

# Democrat Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., June 29, 1923.

P. GRAY MEEK, - - - Editor

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

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A sample copy of the "Watchman" will be sent without cost to applicants.

## The Bellefonte Chautauqua Limited to Five Days This Year.

The Bellefonte Chautauqua this year will be limited to five days instead of seven as heretofore. The local committee which has the Chautauqua in charge states that this change, it is believed, will appeal to the people generally in that the longer period of time, especially in the hot summer season, calls for too much sustained effort and time; then, too, the five days Chautauqua will reduce the guarantee from \$1800 to approximately \$1300, and thus make it more inviting to the seventy-five guarantors who are willing to risk their money that the institution may appear in Bellefonte, and that the town may not lose its progressive spirit.

There will be three classes of tickets this year. The junior ticket, for children between the age of six and fourteen years, \$1.00; the young people's ticket, for all those between the age of fourteen and eighteen years, \$2.00; and the adult ticket, \$3.00. Single admissions will be 25 cents for children and 75 cents for adults, with the exception of the play to which \$1.00 will be charged.

The Chautauqua will open on Saturday, July 21st, and close on Thursday, the 26th. The program will include lectures, concerts and a play. On account of the first session being held on Saturday the Chautauqua has arranged a special program for Sunday in co-operation with the churches in the town.

At a recent meeting of the Bellefonte guarantors the following officers were elected:

Chairman—Rev. David R. Evans.  
Vice Chairman—Rev. M. DePul Maynard.  
Treasurer—John B. Payne.  
Ticket committee chairman—Rev. W. P. Ard.  
Advertising committee chairman—Walter Cohen.  
Hospitality committee chairman—Mrs. George P. Bible.  
Junior Chautauqua chairman—Mrs. Clarence Williams; assistant, Miss Anna M. Straub.  
Committee on Program—Dr. A. M. Schmidt.  
Rev. Reed O. Steely and Prof. Arthur H. Sloop, as members of the executive committee, will also be quite active in booming the Chautauqua, and everybody is requested to purchase their tickets early and thus help out the local committee.

## Big Blast Put Off by Chemical Lime Company.

Another big blast was put off by the Chemical Lime company, in its quarries up Buffalo Run valley, at 12:35 o'clock last Friday, which was far more successful than the one put off last fall. In fact it was all that could be desired as fully 175,000 tons of limestone rock was loosened and thrown down, enough to keep the plant busy for seven or eight months. One car load of dynamite and 650 kegs of powder were used in the blast. There were forty six-inch holes, running from 90 to 114 feet in depth. When the blast was put off the vibration was felt in most every house in Bellefonte, though the detonation was not as great as made by small surface blasts.

## Chester Hill Workman Electrocutted.

George L. Melo, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Melo, of Chester Hill, near Philipsburg, was electrocuted while working for the Huntingdon and Clearfield telephone company, at Barnesboro, last Wednesday afternoon. The young man was a foreman of a construction gang and while working on the lines came in contact with a live wire. Physicians worked several hours to revive him without obtaining any show of life. The young man was twenty-nine years old and had been with the telephone company three years. Burial was made at Philipsburg on Saturday.

## No Paper Next Week.

For twenty-six weeks the "Watchman" force has been on the job day after day without a breathing spell, and next week they are going to take a vacation, consequently no paper will be issued from this office. Therefore, when the "Watchman" fails to arrive on Friday morning please remember we have been celebrating the Fourth. The office, however, will be open to visitors, as usual.

Mrs. Newton Hess was brought to the Bellefonte hospital yesterday morning from her home at State College to undergo a second operation.

MEYER.—In the passing away of David J. Meyer, at his home in Centre Hall at one o'clock on Sunday afternoon, the South Side loses one of its best known and most respected citizens. While he had not been in robust health the past year or more, due mostly to his advanced age, he was around as usual until about three weeks ago when he contracted a cold which quickly developed into pneumonia. For several days last week his life literally hung in the balance and then he passed what was believed to be the crisis. His lungs cleared up and from Friday until shortly before the noon hour on Sunday he was bright and cheerful with every hope of a permanent recovery, but a complete collapse after twelve o'clock resulted in his death within an hour.

