Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., June 12, 1925.

PLEASANT GAP.

George Magargle is building an addition to his home.

Mrs. William Kerstetter has been laid up with neuritis.

Miss Lois Rishel has returned from Boston, having graduated from a music school there.

Ward Hile and wife returned to their home in Valparaiso, Indiana, after a two week's visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hile.

Harold and Ralph Wagner, interesting sons of Prof. Wagner, of Harrisburg, are spending their vacation at the T. E. Jodon home.

Jack Kenneth Crissman, aged 8 years, joined his father and several others on a fishing expedition to the Red Mill, Pennsvalley, last week. Jack caught a sucker measuring over nineteen inches. The balance of the sportsmen failed to get a bite. Little Jack is correspondingly happy.

The season for the luscious strawberry shortcake is almost due. We now have strawberries from June to November. A few years ago that would have sounded like a fairy tale, a horticultural phenomenon contrary to the laws of nature. The ever-bearing strawberry is here in actual fact. We now pick strawberries for five months instead of one.

The M. E. Junior League, at their festival Friday night, in Noll's grove, was very liberally patronized. Their total receipts aggregated $75.00. After deducting expenses of $18.00, they had a balance of $57.00. All of our festivals, when weather conditions were favorable, have succeeded admirably well from a financial point of view. Benevolence is a part of religion; it falls, like the dew from heaven on drooping flowers and the good, reviving effects are felt, seen, and admired. Charity is placed at the head of all christian virtues by St. Paul.

John Mulfinger has resigned his position as assistant postmaster at the Gap, the resignation taking effect Saturday last. John proved himself up-to-date in every detail, studious and accommodating in the extreme. He never asked for the position, only accepted it to help out when prevailed upon by his numerous friends, all of whom regret that conditions did not justify him to continue. Miss Eleanor Magargle, a talented young lady, succeeds John and will unquestionably make good. The present incumbent shows culture and refiinement and amiability.

Our talented little lady, Miss Lois Crissman, was most agreeably surprised last week when she received the first prize of $5.00 in gold, the premium offered by Mrs. John S. Walker in household arts. Miss Crissman has always been regarded as very proficient in all she undertakes. She thinks Mrs. Walker is just it, owing to her generosity and hospitality. The youngster is now busily engaged in showing her highly prized envelope and contents to her numerous young friends about the Gap, and will never forget the 42nd commencement of the Bellefonte High school.

William Shuey, our next door neighbor, is the proudest man at the Gap. His face is wreathed in smiles, and he steps out like a grenadier. It is a boy. The announcement was chronicled in last week's papers, and was verified, since the mother returned to her home from the hospital, bringing with her a lovely little boy. Billy would not think of turning the little stranger out, and his heart would bleed with sadness should he die. Yet he cannot look down the future without a shudder. Another mouth to feed means retrenchment and reform; that is, a redistribution of food and clothes. The same amount that supplied two must now supply three.

The mother of Washington is entitled to a nation's gratitude. "A good boy generally makes a good man," once said the mother of Washington. George was always a good boy. This explains the secret of his greatness. The mother made him a good boy, instilling into his heart the principles which raised him to the benefactor of his country, and one of the brightest ornaments of the world. The mother formed the character of the hero and statesman. We are surely indebted to God for the gift of Washington; we are no less indebted to Him for the gift of his inestimable mother. Yes, there is something indescribably lovely in a devotedly pious mother. The good mother wields a powerful influence over mankind, and shapes the destiny of nations.

A man had the audacity to say that the Pleasant Gap paragrapher was advocating the temperance cause simply because he realizes that the temperance proposition is unusually popular at this time. This is a mistake. I advocate the cause because I am cognizant of the fact that it is right. I am willing to admit that I disagree in many respects to the methods indulged in by the Anti-Saloon League, owing to its drastic measures of trying to enforce the Volstead act. The expenditure, according to reliable statistics, is simply burdensome and enormous. There is a great demand for the reduction of taxation, by the better classes of the entire country; the relief of that burden is not apparent, very little has been accomplished in the way of shutting out crime makers. The political parasites and hypocrites of these pretenders have enhanced in value their ill earned wealth, are growing fat feasting on the tax money in the Federal treasury. It is alleged that $25,000,000 has been spent to annihilate rum running along the Atlantic coast alone. They have partially succeeded, and the fact of the matter is that our army of home bootleggers are delighted. They have partially shut out the best quality of imported liquors and giving the bootleggers a larger demand for the home product—poison. The product of the Anti-Saloon League, the Volstead law, has cost the tax-payers of America over $1,000,000,000 in cold cash during the past two years. Our jails and penitentiaries have been filled to overflowing, and still the rotten work is going on at a frightful rate. The costs of our Federal courts have been doubled. It has raised up an army of hypocrites and law-breakers and has turned millions of money from our treasury into the pockets of the bootleggers and up to date has failed to show one moral or economic benefit to society, to business, or to mankind. Statistics show that over 3000 persons died from the effect of poisoned liquor during the past two years. We underwent a four year's trial without any results towards the betterment of conditions. We must cast away the pernicious hypocrites and false prophets, the time is surely over-due. All we can do is to appeal to common sense and justice of the American people. Some of the higher-ups are becoming alarmed over the situation now existing. If they are wise they will make an effort to call a halt speedily.

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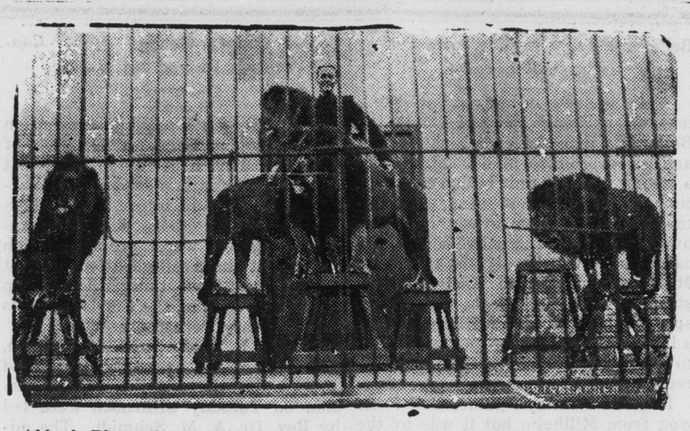

Alfred Blum the fearless ainmal trainer with Walter L. Main Circus coming to Bellefonte Saturday, June 20.

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