

NEWS ABOUT TOWN AND COUNTY.

The Catholic Daughters of America will hold their weekly card party this evening at 8.30 o'clock.

Harry Badger, of Bellefonte, received word on Wednesday of the death of his brother William, in Williamsport.

Yesterday the condition of William S. Brouse who has been seriously ill with pneumonia, was reported as being quite encouraging.

Robert Woodring, a former Bellefonte boy who recently married Margaret Loy, of Altoona, has been transferred from Kansas City, Mo., to Gallop, New Mexico, where he has been placed in charge of a large hotel.

Word was received in Bellefonte, on Tuesday, that Mrs. Rachel Glenn, widow of the late Jerre Glenn, of Curtin, had suffered a stroke of paralysis at the home of her son, Edward Glenn, in Cleveland, Ohio, and her condition is regarded as serious.

Mrs. John Walsh, of New York city, announces the marriage of her daughter Margaret to Mr. E. Harold Thompson, of Bangor, Ireland. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Bernard McQuade, of St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, on Tuesday, January 6.

The wood from the trimming of the trees in the Bellefonte cemetery has been cut for use in stoves and open fireplaces and the association is now offering it for sale. Any persons wanting this wood, will please telephone Alex Morrison, east Howard street, for further information.

At a meeting of the Firemen's Relief Association, on Tuesday evening, officers were elected as follows: President, B. D. Tate; vice president, O. A. Kline; secretary, John J. Bower; treasurer, J. W. Beezer. A committee was appointed to take up the question of refurbishing the firemen's room in the Centre County hospital.

Rev. David R. Evans, who since severing his pastorate with the Bellefonte Presbyterian church several years ago has been stationed at Kearney, N. J., has resigned his pastorate there to accept a call to the First Presbyterian church of Somerville, N. J. His work at Kearney is said to have been very successful.

Formal notice has been made of the withdrawal of Edward J. Thompson Esq., from partnership in the practice of law with George W. Zeigler Esq., of Philipsburg. Mr. Thompson has opened offices of his own in the Schoonover building in that place and Mr. Zeigler will continue his practice in his present location.

There is very sound advice offered you in the advertisement of the First National bank of Bellefonte, on page 7 of this issue. This is not to say that good advice is only occasional in the advertising of a reputable bank, but the matter touched on in this is so important to everyone that we would like all of our readers to get the message and ponder over it.

While the snow is not very deep in the mountains and fields it is packed solid which makes it almost impossible for pheasants and wild turkeys to find enough to eat. Sportsmen living adjacent to the mountains and who are interested in the preservation of such wild life should put out feed for the birds. Deer and other animals are able to take care of themselves.

Faculty members of the Pennsylvania State College formally welcomed President and Mrs. Ralph D. Hietzel at a reception in their honor tendered by the College board of trustees on Thursday evening. The reception was held in the woman's building on the campus. Judge H. Walton Mitchell, president of the board, and other trustees were present.

The week before Christmas Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Lutz and son Sherman, of Buffalo Run, took a motor trip to Adrian, Mo., to visit relatives. In passing through Pittsburgh, on Sunday night, on their way home they had an automobile accident in which the son was injured and their car damaged. First reports were that Sherman was seriously hurt but fortunately this did not prove to be the case as they all returned home on Wednesday.

Some wonderful pictures are being shown at the Scenic these nights and all who are fortunate in seeing them openly commended manager T. Clayton Brown for his good judgment in selecting his evening programs. They include the best motion pictures made in the leading studios of this country as well as importations from abroad. An evening at the Scenic means several hours of good entertainment. If not a regular get the habit.

William Rapolsky, of Luzerne county, who escaped from Rockview penitentiary in 1924, and was captured in Chicago last week, was brought to Centre county on Monday and lodged in the county jail. He was serving a ten to fifteen years sentence on a statutory charge and escaped several weeks after being transferred to Rockview from the eastern penitentiary. On Tuesday Judge Keller gave him an additional five to ten years sentence for breaking and escaping.

THE G. F. MUSSER CO. TO GO OUT OF BUSINESS.