Mr. Meyer was a son of John and Mary Klose Meyer and was born near Coburn, in Penn township, on July 23rd, 1843, hence was within a few days of being eighty years old. His ancestry dates back to Christopher Meyer, who came to this country from Palatinate, Germany, in 1721, and located in Lebanon county. Almost one hundred years later, or in 1812, George Meyer came to Centre county and located on Pine Creek, in Penn township, where he built a grist mill and engaged in the milling business. After his death the mill was conducted by his son, John Meyer, for a number of years, but who later moved to Brush valley and engaged in farming near Rebersburg. It was there that his son David J. grew to manhood and secured his education in the public schools. Over fifty years ago Mr. Meyer was united in marriage to Miss Eliza J. Kreamer, a daughter of Daniel Kreamer, and they started their married life on a farm in Brush valley. In December, 1878, they moved to Centre Hall where Mr. Meyer engaged in the hotel business. Twelve years later he retired to a comfortable home in Centre Hall, taking life easy with the exception of a little time devoted to looking after his farming interests which he had for a number of years after his retirement.

Mr. Meyer was a member of the Reformed church all his life and a member of the Masonic fraternity. In politics he was one of the old-fashioned true-blue Democrats. He was always deeply interested in the success of his party and instead of courting political favors for himself could invariably be found lined up for the other fellow, and for the whole ticket nominated.

One of the most outstanding traits of Mr. Meyer's character was optimism. He never looked on the dark side of any event or happening. Joyous by disposition he imparted this lovable side of his nature to his children and all with whom he came in contact. He always looked for the silver lining in every cloud, and thus looking got the full measure of life's happiness and was able to bring sunshine into many a gloomy heart.

Surviving him are three children, Charles H. Meyer, of Reedsville; Mrs. J. Witmer McCormick, of Columbia, S. C., and John D. Meyer, vice president of the First National Bank of Tyrone. He was one of a family of six children, only one of whom survives, Mrs. C. M. Bower, of Bellefonte.

Funeral services were held at his late home in Centre Hall at three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon by Rev. Keener, of the Reformed church, after which interment was made in the Centre Hall cemetery. The honorary pall-bearers were Capt. George M. Boal, Hon. A. G. Morris, J. J. Arney, Col. J. L. Spangler, Cyrus Brungart and James W. Runkle.

HOUTZ.—Mrs. Catherine Houtz, wife of Cornelius D. Houtz, died on Tuesday of last week at the home of her daughter, Mrs. G. W. R. Williams, near Lemont, as the result of general infirmities.

She was a daughter of Peter and Catherine Shuey and was born at Centre Furnace on June 12th, 1840, hence was 82 years and 7 days old. On December 26th, 1861, she married Cornelius Houtz, of Lemont, and all their married life was spent in that vicinity. She was a devout member of the Shiloh Lutheran church and a good, christian woman. Surviving her are her husband and the following children: Clarence Houtz, of Fleming; Harry, Mrs. G. W. R. Williams and Mrs. N. W. Williams, all of Lemont. She also leaves twenty-four grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Williams home last Thursday morning by Rev. W. J. Wagner, after which burial was made in the Shiloh cemetery.

GUNSALLUS.—Mrs. Eliza Mabel Gunsallus, wife of Jerry Gunsallus, died quite suddenly at her home in Altoona on Tuesday evening as the result of an affection of the heart.

She was a daughter of David and Martha Nevill and was born in Snow Shoe on June 12th, 1873, hence was fifty years old. Surviving her are her husband and the following children: Philo, of Altoona; Ira, of Juniata; Harry, in the U. S. army; Blair, of Altoona; Frank, at home; Mrs. Leo Watcher, of Altoona; Mrs. Harry Swartz, of Juniata; Rachel and Helen, at home. She also leaves two sisters and three brothers, Mrs. Mollie Lucas, of Milesburg; Mrs. Rachel McVey, of Pitcairn; William Nevill, of Snow Shoe; Frank and Louis, of Wehram. Burial will be made in the Rose Hill cemetery, Altoona, this afternoon.

HALL.—David C. Hall, one of the old-time residents of Union township, died last Saturday at his home in Unionville. He had been suffering with kidney trouble for some time past but had been confined to bed only two weeks.

A twin son of Robert and Mary Armagast Hall he was born at the old Hall homestead on Dix Run on April 27th, 1846, hence had reached the age of 77 years, 1 month and 27 days. Most of his life was spent on the farm but he retired a number of years ago and moved into a comfortable home in Unionville.

