companies as the New York State Natural Company, Cabot Co. Appalachian Development Corp., Breen Wiley & Johnson, South Penn Oil Co., California Oil Corp., Le Roy Development Corp., Virginian Corp., Columbia Gas and Oil Corp., and Sylvania Corp. were among the bidders.

One offer of \$50,000 was made for the outright purchase of the property which only a few years ago was valued at \$200. Another company offered to drill within 90 days.

Midshipman Hoy In Fleet Training

One of the members of the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., who will participate in an annual summer training cruise for officer candidates this year is Midshipman Franklin W. Hoy, USNA, son of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin W. Hoy of Bellefonte, who will train aboard ship in an eight-week tour of European and Cuban ports, beginning June 2.

He will serve aboard one of 12 ships, which comprise a squadron including the battleships USS Missouri and Wisconsin. These cruises, providing varied on-the-job Navy experience, include two summers aboard seagoing vessels and one period of aviation and amphibious indoctrination.

Scientist Visits William F. Raymond, noted English scientist, of Stratford-on-Avon, England, is spending two weeks at Penn State reviewing work in grass-land improvement and animal nutrition. He is in charge of chemistry and animal nutrition at the Grassland Research Station operated by the British Ministry of Agriculture.

Plan Discussion "Civilization in 2000 A. D." will be the subject for a panel discussion that will open the Alumni Institute at the Pennsylvania State College on June 22. The Institute will be one of the highlights of the two-day annual class reunion programs.

Fighting Words Eight of any ten girls don't have the right physical specifications, says a corset publication. Those are fighting words to eight of any ten boys.—Alexandria (Minn.) Echo.

Wins Decoration William F. Korabugh, of Mountville, and ROTC cadet at Penn State, was justly proud to have Lt. Col. Roger A. Barnes, head of the ROTC unit at Bucknell University, decorate him with a medal as an Outstanding Engineer Cadet. Several months ago, Colonel Barnes, and Lt. Col. J. Russell Korabugh, a brother of the cadet, built a bridge across the Taedong River in Pyongyang, Korea, where each commanded engineer combat battalions.

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Railroad Relocation Is Problem at Session

A permanent organization to oppose the construction of a hydro-electric flood-control dam at Keating as part of the proposed West Branch flood control program recommended by the U. S. Army engineers, was proposed by a resolution, at a meeting in Clearfield recently.

G. Albert Stewart, former secretary of forests and waters, now executive secretary of the Central Pennsylvania Open Pit Mining Association, acted as chairman for the meeting, which was attended by about 50 people.

Mr. Stewart said he was sponsoring the meeting himself, denying that it was called by the Open Pit Mining Association.

Those present represented not only coal mining interests, but the New York Central Railroad, and much of the discussion centered on the probable effects of the relocation of the railroad lines which would be necessitated by the construction of a dual purpose dam at Keating.

The resolution adopted by the meeting also directed that the chairman, Mr. Stewart, "to protest the adoption of the scheduled project, as it affects the economic life of the several communities and the people who gain their livelihood therein, in the production of coal and in other employment."

The much-discussed and highly controversial "twin taxi death" accident of DuBois was cleared from the books recently when the Raftery Cab Company of DuBois, defendant in the civil suit, settled with Ernest S. Archie Brobst for damages resulting from the accident in February, 1950.

Judge P. Cortez Bell at the opening of court in Clearfield announced to the jury that the cab company had reached a settlement with Brobst amounting to \$3,050. \$2,000 was awarded Brobst as administrator of the estate of his wife, Josephine, killed in the crash. The other \$1,050 was awarded Brobst for injuries he sustained as a passenger.

The settlement was negotiated by John B. Wherry, of Grove City, general counsel for the insurance company.

Brobst sued the taxicab company after the cab in which he and his wife were riding, driven by Myrl Lamont Sones of DuBois, jumped a curb and crashed into trees, killing Mrs. Brobst and Mr. Sones.

