

Democratic Watchman

Belleville, Pa., February 20, 1925.

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

Published weekly, every Friday morning. Entered at the postoffice, Belleville, Pa., as second class matter.

In ordering change of address always give the old as well as the new address.

It is important that the publisher be notified when a subscriber wishes the paper discontinued. It is such cases the subscription must be paid up to date of cancellation.

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

Y'S CRACKS AND OTHER-Y'S

BELLEFONTA Y. M. C. A.

Testimonial.

Dear Mr. Roth:

Your bowling treatments at the Y--

are making hubby-dear-- so spry!

Gratefully yours,

Mrs. Belleville.

"Dad Roth has been entertaining fast company down in his alleys. Doesn't that sound awful? But really you can't blame him; He keeps those alleys slicker'n grease--and when a fellow's a good sport to boot--his place is bound to be popular. Titan and Potter-Hoy crashed there Tuesday 10, and Titan's Thompson went plumb crazy the first game: Imagine,--scoring 224 in a League contest; yez-zer,--he hung up a new high score. And hark yeez;--Titan's team score--738 in that game, is the highest to date! Kline's 203 for Potter-Hoy was some bowling. But aw--what was the use! Potter-Hoy took the second by 80 pins then both gangs knuckled down. Nip and tuck, till the game was up to captain Williams of Potter-Hoy, one ball to roll yet with Titan leading 13 pins. Oh gawsh!

So up came mighty Williams and confidently grins As he sights a massive bowling ball at the waiting pins.

A swing--a rumble and a crash! then a yell of joy--

"Strike!" and eppay Williams clinched the game--for Potter-Hoy.

Yep,--just by 11 pins.

Good-fellowship is a Y's attribute.

Kutz held his first gym class Wednesday 11th. He put ten youngsters through a course of sprouts--and it was a hum-dinger! Running, skipping, body lifting, basket-ball and sitch. If you want to feel young again, slip down sometime and take a squirt at Kutz and the kids. Remember--there were 10 the first day.

"The straight and narrow path"--was never intended to mean a rut.

Thursday 12th at 4:30 P. M., Miss Ash took on as fine a looking bunch of girls as is anywhere. Did they romp over that gym floor? Honest, they hardly stood still long enough to count 'em! And a right good time was had by all. Then the Legion and Titan--and the Clerks and Sycamores--came down to the alleys in the evening. Say--that Legion ought to be ashamed of himself--Never let Titan have one! But what can you expect with Legion's Detrich bowling--bowling 193--192 and 183. The Sycamores, mean things! collected 2 out of 3 from the Clerks--Murfoot being the large cheese with a score of 193.

Get that Y's outlook and broad-mindedness;--For of such is true charity.

Friday 13th was Jinx day for American Lime; they dropped three perfectly good games to them Sycamores. Ain't it awful how close you can lose? The Sycies copped that last game by one measly pin--584 to 583. Some bowling! Highway's team was on for practice. Watch those birds; they're getting in trim to trim somebody.

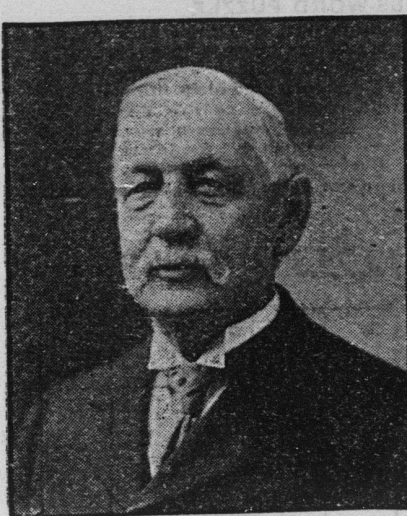
Janitor Billy Cox found a nice frame and made a bulletin for the main room; thoughtful chap--Billy is. So if you have anything to broadcast or bullet--bring it in: Billy'll bullet it right on the bulletin board.

To win fairly is commendable; To lose gamely--is just as commendable. A Y's slogan is--"Squareness First."

Saturday 14th A. M. Kutz has his gym gang again. Eighteen! Get that? Eight more'n first time. Kutz knows how to make things hum; He had 'em doing stunts on most every contraption in the place. Do the boys fall for Klean-Kut-Kutz? Ask 'em!

Your boy today--but the future citizen. What will he be--A rolling stone, a moss-back, or a help to the community? Y's influence, means much.

