

F. GRAY MEEK, EDITOR

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—Until further notice this paper will be furnished to subscribers at the following rates:

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Several children have been born in the White House but it is now for the first time enjoying the experience of being a grand-daddy.

The one sure thing about being President of Mexico seems to be that there is always one road left open over which a get-away can be made.

That little scrimmage in the Beaver county Democratic committee the other day ought to serve as an admonition to the faction breeders in control of the organization.

Whatever else is in doubt with respect to the Governor's Cabinet BIGLOW has to go or BRUMBAUGH will be automatically fitted into the office of the Ananias club.

It may not be a matter of any great importance to President WILSON, or of any value at all to the general public, but WOODROW certainly has Colonel WATTERSON entranced.

The Montgomery County Manufacturers' association appears to have been "hoist upon its own petard." But those tariff-pampered blatherskites brought it upon themselves.

Don't worry about the boy who is alleged to have mouth disease. Uncle JOE CANNON has had it in aggravated form, for more than sixty years, and he is not yet making any effort to be cured.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL NEWS.

PROCEEDINGS OF BOROUGH COUNCIL.—Seven members were present at the regular meeting of borough council on Monday evening.

John J. Bower was present and stated that the Logan fire engine was in need of some repairs, as in its present condition it loses about twenty-five per cent. of its efficiency.

The Street committee reported that the traffic ordinance signs had been put up at points where the committee deemed them most needed, and that as soon as possible arrangements would be made to have them illuminated at night. Mr. Harris asked that the police be instructed to enforce the ordinance.

The Special committee reported that they had conferred with superintendent H. J. Thompson, of the State-Centre company, regarding the borough's light bills for November and December and had arranged a ten per cent. reduction as a satisfactory adjustment of same. The committee's action was approved by council.

The Water committee through borough solicitor J. Thomas Mitchell presented the statement of water taxes as collected by the late Wm. A. Ishler and also by J. M. Keichline. The statement was approved by the Water committee and the borough auditors and showed a balance due the borough by Mr. Ishler of \$21.02, for which a check was presented. The report was approved by council and the bond of Mr. Ishler discharged. The committee then presented the bond of J. M. Keichline in the sum of \$5,000, with the Bellefonte Trust company as surety, and the same was approved by council.

Mr. Naginey then asked how much water tax was being paid by the Bellefonte Academy. He was informed that according to the statement the Academy was assessed \$13.00 each for the two Spring street houses and \$8.00 for the residence at the Academy. Both he and Mr. Lyon protested very emphatically against furnishing the water for the Academy building, heating plant, etc., free of cost, and insisted that a meter be put on to at least find out the amount of water being used. President Walker finally told them that the question was not properly before council and until it was brought up regularly for discussion should be deferred.

President Walker reappointed Jos. L. Montgomery a member of the board of health for a term of five years from January 1st, 1915.

Bills to the amount of \$971.08 were approved and council adjourned.

If you always want to have the best take the WATCHMAN and you'll have it.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Miss Alice Tate, registrar of vital statistics for this district, reports a total of 272 births for 1914 as against 274 for 1913, while the deaths in 1914 were 163 as against 139 for 1913. The births and deaths for 1914 were as follows:

Table with birth and death statistics for 1914: Births (Bellefonte 101, Benner Twp 30, Spring Twp 89, Walker Twp 38, Marion Twp 14) and Deaths (Bellefonte 105, Benner Twp 13, Spring Twp 29, Walker Twp 11, Marion Twp 5)

W. R. Shope & Son have decided to close their store in the Aiken block and the room has been rented by Max Kalin, of Ford City, who will open a shoe store there on March 15th.

For high class Job Work come to the WATCHMAN Office.

Judge Ellis L. Orvis Hands Down Strong Opinion on License Question.

Takes Issue With Judge Cresswell, of Venango County. Maintains Court is Compelled to Grant License Under Law. Landlords Must Quit Drinking With Customers or at Own Bar.

