

Democrat Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., March 7, 1930

NARY BIRD "FARM" HAS 500 SONGSTERS.

Bird lovers have a treat in store for them if they have not already seen the "canary farm" of Mrs. M. A. Meishel, of 319 East Apple street, Ebensburg. Mrs. Meishel has gone into the canary business on a large scale and has set up 500 birds housed in a building especially erected for the purpose. About 450 young birds were raised this year and Mrs. Meishel expects to raise at least 1,000 next year. Hatching was started last February and continued until June for the coming year the hatching will start this December and be continued until June. The present crop of 83 breeding cages will be increased to 150 and the larger number of birds hatched will also require additional training cages and more flight cages. Canary birds are not hatched in incubators but in the old-fashioned "under the hen." The mother hen "sets" about 13 days until the chicks are hatched. In five or six weeks they are able to take care of themselves. They then "go to school" for a few weeks, receiving their musical education in training cages. Some birds learn to sing earlier than others but they all graduate within a few weeks. They then are placed in the hatching cages, which are large enough to permit considerable freedom of movement. Mrs. Meishel and Cinnamon, her husband, are now in stock in White Border Fancy, two of the best varieties being now on the way here from Canada. Last week Mrs. Meishel shipped one beautiful young fellow to New York and also made a shipment to New York. She is receiving numerous orders both local and in a distance. The yellow bird is, the better, the experts say, and a close inspection of the groups of birds one to note what a large percentage of the birds are almost pure yellow. And what a merry crowd they are, too, all singing at once, not always in harmony but filling the room with an alluring melody as only 500 nary birds in action at one time can.

The man was worrying. "Tell me about it," said his pal. "I wish I could," groaned the other. "I've got 'Marguerite' tattooed on my arm, and the girl I'm engaged to marry is named Helen."

TO WAGE NEW WAR ON ALL ILLITERACY.

Each member of the committee on illiteracy for the State of Pennsylvania appointed by Superintendent of Education Dr. Keith with the advice of Governor Fisher, has received a letter from Ray Lyman Wilbur, Secretary of the Interior and chairman of the National Advisory Committee on Illiteracy, asking that he act with and be a part of the national committee in the intensive drive that is being put into the campaign against illiteracy before the taking of the census which begins in April.

This action on the part of Secretary Wilbur marks an additional step in the campaign against illiteracy. Secretary Wilbur asks further that the State Superintendent, Dr. Keith, give him permission to communicate with all county superintendents in the State, to offer to them the facilities of the National Advisory Committee and the information and methods of procedure it has developed. The National Advisory Committee on Illiteracy has made a careful study of the campaigns against illiteracy waged in many States and makes the lessons learned in those campaigns available to whoever would like to use them. It has, as a result of its studies, prepared and published a manual of 24 lessons, the completing of which will enable the average illiterate to read and write. This has already been demonstrated in several States. The manual will be furnished by the National Committee to any local organization at the mere cost of printing or a single copy will be furnished without charge and can then be printed locally.

According to the census figures five million adults in the United States are illiterate. One out of every fourteen people of voting age cannot read the warning sign on a poisonous well; cannot read "Do Not Smoke Explosives near"; cannot read "Danger, Live Wire." One out of every ten people over 21 cannot write. The percentage of illiteracy in our country is greater than that in England, Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Denmark, and Japan.

FAMOUS SONG NOT BURNS'

Although the words of the song "Auld Lang Syne" appear in Burns' works, he himself, admits that he wrote only the second and third stanzas. A song of the same title can be traced to the latter part of 1600. In a letter to George Thomson, September, 1793, Burns says "One song more I have done, 'Ould Lang Syne.' The air is but mediocre but the following song, the old song of the olden times, and which has never been in print nor even a manuscript until I took it down from an old man's singing, is enough to recommend any air."

SEND PARCELS "SPECIAL DELIVERY" AND SAVE TIME

Special delivery and special handling mail other than first class shall be sacked separately from other second, third and fourth class mails and be given the same dispatch and handling in closed pouch trains as is accorded pouches of letters, and when dispatched on P. R. R. trains will be handled in postal cars as far as practicable. All post offices will make up a direct sack in every case where there are two or more parcels the size of an ordinary shoe box or larger, addressed to the same post office. Where direct sacks of daily papers are made up in a post office or an R. P. O. train and the quantity of special delivery or special handling parcels is not sufficient to warrant a direct sack for those offices, the special delivery and special handling packages may be included in the direct sacks of daily papers.

