

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., June 25, 1920.

F. GRAY MEEK, Editor

To Correspondents.—No communications published unless accompanied by the real name of the writer.

Terms of Subscription.—Until further notice this paper will be furnished to subscribers at the following rates:

Paid strictly in advance - \$1.50
Paid before expiration of year - 1.75
Paid after expiration of year - 2.00

Borough Council Boosts Millage.

Six members were present at the regular meeting of borough council on Monday evening, namely: President Walker and members Beezer, Cunningham, Fauble, Flack and Richard, and while comparatively little business was transacted one of the items will doubtless seem pretty big—a boost in the tax millage of eleven mills; a boost rendered necessary by the building of the state road through the borough and other extraordinary expenses.

There were no verbal communications and the only written one was a proposition submitted by Spangler & Walker, attorneys, agreeing to act as borough solicitors for the sum of \$100 per year for advice and the ordinary professional services, the borough to pay the usual counsel fees for any extraordinary work. On recommendation of the Finance committee Spangler & Walker were elected to fill out the unexpired term, or until the first Monday in January, 1924.

The Street committee presented the report of the borough manager showing repairs on west High and Thomas streets, and the putting down of the Sanitary sewer on Bishop street.

The Water committee presented the borough manager's report as it relates to the water department, which included the collecting of \$39.00 on the 1918 water taxes.

The Finance committee asked for the renewal of a note for \$600, which was authorized.

Chairman Flack, of the Fire and Police committee, reported to council that the police were continually impounding him for an increase in pay, and though the matter was pretty thoroughly discussed from every standpoint no action was taken. Chairman Flack also called attention to the fact that something ought to be done regarding the parking of cars on Allegheny street on Saturday evening. On such evenings the street is literally congested with cars parked solidly on that thoroughfare from Bishop to Howard streets and the result is it makes it very dangerous for pedestrians crossing the street. Council was unanimous in not wanting to do anything that will inconvenience people motoring to Bellefonte on Saturday evening, and at the same time they recognize their obligation in endeavoring to protect the public at large in crossing the congested streets.

It was finally decided, as a means of relieving the situation to a certain extent at least, to place "no parking" signs at the crossing from the postoffice to the Bellefonte Trust company, at the crossing from Fathle's Stores to Blair's jewelry store, and at the crossing from Shaffer's hardware store to Parrish's drug store. These signs are to be so placed that an open crossing twenty to twenty-five feet in width will be maintained, and the secretary was instructed to procure the signs and have the borough manager see that they are properly placed.

The Finance committee recommended that the tax millage for the year 1920 be 5 mills for borough purposes, 15 for street purposes and 5 for interest. The old millage was 3 for borough, 6 for street and 5 for interest.

Bills to the amount of \$1628.36 were approved and council adjourned.

Blame it on the Little Bee.

Notwithstanding the fact that apple, pear and cherry trees were literally overladen with blossoms this spring fruit growers now report that cherries will not be over about a sixty per cent. normal crop, and all other fruit crops do not now present the bumper appearance that the trees would have indicated during the blossoming season. There were no hard frosts at blossoming time—at least not hard enough to freeze the fruit buds, and fruit growers are somewhat at sea as to why the crop is below normal.

Some are constrained to blame it on the honey bee. At the time the trees blossomed the weather was cool and wet and the honeybees were not working up to their usual standard. But the real reason may be the shortage of bees. Years ago the farmer who did not have a few scaps of bees in his yard was in reality a rarity. Nowadays few farmers have them. It is a well known fact that bees are an important insect in an orchard or garden. In their work of gathering honey they carry the pollen which is essential to the fertilization of all fruit, berry and grain crops and why farmers have given up bee culture is a question that has not been satisfactorily answered.

You are especially invited to attend the Scenic this evening, and every other evening during the week, and watch the motion pictures as they flash across the screen. The Scenic is the only place in Bellefonte where pictures are shown regularly, but they are the best that it is possible to get. Be a regular and see all the good ones.

Attend the wonderful concert at the circus—Thursday, July 8th.

KRISE.—William Andrew Kriese, undoubtedly the oldest school teacher in Centre county, passed peacefully away at his home at Centre Hall on Tuesday. He had been in failing health the past four or five years and his death was due to exhaustion.

