Bellefonte, Pa., March 29, 1929.

WEIRD EASTER RITES OF THE

pid peons and once more take up their yearly scourging. After the passing of Easter, because of the rigors, each brother has accomplished one more act to be used for his salvation, has taken another step that should bring him closer to heaven.

All the year around, the Penitentes are indifferent Mexicans, living in Utah and eastern Arizona. But each their adobe huts, which they have made with their own hands, existing in a land of manana, sometimes raising little fields of stunted corn, or chili peppers, or Mexican beans; sometimes tending their few scrawny chickens or goats. They are never hurried, never do anything, yet have little time. If anyone asks them for something they invariably answer, "Hay poco tiempo"—"I have little time." Thus theirs is a life of pocotiempo, except during Lent.

Rarely at any other time during the year do the Penitentes become active. If they do it is on All Soul's day, two days after Halloween time. Then they make a procession to their cemetery, whipping their backs as their brotherhood has died, they convene at his house to hold prayer, chanting a strange, litanylike song praying late into the night for the

departed soul. All during Lent, though, they hold secluded praying, going in small processions in the night, indulging in some self-flaying, but it is Holy Friday which awakens their zeal to the highest pitch. Raw, blistery winds of the region where the Penitentes live; the land has been picturesquely named the Sangre de Cristo rangeblood of Christ—by the Spanish ex-plorers because of the red-stained rocks on the mountainsides, rocks

showing a ferric composition. On Friday afternoon the Penitente brotherhood hold the greatest of their spectacles. They have been flaying themselves off and on all during Holy week; their backs are masses of congealed blood and outraged flesh. Nevertheless, they begin again with augmented fervor shortly after noon, coming out clad only in trousers and beginning the big procession; the enacting of the Crucifixion.

One of the Penitentes is chosen to take the part of el Cristo and carries the cross, a heavy, crude symbol which he usually can hardly drag, staggering under the weight. Behind him come the others, the singers and those who flay themselves with whips made from the yucca or "soap-weed." The plant is common throughout the Southwest and bears long, fibrous blades; it is used by the peons to make crude soap; the tough blades

are also used as twine. Usually, those scourging the take one step forward and then pause, bringing down the cutting fibers of the whip upon their already much bleeding backs with a dull thwack. The rhythm of the chant aids their regularity of motion. If any lag in his fervor of laying on blows or shrinks under them, then a master in charge will remind him, by bringing down a blacksnake on his shoulders, of his remissness; the leather whip cuts the air with a sharp

Often these rigors are not enough; the cholla cactus, one needle of which has known to drive horses to fury, is packed about their chests, or yet again, the Penitentes walk across these with their bare feet, or fling the branches of needles on their backs. The cholla needles are long and malignant; they stick in the flesh as if barbed and burn like fire, working their way inward, where they cause pustules. Imagine many of these needles in one's flesh! And yet the Penitentes, with zealous cries continue their way to the place selected as el Calvario, all their pain

Amid loud lamentation, the pil-grimage of the Cross is enacted, the man staggering under the weight of the symbol. He precedes the group; his back is now bleeding, now clotted. When he reels, showing signs of being about to fall, one of the elder brothers in rank helps him. Once attaining the spot chosen as Calvary el Cristo is usually tied with ropes to his cross and raised. Indeed, what a spectacle; the sky lowers like a clouded opal, and the raw, penetrating breeze, fans the trousers of the Penitentes. These people believe that bad weather is synonymous with Holy week, that the weather must be bad because it is a time when every one mourns. And still they worship, oblivious of the cold winds, lifting their cries and chants, whipping vigorous-ly. El Cristo hangs until he no longer shows much sign of life and then is taken down, wrapped in a cloth

and carried away. Formerly, nailing the victim to the cross was quite common; death came also as often to their ranks. The corpses were ferreted away and probably buried. But nothing definitely has ever been proved against the cult, in the past, rumors have circulated about this Penitente or that not being seen after Holy week; men have been known to die from the excessive fanaticism of their ritual. Now, the news that one of them has been killed during the cricifixion spreads, now, one has died from exhaustion and too rigorous self-torture, but these stories are short lived. Should a Penitente betray his brotherhood, then the penalty is to be buried alive. Conse-

quently, no one has ever talked. However, at present, the crucifixion is more guarded and merely takes the form of tying the victim to the cross with ropes. Even now, the spectacle of tying el Cristo is beginning to be eliminated, or else performed at night, on Thursday evening. Guards with Twp.; \$1.