At the smaller offices where the quantity is sufficient to warrant direct and the character of the parcels is such as not to injure first class matter, they should be pouches with letter mail.

It will be noted from the above instructions that special delivery and special handling parcels are to be handled the same as first class mail while in transit and in addition to this the special delivery parcels will be specially delivered at the office of destination.

The special delivery and also the special handling fees are very moderate for the service rendered. Send your next parcel special delivery or special handling and note the saving in time.

MILLIONAIRE ENDOWS CEMETERY FOR PETS.

The city of Indianapolis soon will have one of the first complete animal cemeteries in the United States under provisions of the will of Leo Kahn, President of the American Sanitary Lock corporation, who left an estate of from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 to establish the cemetery and to build a home and hospital for friendly dogs, cats, horses and other animals.

The idea was suggested by Mrs. Castle McLaughlin, of Chicago. Burial lots will be sold but a portion will be reserved as a "pottery field" for animals owned by poor persons. A farm will be bought for the hospital and cemetery site.

Persons of means who send pets for treatment will pay, but homeless and friendly animals will be cared for without cost at the hospital.

Wife—"I see by this paper that in certain parts of India a wife can be bought for two dollars. Isn't that perfectly awful?"

Husband—"Well, I don't know! A good wife would be worth that."

MANY FAMOUS TREES IN PENNA. FORESTS.

State-wide interest continues in unusual trees of Pennsylvania, notable for their great size, historic associations, or other unique features, State Forester Joseph S. Illick, said today.

Trees of magnificent proportions were abundant in the original forests of Pennsylvania but after the clear cutting practice in our big days of lumbering, few forest giants remained. Even if single specimens had been saved from the axe, they would likely have been thrown by the wind. Individual big trees that have grown up through the centuries under the protective influence of their neighbors, do not develop the stalwart qualities that enable them to go it alone. Suddenly deprived of the collective support of their forest associates, they fall easy prey to wind and storm.

Thus it is that the most outstanding specimens reported since the Department of Forests and Waters began its search for the big trees of Pennsylvania, have been those which developed in the open country instead of under forest conditions. Others are trees that stood on the edge of previous clearings, and avoided in later lumbering operations because their limby crowns developed under semi-open conditions, rendered them unfit for the sawmill. Still others are trees which are known to have been planted.

The largest cottonwood in Pennsylvania is believed to be a planted tree, standing on the Bachman farm along the highway between Soudersburg and Paradise, Lancaster county. It is reported that an earlier owner of the property brought back a cutting, used during the morning as a cane, from which this tree has grown. It is 22.5 feet in circumference at breast height (4.5 feet above the ground) is always used as a comparison since some trees develop an unusual flare at the base, out of other proportions to their actual size.

Not only the largest, but one of the most historic horse chestnuts in Pennsylvania, has grown from a seedling presented by George Washington to General Brown of Revolutionary fame, who planted it in front of his home near Bath, Northampton county, the property now belonging to the Bath-Portland Cement Company. Before one of the main branches was broken off on January 17, 1921, this tree was 70 feet high, and at breast height was more than 17 feet around.

Four large sassafras trees, rare giants for this species in Pennsylvania, stand along the Baltimore Pike one mile east of Wawa, Delaware county. They average about 3 feet in diameter at breast height. So accustomed are Pennsylvanians to this species as a small tree or shrub of fence rows and old fields, that it is difficult to convince them these trees are sassafras. Probably none of the big trees excite such continued curiosity as do these.

While the dense condition of the original forests produced taller trees than we now have, the most massive tree in Pennsylvania is a sycamore about four miles south of Lancaster between the Lincoln Highway and Marietta turnpike. The diameter is 22 feet, height over 100 feet, and branch spread 140 feet. Its three main branches are 70, 72 and 84 feet long.

Two others of the biggest big trees discovered are an English walnut in Berks county, between Spies Church and Friedensburg, reputed to be the largest in America, and Pennsylvania's biggest oak, near Neff's Mills, Huntingdon county. The latter tree was discovered by State Forester Illick on June 9, 1923.

