

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., March 4th, 1927.

F. GRAY MEEK, Editor

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

Terms of Subscription.—Until further notice 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, Bellefonte, Pa., as second class matter.

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

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

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

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

FOR SHERIFF.

We are authorized to announce that Harry E. (Dep.) Dunlap, of Bellefonte, will be a candidate for the nomination on the Democratic ticket for the office Sheriff of Centre county, subject to the decision of the Centre county voters as expressed at the primaries to be held on Tuesday, September 20, 1927.

FOR PROTHONOTARY.

We are authorized to announce that Claude Herr, of Bellefonte, will be a candidate for the nomination on the Democratic ticket for the office of Prothonotary of Centre county, subject to the decision of the Democratic voters as expressed at the primary to be held Tuesday, September 20, 1927.

FOR TREASURER.

We are authorized to announce that Lyman L. Smith, of Centre Hall, will be a candidate for the nomination for County Treasurer subject to the decision of the Democratic voters of the county as expressed at the primary to be held September 20, 1927.

FOR RECORDER.

We are authorized to announce that Sine H. Hoy, of Bellefonte, is a candidate for nomination on the Democratic ticket for the office of Recorder of Centre county, subject to the decision of the voters of the county as expressed at the primary to be held Tuesday, September 20, 1927.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

We are authorized to announce that John S. Spearly will be a candidate for the nomination for County Commissioner on the Democratic ticket subject to the decision of the voters of the party as expressed at the primaries on September 20th, 1927.

We are authorized to announce that John W. Yearick, of Marion township, will be a candidate for the nomination of County Commissioner, subject to the decision of the Democratic voters as expressed at the primaries to be held September 20, 1927.

Over Four Million Dollars Asked for State College.

A bill providing for the appropriation of State funds to the Pennsylvania State College for its work and new buildings was introduced on the floor of the State Senate last week by Senator Harry B. Scott, of the Centre-Clearfield district.

A total of \$3,234,500 is asked for the college maintenance, agricultural research and extension work for the next two years, a sum that is only a quarter million more than was passed by the Legislatures for 1923 and 1924. In addition, a request for one million dollars is made for new buildings and their equipment, an item sought anxiously by the trustees and friends of the college to help relieve congested conditions for students and faculty on the campus.

The general college maintenance request is \$2,181,000, compared with \$1,571,904 granted for the present biennium by former Governor Pinchot. An item of \$403,500 is asked specifically for agricultural research work. No special provision was made for this feature in the last appropriation bill. The new bill would allow \$650,000 for agricultural research as against \$600,000 set aside in 1925.

Passage of the bill by the Legislature and its signing by Governor Fisher would mean the opening of a new era of service by the College to the people of the Commonwealth. President Ralph D. Hetzel is firm in the belief that State funds for the maintenance and growth of State College are not current expenditures but investments that will yield big future returns to taxpayers. The bill is now in the hands of the Senate appropriations committee.

Bellefonte Will Observe National Music Week.

As was to have been expected in a town where there are a number of accomplished musicians and many lovers of their art Bellefonte will observe national music week, the first week in May, and Alberta M. Krader is preparing to present the sacred cantata "Queen Esther." It will be staged in one of the local theatres and the leading roles will be sung by local and out of town artists. The first rehearsal has been called for Thursday evening, March 10, at eight o'clock in the High school auditorium and all singers are invited to be present to participate in it.

"Queen Esther" has been sung several times in Bellefonte, but it is such a beautiful cantata as to be in the class of compositions that never grow old.

Harry Jones Buys Gettig Property.

Harry Jones, an employee of the Pennsylvania railroad company who moved to Bellefonte from Snow Shoe during the holidays and with his family has been occupying an apartment in Crider's Exchange, has purchased from the heirs the L. H. Gettig property, on north Thomas street, and will move his family there in the near future.



HIS HONOR, JUDGE KELLER DIES SUDDENLY.

Stricken with Angina Pectoris While Presiding at Court.