One of the first advertisements read in the "Watchman" is the Scenic's week-ahead program. Regular patrons of that popular motion picture house are always anxious to see if their favorite screen stars will appear in the big programs offered every evening during the week except Sunday. The Scenic is the one place in Belleville that offers high-class entertainment every evening, and unless you are a regular you miss some of the best pictures.



JOHN P. HARRIS.

HARRIS.—In the passing away of John P. Harris, at the apartment of his daughter, Mrs. Emily Warfield, in Petrikin hall, at five o'clock on Sunday evening Belleville loses its oldest and one of its best known citizens; a man who for almost three quarters of a century was vitally connected with the financial and business activities of the town. His passing was not the result of any particular ailment but merely the inevitable phase of the wearing out of a once strong constitution. For more than a month he had been confined to bed and though his span of life narrowed very perceptibly with each passing day he was conscious almost to the last.

John Petrikin Harris was a son of Samuel and Nancy Petrikin Harris and was born in the stone house on east Howard street, now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Ebon Bower, on August 5th, 1832, hence had reached the remarkable age of 92 years, 6 months and ten days. He was educated at the Belleville Academy, among his first teachers being Rev. James Linn, who served as pastor of the Presbyterian church and taught at the Academy, and Prof. John Livingstone.

Those were the days before college education became the universal standard, and shortly after completing his course at the Academy Mr. Harris secured a position as clerk in the bank of Humes, McAllister, Hale & Co. This was in 1856, and less than two years later he was made cashier, a remarkable tribute of ability and trustworthiness for a man of his age and experience. But the future proved that the judgment of the board of directors of the bank had not been misplaced, as Mr. Harris early manifested unusual talent as a financier and a very dependable man to have in charge the bank's business and resources.

When the old banking firm was merged into the First National bank of Belleville it was only natural that Mr. Harris should be retained in his position as cashier and for a period of forty-two years he served that one institution faithfully and well. Following the death of the late George W. Jackson, or early in 1893, Mr. Harris was prevailed upon to become the cashier of the banking firm of Jackson, Crider & Hastings, the vacancy caused by his resignation as cashier of the First National being filled by the election of Charles M. McCurdy. Six years after Mr. Harris went to the Jackson, Crider & Hastings bank it was reorganized as the Belleville Trust company. That was in 1904 and from that time until his retirement in 1919 he filled the position of treasurer, which was, and still is, the most important office in the institution. With his resignation at that time Mr. Harris rounded out sixty-three years of continuous service in the banking business, a record probably equalled by few men in the country.

While banking was his business he was broad-minded and took a decided interest in the moral, educational and economic life of the town. He had a record of thirty-nine years of continuous service as a member of the Belleville school board, which was longer than any other man in the State ever served in a like capacity. Just as he saw Belleville grow from practically a wayside hamlet into what it is today; saw three of his fellow townsmen go forth as Governor of Pennsylvania and many others elevated to high positions in business and political life, all the wonderful inventions that have made American men famous were brought forth within his knowledge. He saw and helped to bring forth industries in Belleville and also saw them pass away and others take their place. For seventy years he was a member of the Presbyterian church and Sunday following Sunday could be found in his pew, a devout worshipper as well as an ardent supporter of the church and its policies.

He was a man who loved the social side of life and whenever occasion offered relaxed from business cares to mix with his neighbors and friends, either in the family circle or at public gatherings. In politics he was a staunch Republican all his life, and never failed to express the courage of his convictions. He was a member of the Belleville Lodge of Masons and the last surviving chapter member of Constans Commandery Knights Templar.

On December 18th, 1860, he married Miss Mary Scott, of Freeport, Armstrong county, and for fifty-eight years they trod life's pathway side by side. Of their nine children five survive, as follows: J. Linn Harris, of Lock Haven; Dr. Edith Schadt, of Pittsburgh, but who spent the past two months with her father in Belleville; Mrs. Emily Warfield, of Belleville; John P. Jr., of Newton Hamilton, and

Dr. Edward Harris, of Snow Shoe. One son, A. Scott Harris, died at his home in Pittsburgh less than two months ago.

Funeral services were held in the Presbyterian chapel at 2:30 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon by Rev. W. C. Thompson, after which the remains were laid to rest in the Union cemetery. Out of respect to his memory the Belleville banks were closed during the funeral.

The following bankers of this section were the honorary pall bearers: John E. Fryberger, Phillipsburg; F. K. Lukenbach and John D. Meyer, Tyrore; Chas. M. McCurdy and N. E. Robb, Belleville, and S. Ward Gramley, of Millheim.