50 High School Boys Will Go To Stone Valley Fifty high school boys will arrive at Stone Valley, Huntingdon county, on Sunday as the Junior Conservation Camp begins its fourth year. Similar groups will report on June 22, July 4, and July 15.

The camp, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania State College and agencies of the State government, teaches conservation to high school boys who then return to their home communities and promote the work through clubs and other groups.

Dale Furst, of Williamsport, president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, sees the project and the further extension of it as the primary source of education in conservation for the boys and girls of Pennsylvania and the country.

Conservation is a point of view, rather than acquired knowledge, and it seems to me that continuous education in the early years of development is the only way to teach point of view," Furst commented today.

"Along with the teaching of conservation, there naturally runs the acquisition of knowledge of the outdoors," Furst continued, and he pointed to life in the outdoors as a means to ease the general strain of modern industrial and economic life.

Summer Sessions To Start The summer session program at Penn State will open on Tuesday, June 12, with the two-week Inter-Board and a six-week program. Other sessions include the main session starting July 2, another six week session, starting July 23, and a final post-session of two weeks, beginning August 13.

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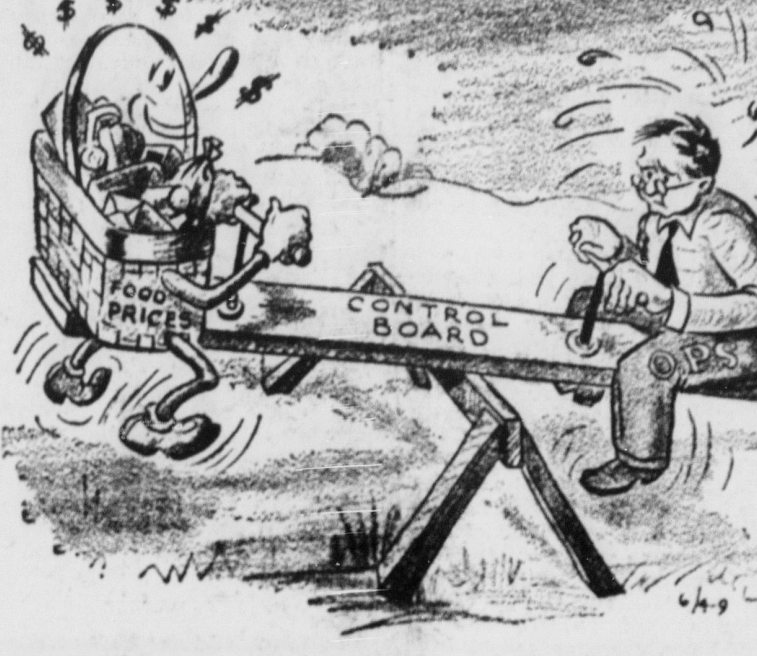
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Keeping Things in Balance?



Grange Fair Forms a Large Part of Centre Hall Life

The history and some problems of the Grange Fair are included in this week's installment of the history of Centre Hall—prepared by the Problems of Democracy class of the Centre Hall-Potter high school. It follows:

GRANGE FAIR Early in 1874 Progress Grange, along with two or three other granges, was organized. Shortly after their organization it was decided that they would hold a picnic that fall in the Leech woods about four miles west of Centre Hall. The Leech woods was probably located at Black Hawk.

On the first picnic held Sept. 24, 1874, 3,000 attended. Exercises were opened with prayer by the Rev. Hartsock, of Boalsburg. Deputy Leonard Rhone delivered the address of welcome after Capt. John A. Hunter of Half Moon Grange was introduced as the speaker.

At noon eight or ten acres of woodland were doled with hundreds of tablecloths and a feast was enjoyed by all.

Following dinner a parade was formed, headed by the Boalsburg Band and the Pine Grove Mills band in the center. The Marshalls heading the processions were Col. Weaver and Capt. George Boal.

The picnic was an enormous success with everyone present having an enjoyable time.

