

# Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., January 27, 1928.

## Grouse Holding Their Own in the State of Pennsylvania.

Harrisburg.—Reports from Michigan, Minnesota, Ontario, New York and New England concerning the scarcity of grouse cause Pennsylvanians to marvel that during the last ten hunting seasons for grouse in this State an average of 365,000 birds have been taken each year, George M. Sutton, State ethnologist, said today.

Sportsmen have wondered particularly at the 1927 season's kill, which numbered 335,664, for it was believed that our grouse were rapidly on the decrease, first, because adjacent regions have been so infested with grouse disease, which seems not to have pervaded Pennsylvania, second, because the terrific invasion of goshawks during the winter of 1926-27 probably took a toll of 100,000 grouse in this State, and third, because the three miserably cold, damp, and late breeding seasons of 1925, 1926, and 1927 doubtless destroyed many eggs and young.

Grouse, Sutton said, are holding their own in Pennsylvania today because the following forces help them solve their vital problems: the power of the Game Commission to close the State or part of the State to hunting and to regulate the daily and seasonal limits; the game refuges sanctuaries where they feed, and where their natural enemies are controlled; the extensive winter feeding program carried on by the game protectors; Boy Scouts, sportsmen's clubs and farmers; the introduction of ring-neck pheasants which relieves part of the burden which would be borne by the grouse alone were not other large game birds present; the intelligent control of predatory mammals and birds and the sportsmanlike attitude of the average Pennsylvania hunter who says, "I will not kill a grouse if I see they are getting scarce."

## Gain of More Than 750,000 Telephones in the U. S. During 1927.

Estimated figures compiled before the close of the year indicate that there are now about 18,500,000 telephones in the United States, a net gain during the last year of over three-quarters of a million. More than 2,850,000, or 15.4 per cent, are served from dial system central offices.

Approximately 5,000,000 miles of telephone wire were placed in service during 1927, making an estimated total of more than 63,000,000 miles of wire in operation in the telephone systems of the United States.

Not only was there a notable extension during 1927 in telephone plant, but there was, at the same time, a marked increase in the volume of telephone traffic. For the year, as a whole, the telephone companies in the United States transmitted an average of 72,500,000 conversations daily, which represents an increase of approximately 2,500,000 over the average number of conversations per day in the preceding year. On a per capita basis, the average number of telephone conversations in the United States was 205.8 yearly during 1927.

The number of telephone workers required to take care of the expanding telephone plant and traffic showed an increase of about 6,000 and totalled at the end of the year, about 275,000. This figure excludes those employed in factories manufacturing telephone apparatus and supplies, who number about 50,000.

## Unjust Criticism.

Typographical errors are the bugaboo to a reporter. He oftentimes sees a story in which he has taken great pride garbled through a mistake in the spelling of an important word, or through the transposition of lines and letters.

The average reader of a newspaper fails to understand why so many mistakes are made, and criticizes unjustly for such errors, not realizing that type is handled by many persons before it goes to press.

The fault of mistakes is not entirely due to type setting, as errors of his own may not be caught as he hastily reads over what has been written, and even proof readers overlook mistakes.

Recently a newspaper in a college town carried an account of the inauguration of the new college president, and the newspaper account of his opening remarks were as follows: "The great objection of modern education may be said to be the effort to train youth to deal masterfully with existing conditions," but it should have read, "the great objective."

Newspaper publishers, editors and reporters well know that such errors leave a bad impression of the whole article and there is no reader who realizes that anyone than the writer who gleams over his "masterpieces," and finds words misspelled, and sometimes made senseless by ludicrous errors.—Exchange.

## Do Not Force Plants.

If a plant has been growing thriftily for some time and then begins to go back, it probably needs a rest, and no amount of forcing will do any permanent good. It will, says Nature Magazine, do a definite harm. During the resting period a plant is better left entirely alone in a cool, dry cellar. It will of its own accord, and without any attention of any kind begin to put out new green shoots. When these shoots show themselves the plants should be given a thorough watering, a repotting if necessary, and brought up into its place in the sun. After it is growing well it may be given fertilizer.

## Chinaman Carried Off Maiden of His Choice

"Lah-bah," or the "twelfth moon eighth day" is always lucky for marriages. Poor people of the Anhal province in China can be sure of an auspicious day without going to the expense of consulting the fortunetellers.