STATE COLLEGE HAS OWN "LITTLE PARIS."

With a faculty which included the mantinee of the Parisian stage; the preceptor in French to the family of the former German Kaiser, five other Frenchmen and headed by Frederic Ernst, formerly a journalist in Paris, the Pennsylvania State College is ready to establish a little Paris of its own this summer.

The faculty this year is one of the strongest ever assembled for the Institute. Headed by Frederic Ernst, now professor of French at New York University, it includes Georges Vitray of the Theatre Pigalle, Paris, where he has also served as professor of diction and dramatic art since 1922, as visiting lecturer, and six instructors who are actively engaged in teaching their native language. They are Louis Cons, formerly employed at the Lycee in Berlin and as French tutor to the family of the Kaiser, and now head of the Romance language department at Swarthmore; Osmond T. Robert, chairman of the French Department at Smith; Rene Guet and Jeanne Guet, professors at Smith College; Paul Blanchet, Penn State; and F. M. Dumont, New York University.

WE TALK FASTER.

According to the observation of a well-known stenographic expert, with the passage of 20 years there is an increase in speech at the rate of ten words per minute. People read more, see more, do more and are better educated than they were in the past and it has resulted in quicker thinking and talking.

Radio may jack the speed up even more. When radio was first used in reporting people began to say that it wouldn't be long until the shorthand reporter would be out of business. However, it has proved exactly otherwise. In the last Presidential campaign many newspapers used the radio in getting speeches.

Kitty—"Jack says he can read me like a book."
Phillips—"Perhaps he means, dear, that you are a very plain type."

PERFECT ATTENDANCE HIGH IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Reports submitted to the Department of Public Instruction show that during the school year 1928-1929, 189,819 pupils were perfect in attendance in the public schools of Pennsylvania.

Of these pupils 84,888 had been perfect in attendance during some preceding year or years. This represents a slight decrease in attendance during the preceding year. It is considered a good achievement, however, because records in the State Department of Health show that there were considerably more cases of the common communicable diseases such as measles and chicken pox during the preceding year.

The number of deaths from influenza alone during the past year were 2.35 or approximately 2 1/3 times the number that occurred during the preceding year, while the number of deaths from this disease during January, 1929, were 9.68 or almost ten times the number occurring as a result of the disease during January, 1928.

On an average, 100 of every 1000 pupils enrolled in the public schools were neither absent nor tardy during the entire term.

Mrs. Alden—"Do you ever flatter your husband?"
Mrs. Brerly—"Yes, I sometimes ask his advice about things."

PENN STATE COLLEGE CHARTER 75 YEARS OLD.

The Pennsylvania State College marked the 75th anniversary of the signing of its institutional charter on February 22, Governor James Pollock having affixed his signature to the document on which the college was founded on Washington's birthday in 1855.

With that charter was launched the first successful educational enterprise to endure which taught the agricultural and mechanical sciences. From that same movement grew the Morrill Land Grant Act of Congress, the foundation of the colleges in which to-day are enrolled approximately half of the students receiving higher education in this country.

Lincoln's signature to the Land Grant Act, coming in the early years of the Civil War, saved the ideal of higher public education for all the people, and enabled it to survive the lean years that followed the intersection strife.

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Mendel's Knit Silk Hose for Women, guaranteed to wear six months without runners in leg or holes in heels or toes. A new pair FREE if they fail. Price \$1.00.

YEAGER'S TINY BOOT SHOP

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There are three determining factors in a Bank's standing:

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Its Capital and Surplus
Its Resources*

As to this Bank—the first of them will have to take care of itself.

The second shows—Capital and Surplus \$542,000. Of this amount \$342,000 is surplus. Much greater than the average.

The third shows Resources of \$2,800,000. Enough to insure the proper consideration of, and ability to help, projects that promise to increase the well-being of the community and the proper needs of individuals.

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You'll never have to scour another smoked-up kettle or pan if you cook electrically.

There's no soot, smudge, or dirt from this new fuel. You can actually take a utensil direct from the range... rub a clean towel over it... and there will not be a smudge on the snowy cloth. What's more, your kitchen walls and ceiling and curtains stay clean longer than ever before, saving you endless hard work.

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Prices are lower—much lower—than they have been for many years.

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