Stricken with an attack of angina pectoris while sitting on the bench in open court, about eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning, Judge Harry Keller passed away at the Centre County hospital at 12.15 o'clock. The Judge had been presiding at the regular session of court all week and was apparently in his usual health. Shortly before eleven o'clock he had declared a fifteen minute recess to permit sheriff Taylor an opportunity to bring a woman into court on a bench warrant. During the recess he went to the smoking room where he sat and talked with the attorneys and never uttered a complaint. At eleven o'clock he returned to the bench and a few minutes later prothonotary Roy Wilkinson followed. As the latter went to his seat in front of the bar he noticed that something was wrong with the Judge and at once asked him if he was sick. The latter replied that he was suffering with an attack of nervous indigestion—a very intense pain in his left side. The prothonotary told the court prior to adjourn court at once and Fred J. Healy, court messenger, assisted the Judge from the court room to his chambers. With assistance the Judge was able to walk down the stairs and out of the court house to the car of ex-sheriff George Yarnell, who took him to the office of Dr. Rogers. By that time he lapsed into semi-consciousness but in a few minutes recovered. From the physician's office he was taken in the ambulance to the Centre County hospital and three physicians, Drs. Dale, Locke and Rogers, did everything possible to counteract the attack. He was conscious after his arrival at the hospital and recognized and spoke to Mrs. Keller, who had been hastily summoned. But he again lapsed into unconsciousness and passed away at 12.15.

While the casual acquaintance the Judge appeared in normal health it is known that to intimate friends he had complained for some time past of not feeling altogether fit and had been on a diet. Last fall the Judge closed his home on east Linn street and during the winter he and Mrs. Keller had been living at Mr. Landsy's Annex, on Spring street, and taking their meals at the Brockerhoff house.

Judge Keller was a son of Col. Daniel Schenck and Martha E. Heustis Keller and was born in Washington, D. C., on December 22nd, 1866, hence was 60 years, 2 months and 8 days old. His birth in Washington is accounted for by the fact that his father, a veteran of the Civil war, held a position in the government pension bureau and the family lived in the national capital. In 1873, however, the family returned to Bellefonte and Harry was educated in the public schools of the town. He was a member of the first graduating class of the High school in June, 1884, the other members being his brother, Superior Court Justice William H. Keller, Rev. Morris E. Swartz and Harvey M. Wetzel.

The following winter Harry taught the Holy school, in Benner township, and boarded with the farmer who occupied the house which is now the warden's residence at Rockview. After completing his term of school he entered his father's office as a law student but following the election of Gen. Beaver as Governor he accepted a position as clerk in the Adjutant General's department under General D. H. Hastings. He spent four years in Harrisburg and on his return to Bellefonte resumed his study of the law, being admitted to practice at the Centre county bar on April 16th, 1891. Crime in all its phases was so antipathetic to the nature of Mr. Keller that

he never took up criminal practice but confined his law work to civil cases, specializing in orphan's court endeavors. His career as a member of the Centre county bar was that of the average successful lawyer and eventually led to aspirations to sit upon the bench. He was spoken of as a candidate on the Republican ticket in 1915 but remained out of the field owing to the fact that his brother-in-law, Judge Ellis L. Orvis, was a candidate for re-election. Henry C. Quigley became the Republican nominee and was elected, and his tragic death in November, 1924, from the same ailment that carried away Judge Keller is still well remembered by everybody in Centre county.

Following Judge Quigley's death Mr. Keller became an active candidate for appointment as his successor and had the support of most of the members of the bar, but Governor Pinchot appointed Arthur C. Dale. Mr. Keller promptly announced that he would be a candidate for the office in 1925. In a hard primary fight he won the Republican nomination but Judge Dale was nominated and ran on the Prohibition ticket, which made a three-cornered fight at the election, W. Harrison Walker being the Democratic nominee. Mr. Keller won by a decided plurality and was duly sworn into office on the first Monday of January, 1925. During his fourteen months on the bench he gave every evidence that no more dependable, conscientious or impartial Judge has ever presided over the Centre county courts. He endeavored to interpret the law as it is written in the statute books, but when occasion warranted it, in his judgment, his justice was always tempered with mercy. He has never sought to achieve a State-wide reputation but was content in presiding over his own court.