He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Harriet Taylor, and to this union three children survive, Miss Anna, at home, and who holds the office of tax collector of Unionville; Mrs. Charles Fletcher, of Howard, and Edward, of Unionville. After the death of his first wife he married Miss Alice Sensor, who survives. He was the last of his generation of the Hall family.

Rev. J. F. Andreas had charge of the funeral services which were held on Monday, burial being made in the upper Unionville cemetery.

MILLS.—Mrs. Annie E. Mills died on Sunday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Baldwin, at Coleville, following a long illness as the result of general debility having been confined to bed for three years or longer. She was 80 years and 9 days old and is survived by the following children: Mike, Catharine and Joseph Mills, of Bellefonte; Mrs. Seely Hardigan, of Lock Haven; Mrs. Baldwin, of Coleville, and a married daughter at Howard. Funeral services were held at her late home on Tuesday morning, burial being made in the Advent cemetery.

## Flaming Cross of the Ku Klux Klan at Milesburg.

Our neighboring town of Milesburg is greatly excited over the probable installation of a chapter of the Ku Klux Klan at that place.

Last Thursday night a flaming cross, the emblem of the Klan, was seen burning on "Lime Kiln Hill," just south and east of that place, and investigation revealed that kneeling about it were thirty or more white hooded and white robed individuals whose identity, of course, was not revealed.

Whether it was really just the formation of a Klan of disciples of the grand Klegale or whether one had already been formed and this was a regular meeting is unknown.

It has been rumored for some time that Klans have been formed at State College and Philipsburg, but as yet they have not been much in evidence. Gossip has it that Milesburg will be the scene, ere long, of some regular Ku Klux doings, and the people down there are considerably excited over who may be marked for disciplining according to the ideas of the Klan.

## A Prolific Old Grove.

Among the guests at the Grove family reunion at Grange park, Centre Hall, last Thursday were William, James and Isaac Grove, of Bedford county. They are only distant relatives of the Groves in Centre county but took advantage of the reunion to become acquainted with the most of them. The three men are brothers, sons of Benjamin Grove, who located in Bedford county when a young man, married and became the father of ten children. All are living and in good health and this fact is rather remarkable when it is considered that the combined age of the ten aggregates 729 years, not counting the odd months and days. The youngest of the family is now 60 years old and the others are aged respectively 64, 67, 70, 73, 75, 77, 79, 80 and 84 years. Nine of the family reside in close proximity to the old home in Bedford county, while one is a resident of Abilene, Kan.

## Young Lady Hurt in Auto Accident.

On Tuesday evening William Heinle, a clerk in the D. I. Willard & Son store, took Miss Louise Abt and Miss Catherine Cole for a ride to Hecla park in the Willard automobile. As he attempted to make the turn from the state highway to the road leading into the park the rear wheels skidded and the machine overturned into the ditch by the side of the road. Miss Cole sustained a fracture of the left collar bone but Miss Abt and the driver escaped without serious injury. The car, however, was pretty badly wrecked.

## TWO CARS COLLIDE.

At noon on Wednesday a collision occurred at the corner of Logan and Spring streets between cars driven by Ray Noll, of Pleasant Gap, and Mr. Snyder, of the Deitrick-Dunlap garage. Neither of the drivers were injured but both cars were somewhat damaged.

A. K. Uish and G. W. Bashoar, of Milesburg who recently purchased the Gamble mill, are expected in Bellefonte this week to take charge of the property next Monday. Mr. Uish and family will occupy the remodeled portion of the Meek residence on west High street. The new firm will be known as Uish & Bashoar and they contemplate making a few improvements to the mill property.

At six o'clock on Tuesday morning thermometers in Bellefonte registered 80 degrees above zero; yesterday morning at the same hour it was just 56. Tuesday's rain storms broke up the sweltering heat and since then the temperature has been below normal for this time of year.

Schmidt — Wright.—A wedding of interest to many people in Bellefonte took place in St. John's Reformed church, Johnstown, at four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, when William S. Schmidt, son of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Ambrose M. Schmidt, of Bellefonte, was united in marriage to Miss Helen K. Wright, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin S. Wright, of Johnstown. The ceremony was performed by the bridegroom's father, assisted by Rev. Dr. J. H. Mickley, of Johnstown. Miss Mary Wright, a sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Ralph S. Nagle of Washington, D. C., a cousin of the bridegroom, was best man. The ceremony was preceded by a wedding dinner at one o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt left the same afternoon for Pittsburgh en route to Niagara Falls and the Thousand Islands on a honeymoon trip. On their way home they will spend a few days in Bellefonte and on Thursday evening, July 5th, Dr. and Mrs. Schmidt will hold a reception for the young couple in the chapel of the Reformed church to which all friends are cordially invited. The bridegroom now holds the responsible position of construction engineer for the Penn Public Service corporation, with headquarters in Johnstown.