This year in the town of Luanchow there was a novel marriage procession. A young man of twenty-two wanted his bride, but her parents are said to have thought him too poor for the girl, and demanded a sum of money which they thought would end in the match being broken off. Friends suggested he should abduct the girl; so on the auspicious "eighth" he and a few friends went to the girl's home, and they were in such force as to carry the day. To prevent anything like lawlessness the bride and groom were bound together back to back and the young man was marched off, like the snail, with his house chia li—wife—on his back. The girl had protested she did not want to be his wife, and apparently sulked, but next day things were smoothed over by friends. "But why tie them back to back?" asked one. "Oh, to stop the girl from struggling," said a friend of the groom. In other words it was cave-man stuff.—North China Herald.

## Friend's Mild Rebuke Failed in Its Purpose

Smith and Jones were personal friends, so one day Smith took a personal friend's liberty and said to Jones:

"You mustn't take offense if I speak to you about something I have had on my mind for some time—just a little bit of yours."

"Nobody has ever had the nerve to tell you before," Smith continued in a hesitating sort of voice, "and you are such a splendid, noble fellow."

"Yes, yes," answered Jones.

Smith cleared his throat; then, with great determination, launched out:

"You're one of those fellows who never really know what is being said to them; you're always pursuing some train of thought. Anyone can tell half the time you are not listening by the faraway look in your eyes. You've offended a lot of people. Of course, it's terribly rude, only you don't know it. You mustn't any more, old chap"—putting his hands on Jones' shoulders—"Promise me you'll not."

Jones was then obliged to face his friend.

"Just what were you saying?" he inquired in a faraway voice.

## Organization Counts

The Baldwin locomotive works got an order for a monster locomotive. It was shipped in 15 days.

"How did you do it?" one of the officials was asked.

"Organization," he responded. "Organization is the art of getting men to respond like thoroughbreds. When you cluck to a thoroughbred he gives you all the speed and strength of heart and sinew he has in him. When you cluck to a jackass he kicks."

Here is an illustration worth while, which surely applies to men as well as to lower animals.

A wonderful thing is the ability to respond with complete efficiency whenever called upon.

And a more wonderful thing is to be able to get other men to respond that way when you call upon them. That is what the great men of industry—as well as of war—have been able to accomplish.—Gulf Coast Lumberman.

## It Was a Good One

It was our custom in English class at school to choose a certain person to read his theme aloud before the class, writes a correspondent. On this particular day the girl who sat across the table from me had let me see her paper before class started. It was a good one, so when the teacher asked whose theme we would like to hear, I promptly suggested that the girl across from me read hers. She arose, but instead of reading the one I had seen, she took another one from her book. It was a wonderful ode to the president of the senior class, praising him to the skies and throwing oratorical bouquets at him. I was the president.—Chicago Tribune.

## Idea for Searchlights

In the night, when low clouds float in a thin veil above the river, where searchlights on battleships throw their beams upon them, a curious round patch of light can be seen on a cloud. Airmen flying above these clouds would also see the patch of light and, in clear weather, the long beams cast upward into the sky.

The suggestion has been offered that air-lighthouses should be provided with vertical searchlights of great power. Even in moderately foggy weather the light would penetrate the cloud of mist and be visible from above.—Popular Science Monthly.

## Tourmaline Peculiarity

The crystal, tourmaline, is capable of attracting small bits of paper and straw in much the same way as amber. This attraction is, of course, due to an electrostatic charge.

When the crystal is exposed to sunlight of a low temperature it loses its electrical charge, but regains it upon being heated again. If it has a negative charge at first, it will have a positive charge when it is reheated.

Several other precious stones exhibit phenomena along this line, but tourmaline is the most interesting and spectacular of all.

## Understand Now That Sun Radiates Health

Two architects at Paris have built a house of which any room may have sunshine at any moment of the day, provided the sun is shining. It turns on a pivot like a railroad turntable. A finger on the electric button is all that is needed.

This may not initiate a new style of architecture, or house-building. It would be a little expensive for the average householder; he will content himself with moving his sitting or dining room to it. But the house illustrates and emphasizes the new devotion to the sun.

Our doctors and scientists have just found out new and exceedingly valuable therapeutic qualities in the sun's rays—that strike the skin without any intervening medium. It is nature's oldest and finest remedy, constantly used and relied upon by the lower animals but long misunderstood and unappreciated by the high animal man. We have always talked of the benefits of out-of-door life, but we did not realize our dependence on and debt to those healing and vitalizing rays direct from the source of all life on our planet.

We are still discovering gold under our feet.—Pathfinder Magazine.