Committee Appointed at Stockholders Meeting to Liquidate Stock and Assets of Firm.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the G. F. Musser Co., limited, held in the court house, last Friday, it was decided to close out the stock and affairs of the company as rapidly as can be done without undue sacrifice and to this end a committee was appointed to make liquidation. The committee consists of G. Fred Musser, chairman; G. Oscar Gray, secretary and treasurer; R. S. Brouse Jr., all of Bellefonte; John S. Erb, of Philipsburg, and Earl Peck, of Nittany. Ninety-eight per cent. of the stockholders were represented at the meeting, either in person or by proxy.

The G. F. Musser company was organized almost seven years ago and on April 1st, 1920, took over the wholesale grocery of Danenhower & Son. The company was capitalized at \$125,000, although only a little over \$100,000 worth of stock was disposed of. For several years the company did a good business but the chain stores which have opened up in Bellefonte as well as many of the smaller towns naturally cut into the business of the jobbers, and this with various other causes resulted in so much of a falling off in the business of the company that it ceased to be profitable.

This condition has prevailed for some time and the stockholders were confronted with the choice of two solutions—voluntary bankruptcy or amicable liquidation. The company is not insolvent, by any means, as its assets, including stock and fixtures and book accounts figure up to approximately \$75,000, with only about \$15,000 of bills owing. Amicable liquidation was decided upon, however, as the best method of paying the debts and realizing something for the stockholders.

At this writing the best plan of liquidation has not yet been worked out by the committee. But all deliveries of goods was withdrawn on Monday morning. The stock on hand will be disposed of at a close margin to retailers but they will have to go after the goods. If an opportunity develops where the stock can eventually be sold in bulk in order to close out and do away with the overhead of keeping the store open, this will probably be done.

Cinder Pile Used as Bootlegger's Cache.

Everything these days can be utilized in some way if somebody makes the proper application to figure it out. Travelers along the State highway between Bellefonte and Axe Mann may frequently have wondered how the big cinder pile just south of the Titan Metal company plant could be used to advantage, but it was left for a bootlegger to figure it out.

Just after the last fall of snow a man living out along the road was walking into Bellefonte and when he came to the cinder pile he noticed fresh tracks in a well worn path leading into a deep cut in the cinder pile. Curious to know where the steps would lead to he took up the trail. The path led up to the face of the cinder pile and there the man discovered that a hole had been dug in the cinder. Reaching in his hand came in contact with an object wrapped in brown paper and when he pulled it out and unwrapped it he found a quart bottle of moonshine.

As there was no name on the package he decided to confiscate the contraband and took it home, but on sampling it the stuff was found to be so raw that he was afraid to drink it, so threw it away. The bootlegger, whoever he might be, was evidently using the cache in the cinder pile as a means of delivering his wet goods to customers, but the curiosity of the man above referred to deprived one customer, at least, of his regulation supply.

Another Centre County Boy Forging to the Front.

Announcement has been made of the appointment of David B. Fleming general superintendent of the first district of the New York Central railroad, with headquarters at Albany, N. Y., as the assistant general manager of the lines, Buffalo and east, with headquarters at Syracuse, N. Y.

Mr. Fleming was born at Snow Shoe, Centre county, on February 12th, 1877, and received a high school education. He entered railway service in July, 1893, as a telegraph operator on the Pennsylvania division of the New York Central & Hudson River (now a part of the New York Central), and in October, 1899, became a train dispatcher. In February, 1903, he became chief dispatcher and in November of the following year he was appointed assistant trainmaster. He became trainmaster of the Mohawk division in October, 1906, and in November, 1910, was appointed assistant superintendent of the Hudson division. Mr. Fleming was transferred to the Mohawk division as assistant superintendent in July, 1911, and in September, 1913, was appointed superintendent of the Buffalo division. He was transferred in the same capacity to the Mohawk division in April, 1918, and in May, 1924, was promoted to general superintendent at Albany, which position he was holding at the time of his recent appointment as assistant general manager.

Annual Meeting of First National Bank Shareholders.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the First National bank of Bellefonte was held in the banking house on Tuesday, January 11th.

All the present members of the board, Messrs. Charles M. McCurdy, W. Fred Reynolds, Charles C. Shuey, Henry S. Linn, James C. Furst, Thos. B. Beaver and David Dale, were re-elected. Mr. L. Frank Mayes was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late George M. Gamble.