Judge Ellis L. Orvis on Monday handed down one of the strongest and most lucid opinions on the granting of licenses that has been handed down by any judge in the State. He takes issue with Judge Cresswell, of Venango county, and states that the Superior court decision was grossly misrepresented by the press of the State. Judge Orvis maintains that it is as much the court's duty to grant license to responsible parties who have met the full requirements of the Brooks high license law as it is to sentence a criminal who has been convicted under the law, and any judge who fails or refuses to do so for purely sentimental reasons perverts his oath of office.

Judge Orvis admits that there was an improvement in the conduct of the hotels during the past year, and to bring about a better state of efficiency he requests that all applicants give a pledge not to drink with their customers or at their own bar, and to agree to see that their bar-tenders observe the same rule. They must also renew the pledges made last year, which in the main are as follows:

Not to sell to any State College, Bellefonte Academy or any other student in the county.

To observe Thanksgiving, Christmas, Memorial day and Good Friday as holidays.

Not to furnish liquor to card parties or other games, in hotel rooms. And to close bars at ten o'clock p. m.

The court also reserves the right to hold over two or three of the applications for further consideration and investigation, though no intimation is given as to what applications they are.

The Judge's opinion in full is as follows:

Ordinarily, the record in this case would make it unnecessary for this Court to file an opinion were it not desirable to correct the profound misconception of the license law of Pennsylvania, caused by the widely spread misrepresentation of the opinion of the Superior court in the now celebrated Venango cases.

There is no complaint or charge made against the applicant. In this respect his application is not peculiar, for there is no complaint or charge against any applicant filed with any of the other respective applications. There are remonstrances filed, but only against the applicants residing in the three boroughs of Bellefonte, Philipsburg, and Centre Hall. There are no remonstrances filed against any of the other applicants in the county. The only basis for the remonstrances filed is the allegation that there is no necessity for the license asked for. This allegation is not supported by any testimony or other evidence of any kind. In the said three boroughs there is no discrimination, the remonstrants treating all the applicants with equal impartiality, making no attempt even to allege that one is worse than another, or that any have infringed the law or violated the rules of this Court.

We are thus presented with a peculiar situation, namely, an urgent request to declare hotel licenses unnecessary in the three principal boroughs of the county, with the tacit acquiescence of all the temperance forces that in the small towns and country districts the remaining licenses are necessary. In other words, while there is no dispute before the Court but that a hotel is necessary in Howard, Rebersburg and Spring Mills, the Court is urged to hold, without any testimony or evidence of any kind that licensed hotels are not necessary in the county-seat.

The argument in support of all remonstrances, illogical as it may seem, is based upon the fact that Judge Cresswell refused licenses in the county of Venango, and that in an appeal from his judicial action the Superior court refused to reverse him in a somewhat lengthy opinion which has been just said has been misconceived and profoundly misrepresented.

The fact is, that the Superior Court in the Venango cases reaffirmed the law as it has always been understood by intelligent judges and lawyers, and reaffirmed its principles in the most clear and convincing language, so that any fair and unprejudiced mind can understand the law as it always has and still is held. The present license legislation places in the several Courts of Quarter Sessions the exclusive jurisdiction and power to grant licenses. Neither the Superior nor Supreme courts can grant or refuse an application. On an appeal from the action of the court below, neither the evidence nor the merits of the case go before the appellate court. No matter how arbitrary, unfair, and unreasonable may be the action of the license court, there can be no relief or no reversal unless that court plainly errs upon the record and that its action was controlled or guided by some principle that is not the law of the Commonwealth. In the Venango cases, Judge Cresswell placed upon the record that he had heard and considered the evidence and found that there was no necessity for that particular license. It is true that he filed a long opinion in which he hinted that there was a change of feeling in the county on the question of licenses, and it might be inferred that to a certain extent at least, he was controlled by that feeling. This inference, however, was negated by his plain statement to the contrary in his final action in each case. The disappointed applicants, however, attempted to reverse the Venango court on the theory as stated by the Superior court in the following language:

"Does a license judge abuse his judicial discretion where he refuses all applications on the sole ground of non-necessity, based and considered exclusively upon the conclusion that there is a growing sentiment against the liquor traffic generally, and that the granting of liquor licenses in point of public economics, morals, law and order is detrimental to the communities affected?"