The following year, 1875, the picnic was held at State College

33rd Well Is In At Leidy

New York State Natural Gas Co. brought in the 33rd successful well recently.

Meanwhile the company conducted a test of gas well fire fighting equipment.

The new well was gauged at just under 2,000,000 cubic feet but a nitro charge will be used in an effort to increase the flow. It is situated on State tract leased land on Cook's Run in the center of the Leidy field.

The Leidy Prospect Co. is expected to pay another \$100 dividend.

In the fire fighting test, NYSN officials ignited gas from one of the wells and provided a test for a high pressure fire fighting pumper, brought there by a Michigan manufacturer. The pumper, with a tank load of water good for 15 minutes, had a special spray nozzle.

Fires at wells are a serious threat to driller, and if a fast and safe method of putting them out can be obtained, one of the big hazards of the field will be eliminated. The pumper, made by the John Bean Division of Lansing, produces 400 pounds of pressure and acts on the another principle.

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Construction Operation Begins On 173-Mile Gas Line Project

FPC Decision Makes It Intra-State Carrier To Receive Diploma

The Manufacturers Light and Heat Co. has started construction operations on the 173-mile high pressure pipe line which when completed will transport natural gas from Clinton, Clearfield and Centre counties to the general Pittsburgh area.

Irvine K. Peck, vice president and general manager, reports that in accordance with a suggestion in a recent order by the Federal Power Commission, the gas company is installing this new pipe line as an intra-state carrier of gas within the boundaries of Pennsylvania.

Britton Contracting Co., Washington, Pa., the general contractor for the northeastern end of the gas service improvement project now has two "spread crews" at work on the first 66 miles of construction. Britton key supervisors are directing the work which is being done by men recruited from cities and towns in the construction area.

Fred McKenzie is the Britton spread superintendent for Section I, with headquarters in Kenovo. Section 2, headquarters at Phillipsburg is under the supervision of spread superintendent L. A. Stewart. Gas company responsibilities are being handled in the field by W. D. Burdette, superintendent of construction.

The "spread crews" of about 100 men each started on the surveyed right of way at a point near the Centre and Clinton county boundary line. One crew is working north and east toward Hymer, the other progressing toward Berwindale. It is estimated that within a short time these crews will each consist of about 150 men.

Many trees have been removed, brush cleared away, and a good start made on the right of way road which parallels the gas line location. This road is needed to bring pipe, ditching machines, welding units and the other construction equipment required for completing the multi-million dollar pipe line.

Mr. Peck estimates that the first welding of lengths of the 16 inch pipe, and the first laying of the "string" of welded units in the ditch will take place on Monday.

According to gas company officials, the Britton 66-mile portion of the 173-mile pipe line is considered to be one of the toughest pipe line construction projects in the United States. Rugged terrain, mountain wilderness and a generally inaccessible right of way make pipe line construction extremely difficult.

Game Protector William D. Neely of Austin, came upon the results of a seldom seen woods tragedy while on foot patrol recently. He found a deer that had been killed by a wildcat in the Hammersley area of Clinton County.

It is not unusual for a Pennsylvania bobcat to kill a small deer, but this was a large doe. By the signs on the forest floor, the deer had evidently fallen and gotten up to run several times, in trying to free itself of the cat on its back.

The officer had found several small deer similarly slain in the Hammersley section on other occasions, so he believes that the cat in question is a "resident," not an occasional visitor.

To Preach Sermon Dr. Robert J. McCracken, minister, The Riverside Church, New York, N.Y., will deliver the baccalaureate sermon at Penn State on Sunday morning, June 10. Commencement exercises will be held Monday, June 11.

KNOW YOUR HEIRLOOMS

By TOM ORMSBEE

American Rockingham Pitchers



THE dark brown mottled ware known as Rockingham originated in Yorkshire, England, during the last quarter of the 18th Century and was so-called because the first pottery to produce it was located on the estate of the Marquis of Rockingham. Like other popular wares, its production soon went beyond the confines of the original kilns to the potters and excellent businessmen of Staffordshire who exported quantities of this substantial and inexpensive ware to America.