The Masonic Legion of Honor was composed of W. I. Fleming, George T. Bush, Dr. S. M. Nissley, William B. Rankin, Dr. Barlett and Harry Keller, Esq.

OWEN.—Miss Sarah Owen passed away at her home on east Howard street at 6:30 o'clock on Sunday morning as the result of an attack of pneumonia, which developed after a long illness with general debility.

She was a daughter of Robert and Betty Margaret Owen and was born at Conewango, New York, on August 31st, 1836, making her age 88 years, 5 months and 15 days. When a girl the family came to Centre county and located in Phillipsburg where she lived until 1883, when she and her sister Mary came over to keep house for their brother Albert, who lived on the Orvis farm in Spring township. Two years later Mr. Owen married and the two sisters came to Belleville and took up their residence on east Howard street and that had been her home ever since. Her sister died thirteen years ago and her death now is the passing away of a family of thirteen children.

Miss Owen went through life handicapped with imperfect eyesight and for a number of years had been totally blind. She was a daughter of a soldier of the war of 1812, and a few years ago, through the influence of friends, Congress passed a special Act granting her a pension for life. Although not a member of the organization of the Daughters of 1812 members of the Philadelphia Chapter have shown great kindness and consideration in remembering her in various ways. During the past nine years she had been carefully tended care of by her companion and friend Mrs. Charlotte Reed. Her only survivors are several nieces and nephews, including Miss Martha Van Rensselaer, of Ithaca, N. Y.

She was a member of the Methodist church and Rev. E. E. McKelvey had charge of the funeral services which were held on Tuesday afternoon, burial being made in the Union cemetery.

BERGSTRESSER.—Mrs. Cecelia Callahan Bergstresser, widow of Edward Bergstresser, died at her home at Hubersburg on Sunday as the result of senile debility, following an illness of seven months. She was a daughter of Charles and Margaret Ann Callahan and was born in Belleville on November 6th, 1834, hence was 90 years, 3 months and 9 days old. The greater part of her life had been spent at Hubersburg. Her husband died a number of years ago but surviving her are a son and two daughters, Jacob Bergstresser, of Altoona; Mrs. L. H. McAlway, at home, and Mrs. Mary Bright, of Lucas, Ohio. Rev. Hartman had charge of the funeral services which were held on Wednesday, burial being made at Hubersburg.

WOOMER.—Abendego Woomer, a veteran of the Civil war, died last Wednesday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lukehart, in Tyrore, of general debility. He was a son of Samuel and Elizabeth Miller Woomer, and was born at Bald Eagle on January 25th, 1840, hence was a little past eighty-five years of age. He served during the Civil war as a member of Company C, 48th regiment. His survivors include three daughters, Miss Myriam Woomer and Mrs. Thomas F. Lukehart, of Tyrore, and Mrs. Robert Zimmerman, of Pittsburgh. He also leaves one brother and a sister, Martin Woomer, of Altoona, and Mrs. Louise Rice, of Belleville. Burial was made in Tyrore on Saturday afternoon.

CADWALLADER.—Oscar S. Cadwallader died in McGirk's sanatorium, Phillipsburg, last Friday morning following two weeks illness with pneumonia, aged 70 years. He was a native of York county but came to Centre county when a boy and located at Unionville. He lived there until going to Phillipsburg about forty years ago. For years he had been in the employ of the Lauderbach-Griest wholesale grocery. He was a member of the Methodist church and the Phillipsburg tribe of Red Men. His wife, who was a Miss Wilson, of Unionville, died in 1921, but surviving him are three children, two sisters and three brothers. Burial was made in the Phillipsburg cemetery on Monday morning.

If no accident occurs to prevent it we will correct our mailing list so that all changes should appear correct on the labels on the issue of March 6th. The corrections will be made on Saturday, Feb. 28th, so that only changes in address and subscription dates reaching this office between now and the 28th will be reflected in the revised list. If you should happen to be in arrears and want to get ahead please send in your remittance at once so we may make your label look good.

Mrs. Bilger Celebrates 94th Birthday Anniversary.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bilger, widow of the late Jonathan Bilger, of Pleasant Gap, celebrated her 94th birthday anniversary last Wednesday evening. As has been her custom for a number of years she invited her children and intimate friends to a big dinner in the evening and about fifty responded. It was not only a gala occasion but a sumptuous feast. The big table was loaded down with good things to eat, one white layer cake being two feet high and baked to represent a leaning tower.