The board appointed the following officers: Charles M. McCurdy, president; W. Fred Reynolds, vice president; James K. Barnhart, cashier; C. E. Robb, assistant cashier; Charles McC. Scott, assistant treasurer; James C. Furst, secretary of the board.

The report of the president showed that the past year repeated the story of former years, showing a marked increase in the volume of business transacted and a substantial increase in deposits and resources, the latter passing the two and one half million dollar mark.

During the year surplus and undivided profits were increased in the sum of \$22,997.00, this fund now being \$303,914.00. Surplus in relation to capital is now more than double that of the average bank, and as this is the true index of a bank's strength it is worthy of special notice.

That this is understood and appreciated is proved by the bank's constantly growing business and by the steady and regular increase in the savings department, through new accounts. The bank has in this fund, from thousands of depositors, almost \$1,200,000.00. This is conclusive proof of the bank's reputation among the thoughtful and prudent people who constitute the saving class.

What to Do in Case of a Fire.

Arrangements having been completed with the Bell Telephone company for the direct transmission of all fire alarms, the public is requested to observe the following instructions in sending in alarms of fire, and by so doing will materially aid the fire department in a prompt response:

Above all be calm, speak slowly and distinctly to avoid answers you say "Emergency," (this will give your call the right of way.) "There is a fire at (give name) on north, south, east or west (give name) street."

For example: "There is a fire at the residence of John Doe, on west Curtin street." No further notice will be necessary, as the operator will promptly transmit the alarm.

The public is requested not to call the exchange as to the location of fires, for this information will not be given, and such calls only interfere with the prompt action of the fire department. If your property is endangered you will be notified by the operator.

The fire alarm will be tested each Saturday at noon.

ROBERT E. KLINE, Fire Marshall.

Will of the late George M. Gamble Probated.

The will of the late George M. Gamble was probated in the office of the clerk of the orphan's court of Centre county last Saturday. It provides that the widow shall have the home on west Linn street to occupy during her life, and all the furnishings therein to be hers absolutely. The sum of \$5,000 is to be paid outright to each of the children as soon as possible. The balance of the estate is left in trust, the proceeds therefrom to be paid in either quarterly or semi-annual installments, share and share alike to the widow and children. The will was drawn in 1921 and the Northern Central Trust Co., of Williamsport, was appointed executor and trustee. Max Mitchell, of Williamsport, is the attorney for the estate. In an appended schedule the personal property is given a valuation of \$65,000 and the home \$6,500. The will was made prior to the sale of the mill property, and with that included the estate will probably run close to \$100,000.

Chemical Lime Co. Hydrating Plant Put in Operation Tuesday.

The new hydrating plant of the Chemical Lime company was put in operation on Tuesday and the first car of lime from it was shipped yesterday. The building of this plant was accomplished in record time. Ground was broken for it on September 26th, and in three months and a half it was completed and in operation. In constructing the foundation for the plant and machinery seven car loads of cinder, two car loads of cement and many tons of crushed limestone were used. The plant is sixty feet high and will have a capacity of twelve and a half tons of hydrated lime per hour, or three hundred tons every twenty-four hours.

The building of this plant will enable the Chemical company to compete in the open market for all kinds of lime products. It is understood that they already have booked sufficient orders to keep the plant in operation for some time to come.

Owing to the illness of several of the attorneys all the cases down on the regular list for argument on Tuesday were continued until a later date.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS HAD INTERESTING GATHERING.

Annual Convention Last Thursday was Well Attended.

The fortieth annual meeting of the Centre county School Directors Association was held in the court house, Bellefonte last Thursday. The session opened at 9.30 a. m. with president T. I. Mairs, of State College, in the chair. Devotional exercises were led by Rev. John F. Harkins.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved. President Mairs then introduced county superintendent T. S. Davis, of Blair county, who gave a very interesting and instructive talk on the subject of "Progress in Pennsylvania schools. He referred back to the beginning of the county teachers institutes and stated that Centre county was one of the first counties to hold one. That was eighty years ago and the first county superintendent was elected in 1854. He compared present day methods with those of forty-eight years ago when he started to teach and made a plea for better township supervision of rural schools, for better health instruction and more vocational courses in all schools.