guns are usually posted at the ceremonies in order to keep away the overcurious stranger. Any one approaching too close is duly threatened. Boys have taken hikes into the protection against eroding banks and mountains, to behold the spectacle of the Penitentes whipping themselves. Many have crouched behind a rock or a bush on a hill, watching the ritual With the approach of Holy week, the Penitentes forsake the role of students and doubtful "bacon rind." less fortunate comrades. A person not having seen the Penitentes is con-

sidered unworldly-wise and a "pinny." Thus does the cult flourish in New Mexico, southern Colorado, southern

Undoubtedly, tourists have beheld the Penitente miniature crosses erected along some highways as they have ridden over the rough, dirt roads in the neighborhood of the colonies. Piles of rocks hold these crosses upright. They are some three feet high.

But the passing of the Holy week marks the cessation of their cere-During the rest of the entire year, they are peaceful people who carry on their meager farming. As a people, they are superstitious, impressionable, and are commonly known as ing mass of roots, and at the same Occasionally, when one of mestizos; that is, half-breeds of Indian-Spanish descent but oftener, favored the development of the trees. they are of Indian descent alone.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION OF

Deer have been dying of starvation in such numbers that officials of the state game commission, the state department of agriculture, and the nations bureau of the biological survey March or April blow, swaying the blackish-green pinion trees dotting that a special investigation is neces-

Division Supervisor W. Claire Kely, of the game commission, has been discouraged over conditions which have developed in the deer herd recently. After the attempt made last season at reducing the number of animals he had hoped conditions would materially improve. During the latter weeks he has been finding dead deer every day, however, and has encountered in the woods animals so weak they could not possibly run away. Many of these weak animals he and his assistants captured without any trouble. Some of them were sent into Harrisburg for study. So far no disease is reported by the bureau of animal industry where careful examinations were made. Death appears to be traceable to insufficiency of food supply. Both young and old animals appear to have been affected. Little can be done for the animals, it seems, because they do not eat food put out for them, and they do not range widely at this season of the year.

The officials hope, in the course of their study, to learn why conditions should be so unfavorable for the deer will be studied in the field, and cap-

ments. A conference on plans for further are so numerous in this Commonlearned within the coming years conable game animal.

STATEWIDE DRIVE

Approximately 150,000 dog owners in Pennsylvania delayed taking out new licenses for their dogs a year ago until after March 1. It is believed that fully 100,000 have done the same thing this year.

lowing notice: The law provides that all dogs six months old or over must would, could a tale unfold that would subjugated by their religious fanati- all dogs six months old or over must be licensed on or before January 15 each year. Any person who violates this provision is subject to a fine. Therefore, it will be found decidedly more profitable to have a dog licensed and tagged than to appear before a magistrate and pay a fine of pos-sibly several times the cost of the

"License and tags for 1929 have been in the hands of all county treasurers since January 15. Owners therefore, have no valid excuse for keeping unlicensed dogs about the

Real Estate Transfers.

Lloyd Stover, et ux, to Margaret Everhart, et bar, tract in Howard Twp.; \$1.

Anna T. H. Henszey, et bar, to Etta W. Fagan, et bar, tract in College Twp. and State College; \$1,250. Ida Gillen, et al, Exec., to James McCullough, et al, tract in Walker

Twp.; \$650. Edward L. Orwick, Adm., to Samuel C. McMonigle, tract in Taylor Twp.; \$775.

Robert D. Henry to Edward Smith, tract in Walker Twp.; \$550. Eleanor R. Gettig to Charles A.

Leister, et ux, tract in Potter Twp.; Margaret J. Garbrick, et bar, to Eleanor R. Gettig, tract in Bellefonte;

Robert Bennison, et ux, to William W. Schenck, et ux, tract in Howard;

John A. Yearick, et ux, to Joseph V. McCulley, tract in Walker Twp.;

Simon Dugan, Adm., to Levi A. Miller, tract in Spring Twp.; \$1. Jasper R. Brumgart to St. Peter's Reformed church, et al, tract in Miles

WILLOW TREES ARE CHEAP PROTECTION.