Mrs. Bilger is certainly a remarkable woman. She was born in Liverpool, Perry county, on Feb. 11th, 1831. She came to Centre county before the Civil war and was married to Jonathan Bilger, at Centre Hall. Shortly thereafter they took up their residence at Pleasant Gap and that has been her home ever since. Mrs. Bilger lived in the time when mothers considered it a blessing to have children, and the result was her family included thirteen, eleven of whom are living. Of this number seven attended the party last Wednesday evening, namely: Mrs. G. W. Rees, Mrs. J. O. Hile, Mrs. Abbie Rocky, Mrs. Harry Cori, Misses Annie and Virgie Bilger and Wilson Bilger. The absentees were Mrs. Loretta Yohey, Mrs. Charles Bender, Frank and Newton Bilger.

Mrs. Bilger, by the way, is still in splendid health and unusually active for one of her years. She is especially fond of flowers and is looking forward to springtime when she can plant and take care of her flower garden.

Big Doings at the Centre County Auto Show.

The twenty-six dealers and latest models of two dozen or more standard automobiles will not be the only attractions at the big Centre county auto show to be held in the armory, Belleville, March 4th to 7th inclusive, although these will probably be the main attraction. But every afternoon and evening there will be orchestra music and singing by people well known in musical circles throughout the State.

All the available space for exhibition purposes has already been taken, some of the dealers expecting to show various models of the car they handle. If you contemplate buying a machine this spring and have not yet placed an order you will be able to compare makes, models and prices at the big auto show week after next.

Sunday School Officers Elected.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Centre county Sunday school association, held at the Belleville Y. M. C. A., on Sunday afternoon, the following officers were elected for Division No. 7, comprised of Belleville borough, Spring and Benner townships:

President, Harry A. Rossman, of Belleville; vice president, W. A. Hoover, Pleasant Gap; secretary, Miss Edith Houser; cradle roll, Mrs. William Nightingale; primary department, Mrs. David Foreman; home department, Mrs. S. D. Gettig; missionary department, Mrs. M. E. Brouse, all of Belleville; temperance department, Mrs. T. H. Jodon, Pleasant Gap; young people's department, Charles Stine; teachers' training, H. C. Menold; adult department, H. C. Yeager, of Belleville.

A congregational meeting will be held in the Presbyterian chapel next Tuesday evening at which time it is possible that some action may be taken in regard to the repairs to the church. Some time ago a contract was awarded A. Linn McGinley to do over the interior of the church but after the work had been started it was discovered that the rear of the building is in a very bad, if not dangerous, condition. The foundation sets on the top of a slanting ledge of rock and it has been gradually settling until the rear wall of the church is badly cracked. To tear it down and rebuild it of stone and brick would do little good, as it would be impossible to get away from the slanting rock. One contractor has suggested the tearing down of twenty or more feet of the rear end, putting down a big concrete slab as a retainer, then rebuilding that portion of the church of lighter material. This question, however, will be threshed out at the congregational meeting to be held next Tuesday evening.

Mrs. F. E. Naginay has sold her home on east High street to A. M. Rishel, now occupying the one side of the Mrs. Robert Cole house on east Bishop street. For the present Mrs. Naginay will retain one room in the house and continue to make her home there. The Baracough family will move into the house to be vacated by the Rishels, from the D. M. Kline property, on east Linn street, Mr. Kline expecting to leave the farm and move in to occupy his own home.

The Belleville bakery in the Bush Arcade was sold on Monday to T. R. Hosterman, of Buffalo, N. Y., but a native of Haines township, Centre county. For some time past the bakery had been conducted by Harry Smith and Earl Armstrong.

Mrs. Coburn Rogers and Mrs. W. D. Zerby were hostesses at a bridge-dinner which they gave at the Brockerhoff house Wednesday night. Covers were laid for forty.

Three Decades Have Wrought Many Changes.

On Sunday morning, July 23, 1899, at 9:28, the first regularly scheduled passenger train arrived in Belleville. The regular Sunday schedule began with two trains a day. One at 9:28 a. m.; the other at 4:44 p. m. and the sale of tickets for the first Sunday at Belleville amounted to less than \$25.00.

At the time there was considerable agitation against such a desecration of the quiet Sabbath days we had been accustomed to and many who then declared that they would never ride in the cars on Sunday have since managed to square it with their conscience far enough to do it whenever convenience or necessity have required.