Cooke — Barrett.—Charles Robert Cooke, of Chicago, but a native of Howard, Centre county, and Miss Wilhelmina E. Barrett, of Lock Haven, were married at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Caroline Barrett, in that city, on Tuesday of last week, by Rev. J. F. Bruch, pastor of the Lutheran church. Miss Barrett was for several years society edress on the Clinton County Times, while Mr. Cooke is general sales manager for the V. and S. Automatic Bolt company, of Chicago, in which city they will make their home.

Landis—Wolfgang.—Frederick M. Landis, of Bellefonte, but who has been located in Lewistown for several years, and Miss Berenice E. Wolfgang, of Lewistown, were married in the Methodist church in that city on Wednesday evening of last week by the pastor, Rev. A. L. Miller. The attendants were Miss Helen Wolfgang as maid of honor; Miss Berenice Landis, of Bellefonte, and Miss Margaret Peachy, of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, as bridesmaids; Betty Vowman, of Bellefonte, as flower girl, and Roy Landis, of Tyrone, best man.

Deighton—Sunday.—The home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Sunday, of Fairbrook, was the scene of a pretty wedding, on Tuesday evening, when their daughter, Miss Rose E. Sunday was united in marriage to John Deighton, of Akron, Ohio. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. H. English, of Pine Grove Mills, in the presence of a few intimate friends. The wedding march was played by the bride's sister, Mrs. Walter Homan. The young couple went direct to Akron, Ohio, where they will make their future home.

Swarm — Stevens.—Samuel L. Swarm, of Lemont, and Miss Ruth E. Stevens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. V. Stevens, of Pennsylvania Furnace, were married on Friday of last week by Rev. M. C. Piper, at his home in Milesburg. The bridegroom has for some years made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wasson, at Lemont, and a wedding dinner was served the young couple at the Wasson home, where they will reside for the present.

Harper—Powley.—Ellwood Harper and Miss Mary Powley, both of Pennsylvania Furnace, were married at Cumberland, Md., on Monday. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Powley and is a delightful and efficient young woman. The bridegroom holds a good position in Altoona and it is in that city the young couple will make their home.

## Always Doing Something Nice.

"Watchman" readers must feel that they know our old friend Abe Markle, of State College, almost as well as we do ourselves, since so often are we called upon to publicly acknowledge some gracious act of his.

Well, yesterday, Abe was in town again and what do you suppose he was looking for? He was hot-footin' it after the treasurer of the Bellefonte hospital and when we got curious to know what he wanted Mr. Fenlon for he nonchalantly replied that he just wanted to give him a little check for the institution.

Wasn't that the thoughtful, helpful spirit. Abe believes in hospitals. He agrees with us that over and above everything else they are the one community enterprise that render service where and when it is most needed and that they should have the help of everybody.

He gave us the check and it is to be cashed, the proceeds laid away and if the much hoped for drive is started soon it will be listed among the few others that have already been received as a starter for the campaign.

The dry weather this spring played havoc with the local strawberry crop, with the result that comparatively few home grown berries were offered for sale in Bellefonte. One grower who marketed over two thousand and quarts last year had only about two hundred this year off of the same number of plants. Other small fruits and even cherries, have been likewise affected. While the cherry crop is fairly abundant the fruit is not as large as under normal conditions. Whether the apple and peach crops will be likewise affected remains to be seen.

## Our Friends Didn't Win.

People of this community who remember so favorably the state convention of the Music Study clubs of Pennsylvania, which was held at State College early in April will be interested to learn of the proceedings of the convention of the National Federation recently held at Asheville, N. C.

One of the outstanding musical attractions offered on the convention program was a concert by the Matinee Musical Club of Philadelphia, assisted by Miss Elizabeth Hood Latta, mezzo-soprano, soloist and president of the club; Miss Leshner, pianist; Miss Agnes Quinlan, accompanist; Princess Watawaso, soprano, and Mr. Bowden, composer, who accompanied his cantata, "The River of Stars."