Planting of willows as a natural wave action on the shore lines of streams, rivers and other bodies of water frequently proves a wise move, State Forester Joseph S. Illick, of the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters said recently.

The natural location for willows of Such hikes provide great thrills for many varieties is along water courses the youths and also material for a and low places abounding with moisstory which they can recount to their ture and even submerged at certain seasons of the year. The wood of all trees has a certain moisture content, but the willows appear to have an exceptional capacity for drinking up water and converting it into wood tissue. This quality of absorbing water year this sect is becoming less and is so marked that sometimes stands less conspicuous, withdrawing more of willow in boggy situations may and more into the fastnesses of the actually lower the water level of the area. The root systems very frequently are more extensive than the branch work of the crowns. Roots of willows have been traced to a depth of more than 100 feet below the surface.

The early settlers not only resorted to willow planting to stop erosion along water courses, but in the pioneer days of road building where cuts were necessary for hillside road monies and of their greatest activity. location and boggy foundations were encountered, they immediately planted willows from the foot of the bank to the roadway. As a result, the soil was held firmly in place by the bindtime drainage water from the roads

An instance is cited of a hillside road bed protected for years from sliding by a number of large willow trees. The trees were ordered remov-DEER CONDITIONS. ed because they obstructed the view on this curve, and before long there was a serious washout. Engineers contemplated stabilizing the bank with piling and concrete retaining walls at an estimated cost in the neighborhood of \$7,000. A special system of tree planting was then considered that met all the requirements at a cost of only one-seventh of the cost of

the retaining wall. Instead of using seedlings or cuttings of willow trees, large poles of varying lengths and diameters were cut from the living trees and laid along the embankments. The advantage of this method is the fact that pieces of green willow sprout freely and the green wood laid in contact with the ground sends up shoots from the buds that lie beneath the bark. The mere weight of the willow poles used very often temporarily prevents erosion, while the sprouts are developing. The growth of the sprouts is er is soon secured which develops a protective barrier as the trees and roots develop. The first seasons's growth may form sprouts 3 to 4 feet long with roots extending to a depth of 15 feet. This system of embankment control is receiving wide attention in railroad, mining, and construction work.

THEN AND NOW.

A quarter century ago farm folks herd. Dead animals will be examined and townspeople alike welcomed a and probably shipped to Harrisburg snowstorm as enthusiastically as they for further study. Living animals now curse it. A heavy snow in those days meant improved transportation tured for further nutritive experi- facilities, even as today it means blocked roads and delayed traffic. Then we traveled by wagon in sumstudy of the Pennsylvania deer herd mer and by sleigh when there was called for March 21st. State and na- snow, and the sleigh was much more tional officials attended. Since deer comfortable and much more rapid, for the snow filled ruts smoothed out wealth it is hoped that much may be rough roads. It added much to the joy of travel and made for visits to cerning the life history of this valu- town and to neighbors miles and

miles away. That was the time of the fast-stepper and the clipper-built cutter; of the two-horse sleigh and the great ON TAGLESS DOGS. bob-sled that held twenty to thirty laughing, shouting boys and girls and sometimes some older folks as well. The sleighing party was an institu-tion. Young men hailed it with joy and girls were keen for it. They talk a lot of the automobile and the pet-ting party of these degenerate mod-As a warning to these owners of unlicenesd dogs, the State Bureau of Animal Industry has issued the following party of these degenerate modern days, but good folks, there are fathers and mothers in this old State of ours, looking back on the period of of ours, looking back on the period of make the present-day indulgences tame by comparison. They called it "spooning" then; they term it "petting" now; the difference is largely in the words. For the girl who was not thoroughly hugged during a sleigh ride felt injured and the young man who didn't get his share was a dud indeed.