## Nature Has Provided for Needs of Aphids

Aphids are the tiny insects that live on the tips of tender plants and the under side of leaves. The extraordinary thing about them is that although they can exist for generations without wings, when the need arises they can grow them in a night. The aphids are sap-suckers. They settle down, drive their beaks into the bark until they reach the sap, then sit contentedly drinking their fill. They are so contented, in fact, that they often sit their skins, casting off legs and eyes, and cling there blind and helpless. Clinging thus, the helpless mothers give birth to their young, who having eyes and legs, run about quite actively until they find the sap streams. The processes are repeated until the plant harbors so many of these tiny creatures that they drink all its sap, and the plant dies. The aphids, having to seek new sources of food, produce a generation of aphids with wings. These they unfurl and then fly to a live plant.—London Tit-Bits.

## Nation Without Language

One of the strangest things to be found among the nations of the world is the fact that Switzerland has no language of its own. The official languages of Switzerland are French, Italian and German, all three being recognized as the "mother tongue" of the majority of the inhabitants.

A majority of the people speak German, while the others use French and Italian, varying as a rule, according to the proximity of the people to each country whose tongue they speak.

Public documents and notices are printed in both the French and German languages.

In the Swiss national parliament the members make their speeches either in French or German, the members being as familiar with one language as the other.

Statements from the President of Switzerland are furnished to the news papers in both languages.

## Germs Losing Virulence

Chunging habits and diet of man provide germs with different types of soil, so that it is not difficult to believe that germs change their character in the course of centuries, notes Hygeia Magazine, editorially.

Leprosy, smallpox and scarlet fever have been almost stamped out or have largely lost the virulence that made them scourges of the past. Appendicitis has become commoner, but it is pointed out in the editorial that the seeming increase may be due to greater facility in recognizing the disease.

Outdoor sports, sensible diet and comfortable clothes have almost completely eliminated a condition known as chlorosis, formerly called the "green sickness" of young girls, a form of secondary anemia due to the sheltered life of the past.

## Clever Little Girl

Of course, all children are clever to their parents, and the amazing thing is that most of them seem clever to the woman. This particular little girl, it would seem, should have a great future if a city like New York.

Recently on one of the few pleasant days she went to her village drug store and ice cream parlor combined and asked for an ice cream soda. It was 20 cents. She complained bitterly to her mother. The next day, with the satisfied look of the cat that had eaten the canary, she reported she had got an ice cream soda at the same place for 15 cents. "But how?" asked the mother. "Well," she explained with childish elaboration, "the coffee sodas are only 10 cents and an ice cream cone is only 5, so I ordered both and put them together!"—New York Sun.

## Crool! Crool!

Outside it was cold, dark and rainy but from the lighted windows of the regimental P. C. came sounds of mirth and jollification.

"Say, buddy," said Post No. 2, just over and green to the job, "what does P. C. stand for, anyway?"

"Oh, that?" answered Post No. 1, an old-timer. "That means pinochle club."—Exchange.

## FARM NOTES.

Bring in for forcing a few pots of bulbs at a time from the frame where you stored them in the fall.

If you have neglected to get your farm accounts started do it now, say farm management specialists of the Pennsylvania State College. Do not delay.

Have you decided yet what new equipment will be needed in the sugarbrush next spring? Don't wait until March 1, and then expect quick service.

Alfalfa is the most efficient producer of high-class protein. This legume will produce at least fifty per cent more hay per acre than the common clovers.

Are you planning to store a good supply of ice this winter? It will add to the comfort and convenience of the farm home and will also be an economical article where refrigeration is needed.

Total and summarize the year's business. Make a complete analysis of the record. Find out where mistakes have been made and arrange for changes to better the record and the year's income.

Grape arbor can be used to make the farm home grounds attractive, say Pennsylvania State College landscape architects. Plan the location of these arbors so that they will fit in with the surroundings.

Whether in the dwelling or in the greenhouse, flower pots should be scrubbed occasionally to remove the moss and slime that collects on them. No plant can be expected to do well under adverse conditions.

In dealing with plants cautious care must be exercised because they are living things which are always changing. Unless this is remembered serious mistake may be made in landscaping the home grounds.

Any time after the first of the year, when the weather permits, may be devoted to apple, pear, or grape pruning. The earlier this is begun the greater the chances of getting it finished before spring opens.

Have you overhauled your lawn mower or will the first day of use next spring find it in poor condition? For its duties? Better see that it is in good shape now with plenty of oil on the wearing parts to prevent rust.

When watering plants, do it in the morning and give the soil a thorough soaking. Use water that is not so cold that it will chill the plants. With the aid of a funnel the work may be done with neatness and dispatch.

A system of poultry records that gives the life history, its brothers and sisters and the history of their life, its matings, and the story of the progeny from the matings will be making in his breeding work.