The Sunday trains were the direct fruit of the efforts of the late William Burnside to retain for Belleville an industry he had fathered, organized and started here. It was the Standard Scale and Supply Co., now located at Beaver Falls. With his brother-in-law, the late Harry C. Valentine, Mr. Burnside had gotten that plant going, in a small way, on the property now included in the Titan Metal Co's site. It prospered, but when it had grown to prospective importance in the industrial world certain Pittsburgh interests in it began to clamor for its removal to a place more accessible to them for visits of inspection. Belleville offered everything in the way of better environment for the workers in the plant, less liability to labor disorganization, but we didn't have Sunday trains on which the Pittsburgh gentlemen could get in and out without losing two entire days from their offices in that city. It appeared that the retention or loss of the growing industry hinged solely on whether we could persuade the P. R. R. to put Sunday passenger trains on the B. E. V.

Accordingly, Mr. Burnside prepared a petition to J. M. Wallis, then general superintendent at Altoona, praying that his company take action toward relief of the isolation of our town. This petition carried exactly one hundred signatures, representing well known business enterprises of Belleville. Of those signers only thirty remain identified with business in Belleville after the lapse of the intervening years. Look over the list and you will be surprised, as we have been, with the changes that less than three decades have wrought in the business places of Belleville.

The Standard Scale & Supply Co., Ltd., by Wm. Burnside, Chairman, Empire Steel & Iron Co., by Geo. S. Grimm, Supt.

Belleville Fuel & Supt. Co., Houser Springs Lock Co., Rite Window Glass Co., Belleville Scale Ex. Co., Con. Ph. Tel. & Supt. Co., Herwind White Coal Min. Co., Big Sp. Cr. & Pro. Co., J. S. Waite & Co. Agents, A. G. McKelvey & Co., Phoenix Milling Co., John Anderson Atlantic Refining Co., W. L. Duggett, Thos. A. Shoemaker, Eagle Furnace Co., Edw. K. Rhoads, John Ardell Jr., S. H. Diehl, T. G. Gerberich & Son, Barlet Wagner Bros., L. H. Musser, Rite Gas & Steam Co., J. Cruise, S. H. Williams, Belleville Steam Co., H. P. Harris, M. Fauble & Son, John G. Dubbs, Garbick & Tate, Lyne & Co., Louis Bush, W. C. Coxey, P. B. Crider & Son, Gillen & Bros., Geo. T. Bush, Gentzel & Beezer, W. F. Harris, Samuel Lewin, F. H. Hoffmann, Powers Shoe Co., Hogarth & Hoffman, A. C. Mingle, G. W. Rees, Bauer & Co., Chas. R. Kurtz, J. S. Ketchline, Runkle Bros., Gettig & Kreamer, John B. Soubeck, J. H. Gross, Dan'l Irvin & Sons, S. H. Miller, F. E. Naginay, T. H. Harter, F. C. Blair & Co., Sheffer & Son, C. M. Parrish, Wm. H. McClure, Edwin F. Garman, Geo. L. Blackford, Ishler & Woodring, James I. McClure, Chas. F. Harrison, Geo. A. Beezer, Central Com. Tel. Co., Ham Otto, H. Brockerhoff & Co., Jenkins & Lingle, Cook & Griest, R. B. Taylor, C. M. Parrish, W. H. Smith & Bro., G. R. Spiegelmyer, A. M. Mott, R. D. Elic. II. Co., Jno. F. Andersen Jr., Montgomery & Co., W. H. Miller, W. R. Brachbill, P. Galbraith, F. C. Richards Sons, P. L. Beezer, Archibald Allison, W. H. Wilkinson Est.

A number of new rulings have just been promulgated by officials of the Pennsylvania Railroad company for the government of its employees and as a means of making them plain to the men, schools of instruction are being held at various points on the company's lines. One such was held in Belleville on Tuesday evening, in a special car arranged for that purpose. Joseph Twitmore, of Sunbury, but formerly of Belleville, was the man in charge having been one of eight selected from a class of eight hundred men to conduct the schools.

E. F. Green, who has been manager of the Western Union telegraph office in Belleville the past year or two, has been appointed manager of the Tyrore office to succeed Paul Price, who has been transferred to Altoona. The change will take place today or tomorrow. He will be succeeded here by M. H. Hall, of Milesburg, who has had considerable experience as an operator for the P. R. R. company.

Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Montague, of State College, are mourning the death of their three months old daughter, Sarah W. Montague, who died at the Centre County hospital on Tuesday of an infection of the brain. Burial was made at Pine Hall yesterday.

John M. Bullock, of Belleville, who is attending the retail clothiers convention in Philadelphia, was chosen first vice president of the association at the election of officers on Wednesday.