It was the practice of those in charge of the party to arrange for entertainment and a big supper at a roadhouse or hospitable home some ten or twelve miles away, which was the destination, to start out shortly after the evening meal and get back somewhere near daylight the next

And now, we of the cities, certainly, and all motor-owning farmers, perhaps as well, frown when the snow begins to fall and cuss the State Highway Department if the roads are not cleared and ready for uninterrupted motor traffic before the last flake has fallen.

Verily, verily, the coming of the motor-driven vehicle has wrought a great change in our lives. But it has not changed human nature.—From the Harrisburg Telegraph.

WOULD WAR ON SKUNKS.

Two measurese, both of which have appeared on Pennsylvania Legislative calendars in the past, have made their appearance in the 1929 session. One bill provides that there be no closed season on the killing of skunks. This bill has the support of Repre-

sentative Aston, Luzerne.

Pennsylvania would have a state flower under the terms of a Musmanno bill which would authorize the Governor to name a legislative commission of three members to study the matter and report to the 1931 ses-

-Subscribe for the Watchman.

LUMBER?

Oh, Yes! Call Bellefonte 432 W. R. Shope Lumber Co. Lumber, Sash, Doors, Millwork and Roofing

GOOD FRIDAY BELIEFS

IN PARTS OF ENGLAND.

How good Friday got its name is a in the Christmas calendar. Few realize that in saying Friday they are commemorating a pagan Freya, the Scandinavian Venus.

Friday; and in Italy, the Blessed Fri-

Good Friday in former days ena- As the years go by Pennsylvania bled the careful citizen to save his is likely to outstrip many States would extinguish any fire on which it

for it was belived that three loaves put in a heap of corn would prevent the latter from being devoured by rats and mice. An infant born on Good Friday was supposed to possess the power of curing fevers.

There are some things to be avoided on Good Friday. West-country shall be able to beat all other States people consider it a sin to wash any except possibly New York on quick clothes on that day. They declare that should you do so you are likely to lose your most valued possession before the year is out.

TELETYPESETTER ONE OF THE LATEST INVENTIONS.

The "teletypesetter," now makes it possible for an operator in one city to strike the keys which will simultaneously operate linotype machines in contamination. Nobody ever suspectmany different cities. Electrical imed there is that much pure water in pulses speeding over wires punch out a perforated tape which in turn is fed through a machine which operates the linotype key.

Fifty-Fifty.

Pat Murphy was taking his first flight in an airplane. When up very rapid and a complete ground cov- about 3,000 feet, the plane suddenly went into a nose-dive.

"Ha, ha!" laughed the pilot, shouting to Pat. "Fifty per cent. of the people down there thought we were

"Begorra," admitted Pat, "and 50 per cent. of the people up here thought so, too."-Stratford Beacon Herald.

-Subscribe for the Watchman.

Out of town rates are

low; out of town calls

are easy to make

WE FIT THE FEET

KEYSTONE STATE LEADS IN MANY FARM CROPS.

Reference was recently made in matter that is often discussed. The these columns to the fact that Pennword Friday is really the strangest sylvania led all other States in outpart of the name of so solemn a date put of minerals. Now comes the report printed elsewhere which shows that the State leads all in the East as an agricultural principality.

Indeed Pennsylvania is well up the list in the whole nation in producing In France Good Friday is called list in the whole nation in producing Passion Friday; in Germany, Quiet agricultural products. In value of products hay leads with corn next and potatoes and wheat following.

fire insurance policy, for it was be- now given over almost wholly to lieved that an egg laid on that day agriculture because of its strategic position with reference to population which consumes vast quantities of Bread baked on Good Friday was food products. By another decade, supposed to have its protective value or we miss our guess, Pennsylvania's output in value of milk, eggs poultry and vegetables, will put it in first place as an agricultural State.

The reason we make this prediction is that we have the soil and the farm ability to produce and being so close to the center of population, we delivery of dairy products, eggs, poultry and vegetables and with the ability to make this delivery the day of production. Everything edible that can be grown in the State will take high rank and be in great demand .-Lansacter Intelligencer.

-The Sanitary Water Board promises to keep the 8000 miles of 100 per cent. pure streams free from contamination. Nobody ever suspect-

Two Girls Live on Hot Water and Rice

Due to stomach trouble, Miss A. H and sister lived on hot water and rice. Now they eat anything and feel fine, they say, since taking Adlerika.