Secretary O. F. Smith then called the roll. There were 104 out of a total of 175 directors present. The next speaker, Dr. Charles Lose, gave a fine talk on "The Discipline in Our Public Schools." He stated that the discipline of a nation depended upon the early training of that nation in the schoolroom. He compared Red Russia and its methods of law with those of England and the United States. His plea was for better teachers, for better discipline.

The next speaker was C. S. Woomer, of Rush township, who gave a report on the State school convention. This was the most complete report ever submitted before the convention.

The afternoon session opened with an address by Supt. Davis on "Better School Equipment." He urged a complete survey of all rural schools and better housing conditions and better equipment. Dr. Lose then gave his second talk of the day, the subject of which was "Qualifications of a Good Teacher."

After a brief talk by Supt. Rogers, the election of officers took place. Mrs. Emma W. Womelsdorf, of Philipsburg, was elected president; S. Ward Gramley, of Millheim, vice president; O. F. Smith, of Boalsburg, secretary; J. Thompson Henry, of Huston township, treasurer, and Miss Bessie Miles, of Milesburg, delegate to the State convention.

Centre County Sportsmen Opposed to Killing Doe.

The State Game Commission is anxious to learn the sentiment of Centre county sportsmen relative to an open season for doe next fall. The State Game, Fish and Forestry association, of Philipsburg, has gone on record as being unutterably opposed to it in any shape or form. A large number of hunters on the south side of the county were among the doe hunters in Huntingdon and Mifflin counties, in December, and most of them got their doe, but several of them confessed to the writer that there wasn't any sport in killing them; that it was just like going into a herd of cattle and bagging the one that struck your fancy. They had their doe killing but are not anxious for any more of it.

Centre county mountains are full of does and it is because of this fact that the hunters this year were able to bag something like eight hundred bucks, and they were so tame that there really wasn't much sport in killing them. Of course the doe do more or less damage on farms close to the mountains but when they become too devastating the farmer has the remedy in his own hands under the law. As to an open season for the general slaughter of does the sentiment of Centre county sportsmen seems to be against it.

Threshermen to Meet Tomorrow.

The Centre county Threshermen and Farmers' Protective association will meet in the grand jury room in the court house at one o'clock tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon. A full attendance is desired as officers will be elected for the ensuing year as well as delegates to the State convention, which will be held in Harrisburg Thursday and Friday, January 20th and 21st.

Compensation insurance, boiler inspection and many matters of interest to threshermen, sawmill men and farmers will be considered. A representative of the Harrisburg office will address the meeting and answer all questions. Every member is urged to attend and if they have any grievances that will be the place to air them.

Busy Month for Health Nurse.

December was an unusually busy month for Miss Anna McCauley, health nurse under the auspices of the Bellefonte chapter of the American Red Cross. During the month she made ninety-nine visits, which included house calls, school children, pre-school children, prenatal and sick patients, and gave sixteen hours to industrial nursing for the American Lime and Stone company. Fees collected during the month amounted to \$24.00, and expenses \$13.00.

NEWS PURELY PERSONAL.

Mr. I. J. Dreese, of Lemont, left for Philadelphia, on Sunday, with the intention of spending a week or more in that city.

Mrs. Frank Detrick and her son, Carl, drove to Harrisburg the early part of the week, called there by the illness of Mrs. Detrick's grand-daughter.

Relatives and friends here Friday for the funeral of the late Daniel Eberhart included those from Pittsburgh, Swissvale, Williamsburg, Lewistown, Altoona and Coshocton, Ohio, aside from many from all over the county.

W. Harrison Walker and W. J. Emerick represented the Bellefonte Kiwanis at a district meeting held in Pittsburgh the early part of the week. Mr. Walker and Mr. Emerick went out Sunday, returning Tuesday evening.

Miss Frances Bibbons, of State College, was in Bellefonte Wednesday, having come over to take charge of one of the classes in the school of missions, which will be held weekly in the Presbyterian chapel, during the month of January.

The Misses Bessie and Mary Sommerville have closed their home at Winburne and are now visiting with their brother Donald and his family, at Corning, N. Y. The Misses Sommerville do not expect to return to Winburne until Spring.