The Federation has gained over a thousand clubs on its roll since the last biennial and is doing much towards the advancement of musical interests in America. The next biennial will be held in Portland, Oregon, in 1925.

Mrs. Edward Garrigues and Mrs. Frederick Abbott, both of Philadelphia, were elected members of the National board and Pennsylvania received recognition in the young artists' contest when George Kirk, of Pittsburgh, was awarded second prize in voice.

Local interest centers chiefly about Greisha Manatozitch, the young Philadelphia violinist; Miss Eleanor Quinn, pianist; Miss Himes, of Pittsburgh; Miss Veronica Sweigart, contralto, of Philadelphia, and Donald V. Bauder, tenor, of State College. All of them won their contests at State College and were entitled to contest in the National convention. The fact that none of them won will be disappointing to those who heard their charming performances at State in April.

## PROCLAMATION.

It is the desire of all property owners and citizens of the borough of Bellefonte to observe July 4th in a safe and sane manner, and in accordance with the provisions of a certain ordinance of our borough, as well as in conformity with the provisions of a certain act of Assembly in force in our State. Dealers are hereby respectfully requested not to sell or dispose of any fireworks or any other fireworks to be used on July 4th, except on July 3rd or 4th, and if sold on July 3rd said merchants shall inform the purchaser or purchasers that the use of said fireworks on any day other than July 4th is unlawful and forbidden within the limits of the borough.

All good citizens are hereby respectfully requested to assist in making July 4th safe and sane in every respect.

Given under my hand this 25th day of June, A. D. 1923.

W. HARRISON WALKER, Burgess.

## Former Centre County Woman Killed.

Mrs. Louis Warters, who was born and raised at Yarnell, this county, died in a hospital at Olean, N. Y., on June 18th, as the result of injuries sustained in an auto accident. She was a daughter of Henry and Sarah Walker and was born at Yarnell fifty-seven years ago. Sixteen years ago she moved with her family to Olean. In addition to her husband she is survived by seven children, as well as a number of brothers and sisters, among the latter being Edward G. Walker, of Runville; Mrs. Ida Witmer and Mrs. James H. Snyder, of Wingate.

Suffering with a nervous breakdown Mrs. Ethel Schenck, wife of Oscar Schenck, of Howard, slashed her throat with a razor last Sunday morning in an attempt to end her life. She returned home on Saturday after undergoing treatment at the Lock Haven hospital and while all the family were down stairs on Sunday morning she committed her rash act. She was taken back to the hospital in Lock Haven and the physicians there state she has a chance of recovery.

The Boy Scout festival Tuesday night was a great success, being well patronized by the people of town. The Scouts wish to thank very heartily all those who contributed cakes or money or in any way assisted in the work. The Odd Fellows band helped to draw the crowds with their good music, and the boys appreciate this greatly.

## Marriage Licenses.

Melvin D. Ellenberger, Marengo, and Margaret E. Gearhart, Pine Grove Mills.

Samuel L. Swarm, Lemont, and Ruth E. Stevens, Pennsylvania Furnace.

Claude E. Dutrow, Centre Hall, and Grace A. Stump, Linden Hall.

John Deighton, Akron, Ohio, and Rose E. Sunday, Pennsylvania Furnace.

## Some Folks Think the Counting of Sheep Will Put Them to Sleep.

Counting all the sheep in the world will not bring repose if insomnia is caused by nervousness due to eye-strain.

Reliable physicians will not prescribe medicine for sleeplessness until the patient has had his eyes examined by a thorough optometrist.

Eighty-five per cent. of all ailments are due to overtaxed nerves.

Better have your eyes examined. Dr. Eva B. Roan, Optometrist. Licensed by the State Board.

Bellefonte every Wednesday afternoon, and Saturday 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Rooms 14 and 15 Temple Court building.

State College every day except Saturday. Both phones. 68-1

—The "Watchman" gives all the news while it is news.