During the late 1820's a pottery enterprising which had tried to produce porcelain wares in Jersey City, New Jersey, with no marked success saw a commercial opportunity in American-made Rockingham ware. Under the name of the American Pottery Company, it began the making of the first Rockingham ware in the United States, about 1840, having first persuaded Daniel Greatback, a designer and potter of considerable ability to leave Staffordshire and his employers, John and William Ridgeway for "better advancement" in America. His pitcher designs were many and varied since these hollow pieces were not turned on the potter's wheel but shaped in molds.

Since six, eight and even twelve-sided pieces of china were in fashion at the time, the Rockingham pitchers were often of that shape. Handles could be angular and baluster-shaped like that on the pitcher illustrated, scroll-shape or in the form of a dog, now known as houndhandle.

Being mold-shaped, the decoration of the body was a raised design of flowers, a landscape or hunting scene or an all-over leafage pattern. A buff-colored glaze was used for this ware. Consequently the color in the pitcher interior is either buff or cream with the exterior the rich brown glaze characteristic of this ware.

The products of American Pottery Company were chiefly pitchers which ranged in size from a little over a pint to two and a half quarts. Greatback stayed on with

The Copy Hook

By BILL MONSELL

FLOOD CONTROL DAM:

The proposed flood control dams to be constructed near Blanchard and on other sites are big items. But bigger yet are the reactions taken to the proposal. Here a group of citizens have banded together and have ventured several hundred miles to express their opinions. When homes, farms, churches, schools, and cemeteries are in jeopardy and when residents will take positive steps to defend them, it can be interpreted as a very healthy sign for this country. Perhaps it's an indication of what action would be taken should the whole nation come in danger. As a newspaperman who also respects the coverage given these actions by our neighbor, the Lock Haven Express, that publication favors the construction in editorials, making use of well documented facts. On the same editorial page, however, the staff finds room for letters to editors expressing opposite views. We think it's the ideal arrangement when both sides of a controversy are given voice. This work should aid Army engineers and Congress to reach a wise decision.

CHILDREN'S FAIR:

The second annual Children's Fair in Bellefonte, Thursday was to those attending, a success. Children and their parents enjoyed the attractions designed for the youngsters. One Bellefonte lad seemed to be a permanent fixture on the merry-go-round, taking at least 11 rides. Businesswise, auxiliaries are an essential part of the operation of the Centre County Hospital and these groups must sponsor fund-raising programs. The Bellefonte Auxiliary is to be congratulated for soliciting the funds in such a pleasant and painless manner.

LARGEST JOB:

One of the largest jobs in Centre county, in this writer's opinion, is the supervision of the Centre County Hospital. Here the jobholder must be a cost accountant, purchasing agent, general manager, personnel and public relations expert as well as handle a host of other duties. Another job coming up will be to set up housekeeping in the new addition. The duties are complicated by the fact that physicians seem to lose sight of the purpose of a hospital: it should be regarded neither as a charitable institution nor a luxury hotel.

AN APOLOGY:

We would like to take this means of making a public apology to the post office department. It appeared the department lost an important letter and thus incurred the writer to go through a lot of red tape. The letter dated April 9, was found last week in the wastebasket of a toilet due for dry cleaners.

Tells Court Wife Not To Blame In Fatal Stabbing

A former ambulance attendant now in the army testified Monday that a man who was fatally stabbed said "don't blame my wife, it wasn't her fault."

Sergeant William Stewart testified at a pretrial session in the case of Mrs. Earl Pluebeil, 40, of R. D. 2 Clearfield. She was convicted in March, 1950, on a charge of involuntary manslaughter in the fatal stabbing of her husband. She was sentenced to from four to 12 years in the Pennsylvania industrial home for women at Muncy.

Last month the State Supreme Court ordered a new trial. It said certain testimony as to what Pluebeil said enroute to the hospital should have been admitted as evidence.

(Continued on Page Six)