Upon this question the Superior Court rules as follows: "If we could agree with the learned counsel that this is the question presented by the records or by the opinion, we should unhesitatingly agree with them that there was a misconception by that court of the nature and extent of its discretionary power and of the local principles governing its exercise, and that the enforcement of that erroneous view, by its action, was not the exercise of a sound judicial discretion, but was a justly characterized, as a determination not according to law but outside of law and therefore not a legal judgment but the exercise of an arbitrary will. A decree made arbitrarily, or in violation of law, it is our plain duty to set aside. For example, if a judge should refuse a license because in his opinion the law authorizing licenses is a bad law, or if he should grant all licenses because he believed the law wrong as tending to confer a privilege on a special few, in either case there would be no exercise of judicial discretion; but would be the mere despotism of arbitrary will by one in power, that sort of lawlessness which is least excusable and excites most indignation."

The Superior court then proceeds to state that they could not determine from the way Judge Cresswell disposes of each case that he acted upon this principle, and leaves it to the conscience of the license judge whether or not he obeys or

disobeys the rules of law as laid down by the appellate court. This same opinion goes further and declares that the Court commits error if it rules that the word "necessary" must be synonymous with "indispensable," or that the "public accommodation which the law is intended to promote is to be ignored or treated as of little importance as compared with the objectionable features of the business."

The said opinion finally closes with the following words which ought to throw clear light upon the whole situation. "It is not our province to discuss or determine the correctness of the result reached by the court of quarter sessions, not ours, that the law requires."

This opinion of the Superior court, in harmony with all other decisions of said court and the Supreme court, unhesitatingly expounds the present law to be in no sense prohibition or local option legislation but just the opposite. It is a revenue raising measure largely exercised through the vessels of the Commonwealth, and its avowed purpose is to regulate and control but not to destroy or prohibit the sale of intoxicants in Pennsylvania. For this legislation and for this law the people's representatives in the Legislature are primarily responsible. Under our system of government the law made by the Legislature and the executive and the judiciary are to expound and enforce the law. Any attempt to ignore or deny legislation or to legislate judicially would manifestly be judicial usurpation. A judge that knowingly and consciously violates our present High License Act and the construction of our higher courts thereupon, could not consistently impose sentence upon prisoners after being convicted of violating other legislative statutes of the Commonwealth.

This legislation requires the courts to hear the testimony and pass upon the merits of each license application. It is, therefore, unthinkable for one to pledge himself in advance to determine in some supposed moral sentiment to refuse all licenses when he must take an oath that requires him to impartially hear each case and dispose of the same in accordance with the principles laid down by the appellate courts. Recently, this court, as well as others, have been urged to follow the example of one or two of the judges of the State, who are alleged to have refused all licenses in the county because of their high moral sense or of deference to the same sentiment in the community and it has been urged argued that because these judges can so act they have the same arbitrary power. We cannot force ourselves to believe that there is any judge so lost to his sense of judicial responsibility as will allow him to pass upon the legal rights of petitioners in his court for license through motives contrary to the law. The judges quoted, themselves deny the statement of their admiring friends and are careful to place upon the record that their action in each case is controlled by the evidence and after a fair hearing and in accordance with the well recognized principles of the law. Even if we were convinced that these judges acted in their own judicial declarations against the license cases for reasons that they did not dare put upon the record, it should not be a precedent for our action. As well might we ask all jurors to disregard all evidence and the rules of law laid down by the court, because we might suspect some jurors to have done so in a single case.