## Centre Countains Picnic in Philadel.

One hundred native Centre county members of the Centre county association in Philadelphia, held their annual picnic at Belmont mansion, Fairmount park, Philadelphia, last Saturday. Warner Underwood, president of the association, hauled the tables for the big dinner from his home at Woodbury, N. J., by motor truck. The association was organized in 1904 and re-unions have been held every year since. Among the oldest members present on Saturday were: Mrs. Elizabeth Tinker and Mrs. David J. Beale. While the festivities were at their height a woman appeared and inquired if any of the folks present were from Philipsburg. She stated that she was from Ramey, Clearfield county, and hadn't been home for twenty-five years. Naturally the big picnic dinner was a feature of the gathering but the program also included impromptu games and sports.

The committee of ladies who had charge of the eats included Mrs. Harvey Dornblaser, Mrs. S. Gray Mattern, Miss Mary A. Butts, Mrs. Alfred Ford, Mrs. William Foster, Mrs. Ira D. Garman, Mrs. Stuart C. Runkle and Mrs. W. B. Schaeffer.

The officers are Warner Underwood, president; William S. Furst and Chas. R. Kurtz, vice presidents; Dr. John C. Beale, secretary, and S. Gray Mattern, treasurer. The board of directors includes G. W. Ardell, Ira D. Garman, Herman Haupt, Charles A. McClure, Forrest N. Magee, William A. Magee, E. H. Miller, Isaac P. Miller, John R. Powers, George P. Rishel, Stuart C. Runkle, W. B. Schaeffer, William T. Tonner, J. Witmer Wolf and Harry I. Wright.

Charles A. Morris has so far recovered from the effects of his recent operation in the Bellefonte hospital that, no new complications arising, he will be able to leave the institution tomorrow.

## CENTRE HALL.

Mrs. Daniel Daup has been on the sick list.

J. S. Booser and bride went to house-keeping during the past week.

Last Friday evening the new Reformed minister, Rev. Keener, was installed.

The John Luse family, of Williamsport, visited friends in Centre Hall on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Dutrow, of Williamsport, moved to Centre Hall on Tuesday.

Henry Mitterling and wife, of South Dakota, motored east, reaching here on Sunday evening.

Prof. Fuhrman, of Middleburg, is the newly-elected principal of the Centre Hall High school.

One day last week Philip McClenahan, son of William McClenahan, had his tonsils removed, at the Bellefonte hospital.

Mrs. Laura Mitterling Breon and four children, of Lock Haven, are visiting Mrs. Mitterling's mother Mrs. William Mitterling.

The Children's day service in the Reformed church, last Sunday, was very well rendered, and greatly appreciated by a large crowd.

Claude Dutrow and Miss Grace Stump were united in marriage on Saturday afternoon at the Lutheran parsonage, by Rev. M. C. Drumm.

Assistant county superintendent, H. C. Rothrock, accompanied by a school man from Harrisburg, was in town on Monday looking up the school situation.

The funeral services for Mr. D. J. Meyer, on Tuesday afternoon, were largely attended by friends from a distance as well as people from our own locality.

Miss Annie Lohr, of Boalsburg, arrived in Centre Hall on Monday afternoon to assist Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Lutz in their moving on Tuesday. She returned home on Thursday.

Rev. Harry Buck and family visited with the F. P. Geary family for a week or more. Rev. Buck is a brother of Mrs. Geary. Another brother, Thomas Buck, of Berwick, also spent several days here.

## Love of Trees.

Love of trees is almost a religion to the Jugo-Slav peasant. The new kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes boasts some of the oldest forests in the world. During the middle ages wood from the provinces east of the Adriatic was exported to Venice, where it was made into ships, and furniture, and cabinets—some of the far-famed works of art that have survived the early renaissance.

One of the native picturesque customs deals with the choosing of a tree for a yule log at Christmas time, says the Detroit News. Without this yule log, or "badnjak," as it is known in Slovenia, no Christmas is complete and no family is too poor to have one. The first chip that flies when the tree is being felled is placed in the milk, the beehive, the hen roost, anywhere that the housewife specially desires prosperity. In some regions the chips of the badnjak are all gathered up and presented to members of the family and to the animals of the farm.

## 275,000 Acres Thrown Open to Ex-Servicemen.

On April 24th Secretary Work threw open 275,000 acres of public land in five western States for entry by former service men.

The tracts comprising the largest areas offered for homesteading by the Interior Department in two years, are 222,000 acres in Owyhee county, Idaho; 24,000 acres in Beaverhead county, Montana; 18,900 acres in Elko and Eureka counties, Nevada; 5,500 acres in Rio Arriba county, New Mexico, and 4,600 acres in Mesa county, Colorado.

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