Mr. Kriese was a son of Samuel and Dorothy Kriese and was born near Bellefonte on September 26th, 1838, hence had reached the good old age of 81 years, 8 months and 26 days. As a boy he attended the public schools and as he grew to manhood he fitted himself for a teacher. He taught school several years and during the Civil war served an enlistment in the marine corps. Returning from the army with an honorable discharge he resumed his work as a public school teacher. He engaged in this work for a period of thirty-eight years, thirty of which were spent at the head of schools in Centre county and eight years in Cambria county. For a number of years he resided in Johnstown but finally returned to his old home at Centre Hall to round out his declining years. While a resident of this county he also served one term as County Auditor. He was a life-long member of the Presbyterian church, a member of Progress Grange, the Old Fort Lodge No. 537 F. and A. M., and the Royal Arch Chapter of Bellefonte.

On January 28th, 1862, Mr. Kriese was united in marriage to Miss Nannie E. Hunt, who died in March, 1917. Their union resulted in eight children, four of whom survive, as follows: Warren S. Kriese, of Johnstown; Mrs. W. S. Slick, of Centre Hall; Mrs. J. W. Brown, of Milroy, and Mrs. B. F. Reish, of Potters Mills. In the line of his descendants are also twenty grand-children and three great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at his late home in Centre Hall at 10:30 o'clock this morning by Rev. R. Raymond Jones, of the Reformed church, and burial in the Centre Hall cemetery will be in accordance with the beautiful ritual of the Masonic fraternity.

McSULEY.—It was with considerable regret that Bellefonte people learned on Tuesday of the death of John McSuley at the Mercy hospital, Pittsburgh, at noon that day. Mr. McSuley went to Pittsburgh a month ago for treatment for what he thought was a nervous ailment but at the hospital it was diagnosed at lead poisoning.

Deceased was a son of James and Ellen McSuley and was born in Bellefonte forty-seven years ago. As a young man he learned the painting and paper-hanging trade which he followed in Bellefonte up to two years ago when he moved to Philadelphia and went to work in the Hoy Island shipbuilding yard. He remained there only a few months then returned to Bellefonte and had since been employed in the Bellefonte Central railroad shops. Mr. McSuley was a member of St. John's Catholic church, the Knights of Columbus, Macabees and the Undine Fire Company.

He was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Howard, who survives with three children, Eleanor, John and Mack. He also leaves two brothers and one sister, Joseph and James, of Pittsburgh, and Miss Mary, of Bellefonte. The remains were brought to Bellefonte on Wednesday and the funeral will be held from the Catholic church this (Friday) morning.

ROWE.—The "Watchman" last week contained a brief notice of the death of Edwin C. Rowe at his home in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on Wednesday. The remains were brought to Bellefonte on the Pennsylvania-Louisville train on Sunday afternoon, accompanied by Miss Pitard, who was on her way to Rochester, N. Y., and who stopped here between trains for the funeral which was held about three o'clock Sunday afternoon, burial being made in the Union cemetery.

Mr. Rowe came to Bellefonte in the latter eighties and with his brother Samuel embarked in the furniture business. Prior to going to Albuquerque, New Mexico, he was in business in Ohio, but went west on account of his health. Unfortunately he did not improve as he hoped and a year ago sold out his business. Mr. Rowe was about seventy years old and is survived by his wife, who prior to her marriage was Miss Mary Shank, and one daughter, Edna M. As soon as Mrs. Rowe and daughter can arrange their affairs in Albuquerque they expect to come east and will probably spend some time in Bellefonte.

DUERNER.—Mrs. Catherine Duerner, wife of Matthias Duerner, of College township, passed away at the home near Oak Hall on Sunday, aged eighty years. She was born in Germany but with her husband came to this country shortly after their marriage and had lived in Pennsylvania ever since. Surviving her are her aged husband, one daughter, Mary, married and living in Milwaukee, Wis., and two sons, George, of Zion, and John, of Boalsburg. Rev. S. C. Stover had charge of the funeral which was held on Wednesday afternoon, burial being made in the Boalsburg cemetery.

LYONS.—Albert Lyons, of Lyons town, died in the Danville hospital last Friday, to which institution he had been taken about three weeks previous for treatment. He was about sixty years of age and is survived by three children: Mrs. Charles Shope, of Curtin; Ambrose Lyons, of State College, and Edward, of Lyontown, with whom he had made his home. The remains were brought to Belle-

fonte on Saturday and burial made in the Union cemetery Sunday afternoon.

This Snake Story Sounds Like a Family Reunion.

Last Friday afternoon John Smith, nine year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Smith, who live on the old Alexander farm above the Sunnyside lime quarries, with an eight year old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Rossman, went up an old log road to the foot of the mountain, and while strolling along an old stone fence noticed the heads of several snakes sticking out of the wall. All excited they ran down to the house to get a pick to dig the snakes out, but were halted in their purpose by Mr. Rossman, who forbade their going near the spot again.