Miss Laura H. Runkle was a guest, Wednesday, of the Rev. and Mrs. S. L. Greenhoe, on a drive from Centre Hall, the party having come over to spend several hours during the afternoon in consultation with their physician and with some friends in Bellefonte.

Mrs. Edward Harris, of Snow Shoe, and Mrs. Frank Gardner, of State College, were the out-of-town members of the Mothers' Assistance Board of Centre county here, Wednesday morning, for the regular monthly meeting, held in the office of McCalmont & Co.

Creighton M. Way, the son of Mrs. J. R. Driver, of Bellefonte, is a member of the Centre county colony now living in California. Creighton, who had been doing business in Reading for several years, left to go to the coast last summer and is now located in Los Angeles with the Duncan Vail Co., an art goods supply house.

A Watchman office caller on Saturday was W. E. Hartsock, of Port Matilda, who is back at his old home in that town after spending six months at Williamsburg, Blair county, where he had charge of the G. A. Koonz general store. He has several other good positions in view but has not yet decided which one he will accept.

The Misses Maude and Gertrude Miller, of Rock Springs, motored to Bellefonte, last Saturday, for a day's shopping. The young ladies have made their home on the Miller farm ever since the death of their parents, but are considering the matter of moving to a house in town somewhere that would be convenient for Miss Maude whose profession is teaching.

Mrs. George B. Thompson went east last week, expecting to spend several days under treatment in Philadelphia, after which she will join her mother and sister, Mrs. Callaway and Mrs. Garber, at College Point, L. I., before the former leaves for a year's travel abroad. Mrs. Callaway will sail from New York on January 19th with Clarks, on their cruise around the world.

Mrs. James B. Lane and Miss Charlotte Powell will leave within a few days to spend several months east. As has been their custom a part of the time will be spent at Atlantic City and for the remainder Mrs. Lane will be with her sister, Mrs. Charles Shaffner, at Summit, N. J., while Miss Powell will visit her nieces, Mrs. Hoopes and Miss Josephine White, at West Chester.

Dr. William S. Glenn, who, with his wife, Dr. Nannie M. Glenn, of State College, left for Florida last week for their usual winter sojourn at West Palm Beach, writes that rents of rooms and small apartments are much lower than they have been any time the Glens have been there. He also says there are not nearly so many tourists, that the city is not so crowded and far more pleasant as a resort.

E. J. Gentzel, of Spring township, while in the Watchman office on Monday was discussing business conditions and among other things stated that the margin between the producer and the consumer was entirely too great. He cited puffed wheat as an example. The farmer sweats and drudges growing the crop and sells it for whatever he can get, the price now being about \$1.35 a bushel. But when it comes back onto his table as puffed wheat he pays at the rate of about \$90 a bushel for it. And everybody wonders why the farmer kicks.

Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler Skudder, of Philadelphia, are in Bellefonte for a ten day's visit, guests at the home of Mrs. Charles Smith, on east Bishop street. Mrs. Skudder, before her marriage, was Miss Seixas, a daughter of Thomas Seixas, of Germantown. Mrs. Smith's holiday guests included Mrs. J. A. Saxe, of Elsworth, Pa., who with her three children came in to spend the week between Christmas and New Year's with Mrs. Saxe's brother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Harper. Mrs. Saxe, who spent all her girlhood life in Bellefonte, is better known here perhaps as Miss Jennie Harper.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Bowersox, with their daughters, Misses Florence and Pearl, and Mrs. Walter Corl, all of Pine Grove Mills, were in town for a little shopping Saturday and while the ladies were visiting the bargain counters Mr. Bowersox called on a few of his friends. The few moments he tarried in this office were given to discussing the recent hunt of the Rossman club of which he is a member. Its a great crowd, the Rossmans, and when they don't get deer few others do. In fact they were so certain of their quota last month that they elected to shoot nothing under four points and, at that, got the limit in two days.

Additional Hospital Donations.

Additional donations have been received at the Centre County hospital the past week. From residents of Bellefonte 3 pounds of coffee and 16 glasses of jelly. From Zion, 7 jars of jelly. From Lemont, a community donation of 1 can dried corn, 14 jars fruit, 3 jars vegetables, 19 glasses jelly, 1 peck turnips, 4 1/2 bushels potatoes, 2 bushel apples.