The fact is, that our temperance workers are so hostile to the present scheme of license legislation, that they are not willing to recognize it or for the most part to aid and enforce its provisions. For this reason more than any other, this Court feels the lack of intelligent co-operation with such forces in the enforcement of the law. With such co-operation, all landlords unit for only properly be reached through legislative channels and not through judicial. As the law now is, we cannot be controlled by our personal wishes or by the sentiment and standards of the community. Where our present laws may be wrong, let them be changed through the intelligent action of the electorate and its representatives at Harrisburg.

Many representations have come to us that have convinced that the pledges taken by the applicants a year ago have somewhat bettered conditions in this county. We will ask all applicants to add one additional promise, namely, not to drink or let bar-tenders drink with

their customers or at their own bar. We are compelled to certify as to the sobriety of the applicant and his agents. It is manifest that the landlord can maintain the peace and good order of his house and be much more free to act if not drinking with his customers. In view of the record, the total lack of evidence, and of the long-standing of the different licenses before us, we feel that we have no alternative but to grant the most of them, upon a renewal of the pledges made a year ago, with the additional one just above referred to. We have reserved our right to hold over two or three for further consideration and investigation. By the Court, ELLIS L. ORVIS, P. J.

SHELDEN.—Following an illness of some months with a complication of diseases Mrs. Ellen Honora Allen Shelden, died at her rooms in the Bush house on Wednesday morning at eight o'clock. Her parents were Dr. William Henry Allen and Ellen Honora Curtin Allen and she was born in Philadelphia on April 14th, 1851, hence at her death was 63 years, 9 months and 6 days old. Her father was at one time president of the Farmer's High school (now State College) and went from there to Philadelphia where for years he was president of Girard College. Her mother was a sister of Andrew G. Curtin, Pennsylvania's War Governor. She died when her daughter was but ten months old and her aunt, Miss Julia Curtin, took charge of the Allen household and had the responsibility of raising Mrs. Shelden from childhood, and has made her home with her ever since.

On February 25th, 1873, Miss Allen was united in marriage to Henry Shelden, a prominent lumberman of Philadelphia, and her short married life was spent in that city. After the death of her husband she moved to Torresdale where she lived until she came to Bellefonte eight years ago. She is survived by one son, William Henry Allen Shelden, of Stamford, Conn.; a grand-son, Gregg Shelden, of Bellefonte; one sister, Mrs. George Dallas Dixon, of Philadelphia, and her aunt, Miss Julia Curtin, of this place. Funeral services will be held in St. John's Catholic church at ten o'clock this (Friday) morning, after which burial will be made in the Simpson lot in the Catholic cemetery.

EDDY.—Though it was not unexpected the death of Lyman T. Eddy, at his home in Milesburg, shortly before midnight, was cause for general sorrow and regret among his many friends in that place and Bellefonte. Mr. Eddy became ill about a year ago with what was believed to be stomach trouble but about six months ago his ailment developed into an incurable malady and from that time he grew constantly worse until the end.

Deceased was a son of Thomas H. and Sarah M. Eddy and was born at Milesburg on January 30th, 1841, hence he was within fourteen days of being seventy-four years old. His father operated an axe factory at Milesburg but several years after Lyman's birth he moved to Lamar. There it was that the latter grew to manhood and received his early education by attending school during the winter and working on the farm in the summer. At the age of sixteen years he began teaching and during a period of five years he taught school and attended Williamsport Dickinson Seminary during parts of several terms. He then entered the employ of the Washington iron works at Lamar when he remained for a period of ten years, filling the position of book-keeper, salesman and manager. On November 1st, 1872, he became book-keeper and manager of the McCoy & Linn Iron company, at Milesburg, and had been with that company continuously until his late illness.

Mr. Eddy was a member of the Methodist church of Milesburg and one of the greatest church workers in the State. He served as steward, trustee, secretary to the board of trustees, president of the Epworth League, class leader, superintendent of the Sunday school, organist and choirist, and in addition taught a class in the Sunday school. He was a vocalist of considerable ability and music was one of his great delights. He was a faithful christian gentleman, and his greatest happiness was in doing good unto others.