Saturday morning Mr. Smith took his trusty old shotgun and accompanied the boys to the spot where they had seen the snakes and what was the astonishment of the man and boys to see a big ball of snakes lying alongside the old stone fence. Mr. Smith shot into the ball and on the first shot killed three, the second shot killed two more and the sixth snake was killed by a third shot. The snakes were all of the copperhead variety and about thirty inches in length. Whether that was their customary way of living or whether it was a family reunion he so unceremoniously spoiled Mr. Smith is unable to say, but in any event there are now six less copperheads on the mountain than there were a week ago.

Threshermen's Meeting.

A special meeting of the Centre County Threshermen and Farmers' Protective association will be held in the grand jury room in the courthouse Saturday, June 26th, at 10 a.m. This will be the last meeting before the opening of the threshing season and important matters will be considered.

The question of boiler inspection and registration of traction engines, including their rights and privileges on the public roads, will not down. Operation this year will be under a new law and a new highway administration and threshermen want to know where they are at.

The Threshermen and Farmers' Mutual Casualty Insurance company is now a going concern—established in the interest of threshermen, saw mill men and all employers of labor. Its policies cover the employer as well as the employee. Every employer of labor, including farmers, should attend this meeting and learn of things that will interest and profit them.

Millheim to Celebrate Fourth With Patriotic Fervor.

One town in the county is not going to let the Fourth go without proper celebration. Millheim is preparing for a fitting ceremony and that it may be wholly appropriate has designated it as American Legion Day.

The celebration will be on Monday the 5th, of course, and will include a parade, public speaking, the unveiling of the new soldiers and sailors' monument, and a flag raising. In the evening there will be a festival.

The citizens' band of Beavertown, comprising thirty-eight pieces, will be there for concerts during the day and evening.

The program will be entirely in the charge of the American Legion.

Andrew Thal, who is working on the construction of the big hydroelectric plant for the American Lime and Stone company, down on the old glass works meadow, had a peculiar experience last Friday. It was found necessary to drill a hole through the concrete wall for the purpose of carrying a pipe to its proper location. Andy was doing the drilling. He had the hole almost through when there was a terrific explosion which blew the drill out of his hand and tumbled him backwards onto the ground. While he wasn't seriously hurt the explosion naturally created considerable excitement and everybody was puzzled to know what caused it. Finally, after a thorough investigation enough evidence was discovered to show that it was a dynamite cap that had caused the trouble. Where the cap came from originally is a mystery. But it evidently was in either the limestone or sand used in making the concrete and had lain perfectly quiescent through the mixing of the concrete and the pouring of the wall, and then the irony of fate that it should just happen to be imbedded in the wall at the very spot where it was found necessary to drill a hole.

This is the day for the big conservation picnic on the Col. Theodore Davis Boal estate at Boalsburg. Every Bellefonte who is interested in the great outdoors—in fishing and the conservation of fish; in hunting and the conservation of game; in the conservation of the forests on the mountains of Centre county not only as a protection to fish and game but as a means of preserving the water supply of the many mountain springs and streams in the county, should attend this gathering, at least the business meeting which will be held at two o'clock this afternoon. The object of the meeting, of course, is to organize an association and the larger such an association the greater will be its influence in spreading the doctrine of conservation. Every part of the county should be represented and Bellefonte should not lag behind.

Ministers in adjacent towns are now concerning themselves over the fact that although everything else has been hit hard by the high cost of living marriage fees have not advanced a cent, and the average bridegroom continues to dole out the customary five dollar fee. While this is probably true, it is just possible that the young man is gravely considering the high cost of everything else and is economizing on the preacher. Then it is just possible there are cases where the bridegroom has figured pretty close and has no more to give, and then there may be others where he considers the bride and thinks that five dollars is all she is worth. Now if the bride were doing the paying there are plenty of instances where she ought to get two for a quarter, at least.

Dog Population Increase.

Bellefonters have no cause to pat themselves on the back over the report of the 1920 census which shows the town going backward instead of forward, and naturally everybody is now wondering what the census of the county will show. But of one thing we are already assured, and that is that there has been a large increase in the dog population in the county, according to the number of licenses taken out at the County Treasurer's office, or else there were a lot of dogs in the county last year on which no tax was paid. To give figures just 1698 dog licenses were issued for 1919 and so far this year the number is 3500 with still a few requests coming in. Verify the notice published by the County Commissioners that dog tax must be paid or dog owners would be arrested was fruitful of results.

BIRTHS.

Kinsley—Dr. and Mrs. Robert Kinsley, of Altoona, are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son. Mrs. Kinsley before her marriage was Miss Ruth Wagner, of Bellefonte.