Columns might be written on Judge Keller's private life and then the story would not be told. He was a member of the Reformed church of Bellefonte, has been the senior elder for a number of years and for fifteen years was teacher of the men's Bible class. He was a member of the various Masonic fraternities in Bellefonte, the Nitany Country club and had only recently joined the Kiwanians. He loved to mingle with his fellowmen in a social way and was always a happy acquisition to any gathering. He was one of the very few men of our acquaintance of whom it can be said that he had never tasted intoxicating liquor.

On May 7th, 1891, he married Miss Anna Orvis, a daughter of former Judge John Holden and Mrs. Orvis, who survives with four sons, John Orvis Keller, head of the Engineering Extension department, at State College; Henry Keller, a professor at Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J.; Ellis Orvis Keller an assistant professor and William Keller a senior at State College. He also leaves one brother, Superior Court Judge William H. Keller, of Lancaster; his step-mother, Mrs. M. E. R. Keller, and a step-sister, Miss Lucy, both of Philadelphia.

Owing to the sudden death of Judge Keller the balance of the February term of court was promptly cancelled by clerk Roy Wilkinson and the sheriff instructed to notify all jurors and litigants summoned for next week not to appear. A preliminary meeting of attorneys was held in the prothonotary's office yesterday morning and arrangements made for a public meeting of the bar in the court house at 9.30 o'clock on Saturday morning to take suitable action on the death of the Judge and arrange to attend the funeral services which will be held at the home of former Judge Ellis L. Orvis at eleven o'clock tomorrow (Saturday) morning. Rev. Robert Thena, pastor of the Reformed church, will have charge of the services and private interment will be made in the

Keller lot in the Union cemetery though the services will be public.

The death of Judge Keller naturally creates a vacancy which will have to be filled by appointment by Governor Fisher, the first since he has been sworn into office. The appointment, however, will be good for this year only, which will mean that Centre county will have another judicial contest this year. When Governor Fisher makes his appointment the new Judge will be sworn into office by Recorder Lloyd A. Stover, which will make the third Judge he will have administered the oath to during his four year's term.

Owing to the death of Judge Harry Keller the March meeting of the Brotherhood of the Reformed church, which was to have been held tonight, has been omitted.

All of the stores and other business places in Bellefonte will close tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock and remain closed until after the funeral of the late Judge Keller.

McCLOSKEY.—Mrs. Margaret McCloskey, widow of David McCloskey, one of the old time settlers on Marsh Creek, died on Sunday evening, February 20th, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mary Sayers, at Romola, as the result of general infirmities, aged 86 years, 4 months and 10 days. Her husband has been dead for a number of years but ten of her thirteen children survive, as follows: Mrs. Mary Sayers, of Romola; Nathan McCloskey and Mrs. Elizabeth Potorf, of Lock Haven; Mrs. Rebecca Welsh, of Danville; Mrs. Martha Iddings, of Hokenville, N. J.; Mrs. Adaline Wood, residing in the west; Jacob McCloskey, of Jacksonville; Miss Elsie, of New York, and Mrs. Ella Waker, of Orriston. She also leaves one brother and five sisters, George Long, of Danville; Mrs. Rosie McKissick and Mrs. John Miller, of Marsh Creek; Mrs. Joseph Croft and Mrs. Thomas Mann, of Lock Haven, and Mrs. G. W. Emenhizer, of Coleville.

Rev. L. F. Sheetz, of Howard, had charge of the funeral services which were held in the Romola Church of Christ, on Wednesday morning of last week, burial being made in the Romola cemetery.

WILSON.—William Wilson, for almost half a century a resident of Phillipsburg, died at the McGirk sanatorium in that place, last Friday morning, following an illness of several months.

He was born at Unionville on January 27th, 1855, hence was 72 years and 22 days old. As a young man he went to Phillipsburg and for a period of years worked at the old Phillipsburg tannery. Of late years, however, he had been an employee at the Lauderbach-Griest wholesale grocery. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, of Phillipsburg, for forty-nine years.

In 1877 he married Miss Tabitha Mitchell, of Unionville, who passed away less than a year ago but surviving him are three children, Wilbur Wilson, of Williamsport; Mrs. James Lupton, of Phillipsburg, and Samuel L., of Bloomsburg. He also leaves two sisters, Mrs. J. P. Smith and Mrs. W. K. Raup, both of Bellefonte.