During his entire life in Milesburg Mr. Eddy was prominently connected in one way or another with the business and political interests of the town. He filled various borough offices, such as councilman, school director and auditor. He was a member of Bald Eagle Lodge No. 410, I. O. O. F., in which he passed all the chairs. He lived beyond the allotted three score and ten, but every year was freighted with good deeds well done.

On August 10th, 1862, Mr. Eddy was united in marriage to Miss Margaret E. Walker, who survives with one daughter, Mrs. Calvin Zimmerman, of Milesburg. One son died at the age of one year. Funeral services were held in the Milesburg Methodist church at 12.30 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon by his pastor, Rev. H. K. Ash, assisted by other resident ministers. Burial was made in the Union cemetery, Bellefonte.

SHERRY.—Mrs. Anna Mary Sherry, widow of Anthony Sherry, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Jennie Decker, of Decker's Hollow, near Tyrone, on Sunday morning, of general debility. She was born in Germany and was almost ninety-one years of age. She came to this country when fifteen years of age and a few years later was married to Anthony Sherry. They made their home in Bald Eagle valley until the death of Mr. Sherry since which time Mrs. Sherry made her home with her daughter. She is survived by six children, as follows: Mrs. Jennie Decker, at whose home she died; Mrs. Caroline McAvo, of Kane; George Sherry, of Bellefonte; Mrs. Anna Scholl and Anthony Sherry, of St. Mary's, and Mrs. Peters, of Tyrone. Funeral services were held in St. Matthew's Catholic church, Tyrone, at ten o'clock on Tuesday morning by Rev. Father J. F. Looney, after which burial was made in Oak Grove cemetery, Tyrone.

MEYERS.—Mrs. Mary Rosetta Meyers, wife of Joseph Meyers, died very unexpectedly on Wednesday morning, after only a day's illness with uremic poisoning. She was a daughter of Oliver H. and Anna Weaver Wolf and was born at Wolf's Store on May 8th, 1872, hence was in her forty-third year. She was married to Mr. Meyers about fourteen years ago and he survives with three young children, namely: Ethel, Rebecca, and John, all at home. She also leaves her mother and twin brother, E. R. Wolf, both of Wolf's Store. She was a member of the Lutheran church since girlhood. The remains will be taken to Boalsburg where the funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon. Revs. J. I. Stonecypher and S. C. Stover will have charge of the services and burial will be made in the Boalsburg cemetery.

RUNKLE.—Mrs. Lucinda Geary Runkle, widow of Hon. John K. Runkle, died at her home at Spring Mills on Wednesday of last week of paralysis, aged 88 years and 11 months. Her husband, who was at one time associate judge of Centre county, died thirty-two years ago but surviving her are the following children: C. D. Runkle, of Pittsburgh; Jacob Runkle and Mrs. Amelia Ruble, of Oklahoma; A. N. Runkle, of California; J. H. Runkle, of Centre Hall; Dr. S. C. Runkle, of Philadelphia; Rev. J. M. Runkle, of Newport; Miss Sarah R. Runkle, at home; Mrs. W. A. McClellan, of Rockwood, and Mrs. John B. White, of Altoona. The funeral was held on Saturday morning, burial being made at Tusseyville.

ROBB.—Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Robb, of Blanchard, are mourning the death of their eight year old son Glenn, who died on Saturday after a brief illness with tonsillitis and croup. The funeral was held on Monday afternoon, burial being made in the Fearon cemetery.

NORRIS.—Charles Comley Norris died at the home of his sister, Mrs. Emily Norris Bogle, at the Forge House, on Sunday morning, following an illness of some weeks with diabetes.