That cabbage buried with the roots attached keeps better than without them is a mistaken idea, say Penn State vegetable gardening specialists. The stems should be cut off because the cold penetrates through them more rapidly than through soil or other covering material.

Cut into wood the broken-down fruit trees and those that have outlived their usefulness. Also include the vigorous old trees of unprofitable varieties. Nothing spoils the appearance of an orchard so much as the presence of even a few disreputable looking trees that should be removed.

February 1 is the opening date for ton litter enrollment. Better sign up with the county agent and then when the litters are farrowed they can be nominated for the 1928 Ton Litter Club. Pennsylvania was first in 1927 among all States with 126 ton groups. Help keep the Keystone state first in 1928.

Thinning out the crooked, short, bushy-crowned, diseased, slow-growing, and poor timber trees is a paying farm operation at this time of the year. Trees that are straight, tall, well-crowned, sound, fast-growing, and good timber should be saved. Where trees are too thick some should be taken out to give the remaining ones a chance to develop.

To determine how many eggs a hen will lay, it is first of all essential to use some identification mark. A numbered leg band is used for this purpose. Each hen has a different numbered band, and it is convenient to letter the bands serially so that a different letter is used each year. Thus, A-101 may be the leg band of a hen hatched in 1923; B-101 will be the leg band number of a hen hatched in 1924, and so on.

Vegetable growers, whether home garden or commercial should consider carefully the source, quality, and variety of seed to be planted. If you have located a good source endeavor to get seed of identical parentage for use this year. Send for catalogs of several seedsmen, but do not shop around too much. Extravagant, vague statements regarding varieties should be disregarded, but much authentic information may be obtained from reliable seed catalogs.

Vitamines should not worry the good poultryman so much in summer as in winter. Green foods and sunshine supply the vitamins that are apt to be lacking in the winter ration. During the early spring months these factors are apt to be lacking unless the poultryman takes special pains to see that the birds have green stuff and sunshine. Alfalfa leaves, when put in a rack where fowls may eat them, will help to supply the need for green material.

Direct sunlight will help the hens to lay strong shelled eggs as well as eggs with a high degree of hatchability. If hens have been closed up they should be turned out into the sunshine on bright days. If it is necessary to keep them closed up, then the windows should be thrown open during the middle of the day so the direct rays of the sun may get in. Glass substitutes may also be used in place of some of the window glass to let in more.

—Subscribe for the Watchman.

## NEW MOTOR CODE ORDERS LICENSE CANCELLATION FOR CERTAIN OFFENSES.

"You pays your money and you takes yer tags" sounds like a motorist's version of paradise. If that be true, then Pennsylvania motorists' have it. The same tags, albeit, may be cancelled with equal ease. The Bureau of Motor Vehicles has so simplified the system that little is required of the applicant because so much has already been done by the bureau. The vehicle code fits in nicely with the ideal convenience to owners and bureau business methods.

A title is valid during the entire life of the vehicle or until it is sold or destroyed. License plates are good only during the calendar year for which they are issued. They must be replaced annually.

In licensing motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers, which total some million and three-quarters, the bulk of them within the span of a few weeks, a system at once fraud-proof and simple is vital.

Applications are furnished by the Bureau to every owner whose car is titled but, under the new Code, owners who did not obtain tags for a certain year will not receive application for the following year except by specially requesting it. This is a new procedure and calculated to save materially in postage expenses and cost of application cards which are never used, or, being sent require correction due to some action on the part of an owner during the season he did not have license. Persons who move out of the State and do not notify the Bureau figure largely.

Horse power, the basis for determining fees for motor vehicles of the passenger class, is computed on the same formula as before. The diameter of the cylinder bore in inches is squared, multiplied by four tenths (.4) which results in the accepted rating for registration purposes.

Records of registration are filed numerically and alphabetically according to make of vehicle and manufacturer's serial number. The current year's records and those of the two years preceding are maintained. Each year's records may be destroyed after two years.

Title and registration records total more than twelve millions which are constantly referred to. In 1926 clerks handled 11,375,000 applications and file cards, 100,000 telephone calls, made references to 2,300,000 file cards, and messengers completed about 40,000 errands within the Bureau.

One important change made in the reciprocity provisions for non-residents is that foreign corporations carrying on business within Pennsylvania and owning and regularly operating vehicles here must register the vehicles in this Commonwealth.

Non-residents operating on Pennsylvania highways carrying freight or passengers for compensation may operate for 30 days only with the license of the foreign State; for a longer period Pennsylvania tags must be procured.

When the applicant for license is not entitled to it under the Code, license shall be refused. The same is true if by neglect or refusal, the necessary information required on the form is not furnished, or when fees required under the law have not been paid.