F. P. Blair Home Badly Damaged by Fire.

The F. P. Blair home, on Spring street, Bellefonte, was badly damaged by fire, yesterday morning, which originated at a walled in fire place in the sitting room and burned up through the partitions to the roof. The fire started about 4.30 o'clock and was discovered by the smoke filtering through into the next house occupied by William K. Raup and his son-in-law and daughter, Perry Alters and wife. Mr. and Mrs. Alters got up shortly after four o'clock and when they discovered the smoke investigated their own home, but finding no fire there went out onto the street and called Mr. Blair. Their calls awakened him and when he opened the door of his bedroom the hall was already filled with smoke and his housekeeper, Mary Metzler, was standing at the top of the third flight of stairs, so enveloped in smoke she was afraid to come down. But she did get down by covering her head and Mr. Blair also got out without much difficulty.

While very little of the house furnishings were destroyed by the fire the damage by water is considerable. Mr. Blair has a very valuable library and many priceless books are so badly water-soaked that they are practically ruined. Just what the loss will be in dollars and cents is hard to estimate but the material damage is covered by insurance.

Bellefonte Business Man Ends Life in Tragic Manner.

Edward J. Eckenroth, for many years a well known painter and paper hanger of Bellefonte, took his own life, about seven o'clock yesterday morning, by shooting himself through the heart with a shotgun. The unfortunate affair took place in the kitchen of his home on east Howard street, and was doubtless the result of ill health, as he had not been well for many months and had been carrying on his business under distressing physical conditions.

A son of Charles and Priscilla Eckenroth he was born at Pleasant Gap fifty-three years ago last September. The greater part of his life, however, had been spent in Bellefonte. He is survived by his wife and five children, Mrs. A. C. Stewart, of Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. Anna Carpenter, of Reading; Mrs. H. J. Walkey and Charles, of Bellefonte, and Miss Mary, at home. He also leaves one brother and a sister, B. Frank Eckenroth, of Sunbury, and Mrs. W. H. Baird, of Pleasant Gap.

The funeral will be private and will probably be held tomorrow afternoon.

Miss Giles an American Student.

Miss Erva Giles, soprano who is to appear here at the Moose theatre on January 20th, under the auspices of the local High school glee club, is one of the youngest sopranos in the country. Youngest in age, but with voice and control of a veteran. It is also of interest to know that Miss Giles' training was received on this side of the Atlantic, again proving that American methods are on a par with those of any in the world. Critics from all the large cities who have heard her voice are unanimous in their opinion that she has very few equals. George Chadwick Stock, one of the foremost critics, claims Miss Giles' voice is on a par with Sembrick's when she was in her prime.

Her performance over the air, recorded in the Victor Phonograph Co. sending for her to become a member of the Victor Opera Co., and she has stepped from that stage into recording her own records for that company at the present time.

On her appearance here, she will be accompanied by Edward Morris, pianist and who was former soloist with the various symphonies in Boston, New York and Philadelphia. Mr. Morris is also writer and composer of "Mother Mine," a song hit that will live forever, and has written music for many other present day hits.

On Friday night Roy Clements and John Weber, two employees of the Chemical Lime Co., in this place, were returning from a business trip to York and stopped at a filling station at Dauphin about 1 a. m. Clements got out of the car and went to the rear to unclog the gas tank. Immediately he was attacked by a large police dog. It bit him in the leg and in a second attack nearly severed his thumb. It made a third attack, but then Mr. Weber and the station attendant got to the scene and drove the animal off. It is said that the dog has no known owner and is seen about Dauphin only at night.

Local Institute of District No. 3, comprising Bellefonte borough, Spring, Walker and Benner townships will be held at Hubersburg, this afternoon and evening. Dr. J. Allen Hunter, of the teachers' training extension department of Penna. State College, will make an address in the evening.

For Rent.—Two one car garages near the station. Inquire at this office.

Bellefonte Grain Markets.

Table with 2 columns: Grain type and price per bushel. Includes items like Wheat, Rye, Oats, Corn, Barley, Buckwheat.