Even the FIRST spoonful of Adlerika relieves gas on the stomach and removes astonishing amounts of old waste matter from the system. Makes you enjoy your meals and sleep better. No matter what you have tried for your stomach and bowels, Adlerika will surprise you.— Zellers Drug Store.

hen you wonder how

those youngsters away at

school are getting along..

... and Find Out!

The Telephone Books Are the Directory of the Nation

Baney's Shoe Store

WILBUR H. BANEY, Proprietor

30 years in the Business

BUSH ARCADE BLOCK

BELLEFONTE, PA.

SERVICE OUR SPECIALTY SPECIAL ORDERS SOLICITED

DID PHOND

N. S. GLENN, M. D., Physician and Surgeon, State College, Centre county, Pa. Office at his residence.

66-11

State College Holmes Bldg.

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

J KENNEDY JOHNSTON.—Attorney-at-Law, Bellefonte, Pa. Prompt at-tention given all legal business an-trusteed to hiis care. Offices—No. 5, Rant High street. 57-44

J M. KEICHLINE. — Attorney-at-Law and Justice of the Peace. All pre-fessional business will receive prompt attention. Offices on second floor of Temple Court. 49-5-1y

W. G. RUNKLE.—Attorney-at-Law, Consultation in English and German.
Office in Crider's Exchange, Bellego

PHYSICIANS

R. R. L. CAPERS. OSTEOPATH.

LINE WOODRING.—Attorney-at Law, Bellefonte, Pa. Practices in all courts. Office, room 18 Crider's office.

D. CASEBEER, Optometrist.—Registered and licensed by the State.
Eyes examined, glasses fitted. Satisfaction guaranteed. Frames replaced and leases matched. Casebeer Bldg., High St., Bellefonte, Pa. 71-22-tf.

E VA B. ROAN, Optometrist, Licensed by the State Board. State College, every day except Saturday, Bellefonte, in the Garbrick building opposite the Court House, Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 8 p. m. and Saturdays a. m. to 4.30 p. m. Bell Phone 68-40

FEEDS

We have taken on the line of

Purina Feeds

We also carry the line of

Wayne Feeds Purina Cow Chow, 34% 3.00 per H. Purina Cow Chow, 24%

5.50 per H. Purina Calf Meal Wayne Dairy, 32% Wayne Dairy, 24% Wayne Egg Mash 3.25 per H. Wayne Calf Meal 4.25 per H. Wayne All mash starter 4.00 per H. Wayne All mash grower 3.60 per H. Wagner's Pig Meal - 2.80 per H. Wagner's Egg mash - 2.80 per H. 3.00 per H. buttermilk Wagner's Dairy, 22% 2.50 per H. Oil Meal 2.80 per H. Cotton seed meal Flax Meal 2.40 per H. Gluten feed 2.70 per H. 2.25 per H. Alfalfa Meat meal 4.00 per H. 4.25 per H. Tankage, 60%

We have a full line of poultry and stock feeds on hand at all times at the right prices.

1.20 per H.

Fine Stock Salt

Let us grind your corn and oats and sell you the high protein feeds and make up your own mixtures. We charge nothing for mixing.

We deliver at a charge of \$1.00 per

If You Want Good Bread or Pastry

"OUR BEST"

"GOLD COIN" FLOUR

C. Y. Wagner & Co. Inc

86-11-1yr. BELLEFONTE, PA.

Caldwell & Son Bellefonte, Pa.

Plumbing and Heating

Vapor....Steam By Hot Water Pipeless Furnaces

Full Line of Pipe and Fittings and Mill Supplies

All Sizes of Terra Cotta Pipe and Fittings

ESTIMATES Cheerfully and Promptly Furnished

PREPARING A MEAL IS A PLEASURE when you know that your efforts

COMFORT GUARANTEED

in the kitchen are going to be crowned with success. And they will be crowned with success every time, at least so far as the meat course is concerned, if you order your meats from us. For though our prices are no higher, our meats are the kind that make every meal a feast. Telephone 667

Market on the Diamond Bellefonte, Penna.

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