He was a son of John and Lucy Comley Norris, and was born at Milton on July 17th, 1840, making his age 74 years and 6 months. His parents were descended from the Judge Brown family, at one time owners of the iron works at Burnham. When Mr. Norris was a boy his parents moved to Danville where he grew to manhood and got his first business experience clerking in a department store. When the Civil war broke out he enlisted as second lieutenant of Company A, 132nd regiment Penna. Vols. on August 15th, 1862. He was promoted to captain of his company on November 1st, 1862, and was mustered out of service in May, 1863. In June, 1863, he re-enlisted as lieutenant of Company E, 28th emergency infantry and served with the Army of the Potomac during the campaign in Virginia. He was in the battles of Antietam, South Mountain and Chancellorsville, as well as a number of minor engagements.

Returning from the war he located at Danville but later went to Philadelphia and as a member of the firm of S. I. Comley & Co., engaged in the grain and commission business. He was a member of the Commercial Exchange, the Union League and the Loyal Legion. He was married to Miss Jane McCarty, who died three years ago. About eighteen months ago he came to Bellefonte and has since made his home at the Forge House. Surviving him is one son, Charles Comley Norris Jr., an attorney-at-law, of Philadelphia; also two sisters, Miss Sara Norris, who spends most of her time in Pittsburgh, and Mrs. Emily Norris Bogle, of Bellefonte. The remains were taken to Milton on Tuesday afternoon for burial in the family lot.

STONER.—John Stoner, the oldest resident of Millheim and for a number of years president of the Millheim Banking company, died on Thursday of last week of general infirmities, aged 95 years. He was born in Germany but came to this country when twelve years old. When a young man he engaged in farming in Penn township and for many years had been a resident of Millheim, where he engaged in various business pursuits.

He was twice married, his first wife being Elizabeth Lingle. She died twenty-four years ago leaving the following children: Mrs. Lavina Walters, of Spring Mills; Henry, of State College; Mrs. Susan Long, of near Potters Mills; Mrs. W. S. Mayes, of Millheim; William, of Ellwood, Ill.; Mrs. Francis Smith, of Freeport, Ill.; Reuben, of Centralia, Cal.; David and Mrs. George Zerby, of Tusseyville. His second wife was Mrs. Mary Snook, who survives with one daughter, Elizabeth. Funeral services were held on Tuesday morning in the Reformed church, by Rev. W. D. Donat, after which burial was made in the Millheim cemetery.

BROWER.—John Martin Brower, a well known resident of Benner township, died at his home near Valley View at eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning of last week, after a prolonged illness with Bright's disease. Deceased was a son of John and Elizabeth Brower and was born at Williamsburg, Blair county, on January 27th, 1833, hence was within fourteen days of being eighty-two years old. When the Civil war broke out he enlisted in the 149th regiment and when an organization was effected at Carlisle his fine penmanship attracted the attention of his officers and he was detached from the ranks and made a clerk. Mr. Brower had been a resident of Centre county for many years. His wife, who before her marriage was Nancy A. Glenn, died two years ago but he leaves an adopted daughter, Jennie Brower, and a nephew, W. C. Kesser, with whom he made his home. Funeral services were held at his late home at ten o'clock last Saturday morning by Revs. E. H. Yocum and C. C. Shuey, after which burial was made in the Union cemetery.

BLAND.—Cornelius Bland, a former resident of Bellefonte but who for some years had made his home with his son Wilbur, at Centre Hall, died shortly before noon last Friday. On Wednesday he was out walking in the woods above the house when he was stricken with paralysis, lingering in an unconscious condition until his death.

Deceased was a native of Centre county and was born on July 22nd, 1831, making his age at death 83 years, 5 months and 15 days. During the Civil war he served as a member of Company D, Forty-fifth regiment. After the war he located in Bellefonte and lived here for many years. His wife, whose maiden name was Miss Eliza Ort, died thirteen years ago, since which time he made his home with his son and only surviving child, Wilbur Bland, at Centre Hall. Funeral services were held at his late home at 2.30 o'clock on Monday afternoon by Rev. Kurtz, of the Lutheran church, after which the remains were brought to Bellefonte for interment in the Union cemetery.

Daddy—No, yer mother never drest the way you girls do today to catch a husband. Daughter—Yes, but look at what she got.

They are all good enough, but the WATCHMAN is always the best.