Subscribe for the "Watchman."

Church Services Next Sunday

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Worship 10:45 subject "Growth of the Kingdom" and 7:30 "How to Maintain the Spiritual Life." Temperance in the Sunday school 9:30. Junior 2:30, Epworth League 6:30. Tuesday night class, Wednesday from 6 to 7 a baked ham supper by the Ladies Aid.

E. E. McKelvey, Pastor.

BOALSBURG LUTHERAN CHARGE.

Services for Sunday, February 22nd: Pleasant Gap—Sunday school 9:30 A. M.; preaching services 10:30 A. M.; Shiloh—Sunday school 1:30 P. M.; preaching service 2:30 P. M.; Boalsburg—Sunday school 9 A. M.; Christian Endeavor 7 P. M.

W. J. Wagner, Pastor.

BOALSBURG REFORMED CHARGE.

Sunday, February 22nd. Boalsburg, 9:15 a. m., church school. 10:30 a. m., worship and sermon: "Washington's Religion." Houseville, 2:30 p. m., public worship.

Rev. W. W. Moyer, Pastor.

ST. JOHN'S REFORMED CHURCH.

Services next Sunday morning at 10:45 Sermon, "The Transfiguration." Evening service at 7:30 "Washington the Patriot." Sunday school at 9:30 A. M. and union C. E. meeting at 6:45 P. M.

Ambrose M. Schmidt, D. D., Minister.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Morning worship at 10:45, theme, "The Claims of the Church." Evening worship at 7:30, theme, "The Faith of Moses."

A congregational meeting is called to meet in the chapel next Tuesday evening at 7:30.

William C. Thompson, Pastor.

BELLEFONTA HIGH GIRLS WIN AT LOCK HAVEN.

The Girls' basket ball team handed the Central State Normal school girls' a neat little valentine in the nature of a defeat upon their own floor last Saturday night.

The game was full of thrills and hard fought from start to finish. Belleville caged the first basket but their playing was ragged during the initial quarter so that Normal had a five point lead when that period was finished. Undismayed the maroon uniforms soon made a come back and the half ended with Belleville one point to the good.

When the third period opened Lock Haven tied the score with a foul goal, but Gale's warriors were determined to win and secured a five point lead which was generally maintained throughout the rest of the game, with the final whistle leaving the scoreboard at 27-22 in favor of Belleville.

NOTES OF THE GAME.

Kitty Johnston's efforts in her final game at Belleville were the crowning points of a remarkable athletic career.

Katty Farley pulled several "Jim Bower" shots which took the heart out of the opponents.

Grace Cohen used real judgment in getting the ball past her opposing center and handled the ball excellently throughout the whole game.

Marry was like a red comet in action. Her play co-ordinated the team work in all sections.

Capt. Gale just wouldn't let the Normal forwards get the ball except at rare intervals and with Cele Smith gave them the poorest chances to shoot imaginable.

Mary Smith replaced Katty Farley during the last few minutes and showed pretty team-work with Kitty Johnston.

Lock Haven was handicapped by the poor physical condition of several good players, but were too good sports to ask to have the game postponed. More credit to them.

Belleville did not call a single time-out.

The dance after the game was well attended by spectators and players and was delightful rest to our players following the strenuous efforts just previous.

Dates Set for Altoona Racing Classics

Spring is nearly here, even though the proverbial first robin hasn't yet appeared. Although four months must pass before the first of the season's two great events, squads of workmen have already started preparing the famous Altoona speedway for the sensational racing classics of 1925.

Waiting only for the first early thaws, carpenters are sawing over the huge grandstands and mammoth mile-and-a-quarter board saucer renewing and repairing everything in readiness for the starter's flag of the first championship event on Saturday, June 13. Snorting tractors and steam rollers are working from morning until night that when race day dawns the renowned bowl here will be the finest in the history of this most thrilling of sports.

When Fred J. Wagner, internationally known starter of world's championship classics, lines up the cars on June 13 he will face the greatest roster of racing pilots ever entered in one event. In addition to the stellar drivers of the American continent, headed by Tommy Milton, Ralph DePalma, Earl Cooper, Bennie Hill and others, the management is now arranging with European representatives for the appearance of the most noted of French, Italian, German and English cars and drivers.

With the settlement of the reparations question, the German racing car manufacturers can ship their mounts to this country without the risk of seizure that withheld them in recent years. None dared the national barriers last season because four machines, valued at more than \$100,000, were virtually interned here in 1923 when they couldn't pass back through the French occupation zones without heavy risks.