Funeral services were held at the Lupton home, in Phillipsburg, at two o'clock on Monday afternoon, by Rev. Ralph Illingworth, burial being made in the Phillipsburg cemetery.

HALL.—Mark Hall died at his home in Union township on February 19th, following an illness of some weeks. He was a son of George and Rebecca Hall and was born in Union township in 1859, his age being 67 years, 3 months and 6 days. He married Miss Hannah Ammerman who survives with the following children: Mrs. J. B. Hall, Norman, LeRoy and Andrew, all of Fleming; Howard, of Juniata; Mrs. G. R. Young, of Port Matilda; Clarence, of Warren, Ohio, and Herman, of State College. He also leaves two brothers and two sisters, Mrs. J. E. Miles, of Milesburg; C. T. Hall, of Harrisburg; Mrs. D. R. Keatley, of Fleming, and E. A. Hall, of Osceola Mills. Funeral services were held at his late home on Wednesday morning of last week, by Revs. M. C. Piper and R. R. Lehman, burial being made in the Oak Ridge cemetery.

McKAIG.—Charles Benton McKaig died at his home at State College, on Saturday morning, Feb. 26, after an illness of several years with Bright's disease.

Deceased was the son of William J., and Esther A. McKaig and was born in Wilmington, Delaware, sixty-one years ago. He is survived by his wife Elsie Sellers McKaig and the following brothers and sisters: Winfield F., and William U., of Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. David Michener, of Elsmere, Del.; and Mrs. Thomas Quale, of Denver, Colorado.

He was a member of the Methodist church and funeral services were held at his late home at State College, on Monday afternoon, the Rev. A. E. Mackie having officiated. Interment was made in Gray's cemetery.

The annual meeting of the stock holders of the Sutton-Abramsen Engineering Co., will be held in the offices of the company, in this place, at 1.45 p. m. Monday, March 7. A luncheon will be served the stock holders at the Bush house at noon of that day and immediately thereafter there will be an inspection of the plant.

Walker Township High School Holds Oratorical Contest.

A very interesting oratorical contest was held by the Walker township High school, at Hublersburg, last Thursday evening. Notwithstanding the fact that the roads were bad a very good crowd was in attendance. Eight students competed for the prizes, the list and their subjects being as follows:

"Abraham Lincoln and the Constitution"—Mae Guiser.
"Self-Educated"—Ethel Lee.
"Abraham Lincoln"—Vera G. Hoy.
"Abraham Lincoln"—Earl Vonada.
"Abraham Lincoln"—Esther Dunkle.
"Patriotism"—Helen B. Stover.
"How Lincoln Rose to Fame"—Twila Shuey.

The judges were Miss Hamish, Musser Gettig and I. Newton Taylor, all of the Bellefonte High school, and they awarded the first prize of \$5.00 to Miss Dietrich, second prize of \$3.00 to Miss Lee, and third prize of \$1.00 to Earl Vonada.

The High school this year is in charge of Prof. Wilbur O. Snyder, who presided at the contest. The school this year has forty-one students and efforts are being made to bring it up from its present rating of grade 2 to a grade 1 High school. Two of the requirements have already been met and Prof. Snyder has hopes of meeting all the other requirements before the year is over.

Just now the students are at work on compiling a year book, something never before attempted, but from the way they are going about it there is every reason to believe they will bring out a creditable publication.

Two Men Go to Death Chair Monday Morning.

Two negroes from Delaware county, Walter Francis Webb, alias Walter Green, and Amos Wilson, alias Amos Hughes, were electrocuted at Rockview penitentiary on Monday morning for the murder of Walter "Bud" Harden, at Chester, on September 9th, 1926. The men were attended to the chair by the new chaplain, Rev. P. M. Osborne. Neither one made any statement regarding the crime of which they were convicted.

The murder was unprovoked and deliberate. Harden, the victim, was sitting in a parked car with another young man and two girls when the negroes approached and ordered the men from the car. They refused and the negroes made an attempt to eject them. Harden resisted and was shot twice dying instantly. The negroes were arrested within a week. Webb was tried and convicted and the next day Wilson plead guilty and the presiding judge fixed the crime as first degree and the penalty, death. The men carried their case before the board of pardons two weeks ago but the board refused them clemency. The electrocution of the two men sets a record for swift justice in Pennsylvania, as they were put to death just five months and nineteen days after commission of the crime.