The fate of the so-called "College" car was effectively sealed with a single gesture when Section 411. (a) became a part of the Code. It empowers the Secretary of Highways to suspend the license tags on any vehicle which is not equipped, unfit or unsafe. Within this meaning are loose steering mechanism, permitting wheels to oscillate; bent or broken radius rod; a motor vehicle which has been subjected to misuse, neglect or accident so as to an extent that it will not withstand normal road shock or strain.

Making, or permitting others to

make, any unlawful use of a vehicle, places the owner liable to the suspension of the license on the vehicle. Conviction of misstatement of facts in application for license will have the same result.

Duly authorized courts and the Public Service Commission may request or order the suspension of licenses on vehicles.

Checks returned to the Department because of insufficient funds or when such checks are not paid upon demand warrant the suspension of license, if these checks are submitted in payment of license.

Important changes have been made to regulate the use and insure against the abuse of dealers' license plates. First, the definition of a dealer, manufacturer or jobber in Article One leaves no chance for doubt or mistake. Plates may be used in the motor vehicle business of the dealer; for his personal pleasure when car is operated by himself; or a member of his immediate family; or teaching a new operator who holds a learner's permit and for such new operator to take examination; for testing motor vehicles in the dealer's possession and for demonstration. In the latter case a duly licensed operator may operate a car bearing a dealer's tags if accompanied by the dealer or his employee. In no other instances than those cited may a car be operated by other than a dealer, his employee or member of his family when such car bears dealer's license.

The Code emphasizes the display of plates in the proper manner and the necessity of keeping them free from grease, dirt or other foreign materials.

Pennsylvania residents who are touring or visiting outside the Commonwealth at the time of license renewal or at any other time, for that matter, should make certain of their new tags. For instance, the writer is spent in Florida or California and the motorist has obtained tags from that State. He complies with the laws of that State but as soon as he returns to Pennsylvania and crosses the border, he must display current Pennsylvania tags, in addition to the foreign tags or without them. The important fact is that, being a resident, he must have local tags, regardless of the foreign tags and reciprocity extended to residents of the foreign State.

Within 48 hours of the loss or defacement of one or both license tags, application must be filed for replacement. A fee of \$1 is required. The Code foresees possible abuse of this practice and requires the owner to return to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles whatever remains of the broken set of tags.

Protection is afforded the motorist who has not discovered the loss or defacement of his tags. The motorist who has discovered this fact and has filed application for re-issue may be questioned by officers. He may defend any prosecution by filing affidavit reciting that he has made application within 48 hours of discovery and that such application is pending action of the Department.

Another advantage the new code affords the owner is in the transfer of tags from an old car to a newly purchased one. Ten days was permitted to complete the entire transaction and secure a transfer certificate permitting the use of tags issued for the old car with the new one. After January first, 20 days is allowed if the application was filed within 48 hours of purchase.

No person may give or lend the tags issued for his car and when the car is sold or otherwise disposed of, the registration automatically is cancelled unless transferred by payment of fee, to another car owned by the same person.

Dealers who discontinue their business must at once return all dealer's tags issued them, to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

—Scientists have found a skull half an inch thick in Arizona. But why go as far away as Arizona?—London Sketch.

## Fire Insurance

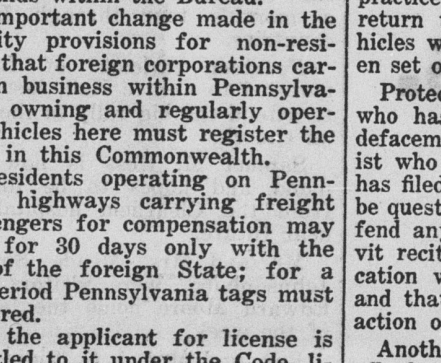
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## MARKET.

About Selecting Meats

The most satisfactory way to buy meats that we know of is to induce friend husband to come with you to our butcher shop to assist you in your selections. As a rule men eat more meat than women and their tastes and selections are generally more reliable. We have all the meats in season, fresh daily and tender and appetizing. Try this plan.

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## P. L. Beezer Estate....Meat Market

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10  
SATURDAY, MARCH 31  
FRIDAY, APRIL 6  
FRIDAY, JUNE 29

**\$12.60**

Round Trip from BELLEFONTE

Proportionate Fares from Other Points

For details as to leaving time of trains, fares in parlor or sleeping cars, stop-over privileges, or other information, consult Ticket Agents, or David Todd, Division Passenger Agent, Williamsport, Pa.

Similar Excursion, Friday, October 12

**Pennsylvania Railroad**

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