Auman—On June 21, to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Auman, of Bellefonte, a son.

—On Wednesday J. B. Neff, a well known farmer of Spruce Creek, accompanied by another gentleman and three ladies, were on their way to State College in a motor car to attend the farmer's meeting and just west of Pine Grove Mills they had a blowout with the result that their car was ditched and Mr. Neff and one of the ladies pretty badly cut and bruised, though not seriously.

—According to a report from the State Game Commission during the year ending May 31st, 1920, Centre county hunters were paid \$2401 as follows:

Counties on noxious animals, as follows: 17 wildcats, 167 gray foxes, 127 red foxes, 813 weasels and 51 mink.

—Public Sale.

A full and complete line of household goods—everything usually found in a well-furnished home—at 22 south Allegheny street on Wednesday, June 30th, at 1:30 p.m.

—LOUELLA A. SHOOK.

—Shampooing, facial massage and scalp massage—Mrs. N. M. Loy, office No. 27, Curtin St., Bell phone 224.

—See Gerano, the bearded lady, the envy of the Bolsheviks, at the circus July 8th.

—See Saraba Stronghair. Her hair is 9 feet long and as strong as a cable—at the circus—July 8th.

Thirty-one Foreigners Naturalized.

Monday was naturalization court in Centre county and just thirty-one foreign-born men were granted their right of citizenship. In fact there was such a crowd in and outside the prothonotary's office that a certain wit characterized it as Republican recruiting headquarters. The complete list of those granted papers, their nationality and present place of residence are as follows:

Patsy Sabeta, Italian, Bellefonte.

Andrew Drapo, Hungarian, Clarence.

John Leway, Austrian, Clarence.

John Holencin, Austrian, Clarence.

Emery Matia, Hungarian, Clarence.

Mike Olradzansky, Hungarian, Rush township.

Mike Novak, Austrian, Rush township.

George Kozak, Hungarian, Rush township.

Andrew Karabinus, Hungarian, Clarence.

John Bugash, Hungarian, Clarence.

Steve Bucha, Austrian, Cato.

Israel Witkin, Russian, Bellefonte.

Thomas Charlton, Englishman, Rush township.

Joe Miko, Austrian, Rush township.

George John Gregoris, Greek, State College.

Veto Police, Italian, Bellefonte.

(—Soldiers of the world.)

Agents of Justice Doing the Smelling Act.

During the past ten days or two weeks a number of strange men have been in Bellefonte who are generally credited with being agents of the Department of Justice on the hunt for illegal dealing in intoxicating liquors. The number of these supposed agents is said by some to be four and by others six, but as they are alleged to have stopped at different places no one has been able to get a definite lineup.

Suffice it to say that up to the present writing no illegal traffic has been uncovered; at least so far as the general public knows. But if the story that reached this office a few days ago is correct the agents, or one of them at least, has adopted some peculiar methods of hunting for liquor. According to the story he evidently rode sleighing around Bellefonte and took a little trip out of town, some six or seven miles to a country store. There, it is alleged, he not only endeavored to peek into everything but followed the storekeeper around several hours in an attempt to smell his breath and thus find out if he had been drinking liquor.

Just when the Department of Justice inaugurated a smelling campaign is not exactly known, but the agent who goes around smelling his smoker in suspected individual's faces may eventually meet up with something that smells different from liquor. And then again it might be said that there already are some pretty good smellers in Bellefonte and if there had been any large stocks of that kind of stuff in Bellefonte or anywhere near here it would have been smelt out long ago.

State Constabulary Now Here.

Three members of the State constabulary arrived in Bellefonte on Monday evening from the Greensburg barracks, making the trip on motorcycles. The three officers are Sergt. E. Zimcousky, and privates Carl Dean and Forest Cottle. They comprise the motorcycle contingent of the squad of five assigned to Bellefonte, the other two being mounted officers who are riding their horses here from Greensburg. The squad will make its headquarters at the Garman house. While state policemen in Bellefonte are no novelty, as they have been stationed here on various occasions during the past five years or more, they are officers of the law and it is their object and duty to see that the laws of the land are obeyed. While the citizens of Bellefonte and Centre county observe the laws generally about as sacredly as the people of any community, there is always an inclination on the part of automobile drivers everywhere to try out the speed of their cars when they get on a good stretch of road, and now will be a good time to cut out the speeding.

Motorcycle Thief Arrested in Bellefonte.

Joe Dolan, who gives his age as 23 years and his home Madeira, was arrested in Bellefonte Saturday evening by