Webb was 26 years old and leaves a wife and two children. Wilson was 19 and leaves a wife but no children. The bodies were claimed and were shipped to Chester for burial.

Lewistown to Have Big Celebration 4th of July Week.

The Logan Guard camp No. 90, American Legion, of Lewistown, is early in the field with the announcement of a big celebration of Independence day, the affair to last an entire week. They are planning for a barbecue of several steers, a military horse show which will include best mounts from Tyrone, Bellefonte, Lock Haven, Sunbury, Lewistown, Harrisburg, Boalsburg. A large carnival will also be a feature. The proceeds will be devoted to the erection of a new home for the Legion.

Busy Month for Public Health Nurse.

The public health nursing service of the Bellefonte chapter American Red Cross reports for February a summary of ninety-four visits. Three pre-natal cases were visited and instructed. The mothers of twenty-one babies were advised regarding proper health habits and invited to the weekly well-baby clinic held by the State Department. The parents or guardians of thirty-three school children were visited and again informed of defects found by the school medical examiner, urging that such defects receive correction. Visits to sick patients, 33. Eight visits were made and four interviews held in nurses' office relating to cases.

Four well-baby clinics were held for Miss Barnhart, of the State Department, who has charge of clinic work but who was out of town because of illness.

Twenty-nine hours were given to industrial nursing for the American Lime and Stone company. A "better baby contest" has been started at the health centre of the Lime company, which will end May 1st, national health day. The mothers registering their babies promise that during the period the child will be brought at regular intervals to the health centre for check on weight and health habits, and that the infant will sleep alone with windows open. Judges will be appointed to choose three babies from the group showing greatest improvement.

Seven dollars were turned over to the treasurer as fees from patients and statements totalling \$42.75 sent to the Metropolitan Life Insurance company and the American Lime and Stone company, all of which shows that the public health nurse, Miss Anna Fairfax McCauley, had a very busy month.

American Legion Auxiliary Organize Tri-County Council.

In the neighborhood of thirty-five women, members of the American Legion auxiliaries in Centre, Clinton and Potter counties, held a meeting at the Legion home, in Bellefonte, last Thursday, and organized a Tri-County Council. Bellefonte, State College, Millheim, Phillipsburg, Beech Creek, Lock Haven and Galeton were represented and officers elected were as follows:

President, Mrs. W. P. Wilson, of Phillipsburg; vice president, Mrs. H. Dietrick, Bellefonte; secretary, Mrs. H. L. Shaffer, Lock Haven; treasurer, Mrs. F. Krumrine, State College; historian, Mrs. F. Batheeler, Beech Creek. The meeting convened at eleven o'clock in the morning and at one o'clock the ladies of the Bellefonte auxiliary served a luncheon. The next meeting of the Council will be held in Lock Haven on June 8th.

Annual Grange Banquet.

Members of Penn State Grange, State College, have arranged to hold their annual banquet at the Centre-Hills Country club on Saturday evening, March 19th, at 6.30 o'clock. The banquet committee is arranging for a very palatable dinner. The speakers for the evening will be Mr. L. J. Taber, master of the State Grange; R. G. Bressler, deputy Secretary of Agriculture, and Mrs. Phillips. Following the banquet there will be music and dancing.

George Kosut Given Jail Sentence.

At a special session of court, last Friday, George Kosut, of Rush township, charged with the killing of Peter Jeiz, during a drinking bout on New Year's day, plead guilty to involuntary manslaughter and was sentenced to pay a fine of five hundred dollars and undergo imprisonment in the county jail for a period of not less than one year nor more than two.

THE MOOSE THEATRE 9, 10, 11 Wed., Thurs., Fri., MAR. 9, 10, 11

Benefit Bellefonte Base Ball Club
ADOLPH ZUKOR and JESSE L. LASKY
WALLACE BEERY
CASEY AT THE BAT
WITH FORD STERLING, ZASU PITTS and STERLING HOLLOWAY
A HECTOR TURBULL PRODUCTION
A Paramount Picture

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SPECIAL ORCHESTRA.
Children's Matinee Saturday at 10 A. M. All Children 10c