

Democrat Watchman

Belleville, Pa., February 13, 1931.

NEWS ABOUT TOWN AND COUNTY.

—Charles F. Harrison, of Belleville, has been named mercantile appraiser for Centre county.

—No man has a right to crab about the cost of his wife's clothes while Sid Bernstein is offering silk dresses at \$2.99.

—The Ebensburg Trust company closed its doors on Wednesday, which makes the fourth bank in Cambria county to close within several months.

—The home of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Cliffe was quarantined for scarlet fever, on Monday, their daughter Virginia being ill with the disease, though the case is of a mild nature.

—An opinion handed down by Judge Fleming, this week, directs the heirs of the late John D. Decker to turn over the Decker property to the Latrobe Hunting and Fishing club.

—Miss Virginia Healy entertained at cards, on Tuesday evening, in honor of her friend, Mrs. T. G. Perrine, of Sandy Lake, who was her guest for several days the early part of the week.

—Nineteen tables were in play at the D. A. R. card party, at the Valleyland, last Saturday afternoon, and the organization netted fifty dollars to go to the support of the D. A. R. room in the Centre County hospital.

—Centre county has an average of 42 High school pupils for each one thousand of population. Centre ranks tenth in the State. Bedford is highest with an average of 49 and Philadelphia is lowest with an average of 20.

—The Bellefonte Academy boxing team defeated the University of New York freshmen, at New York on Saturday afternoon, by the score of 4½ to 3½. The Academy won four bouts, University boxers three and one was a tie.

—Some twelve or fifteen officials and employees of the West Penn Power company in Bellefonte and at State College motored to Ridgway, Wednesday, to attend the annual Keystone division banquet and dance held there that evening.

—The Charles Walters home, on the Jacksonville road, was saved from destruction by fire, last Saturday morning, by a bucket brigade. The fire started on the stairway leading to the attic. The damage was several hundred dollars, and is covered by insurance.

—C. F. Tate, head of the Tate plumbing establishment in this place, was brought home from the Geisinger hospital, Saturday night, and there is such a decided improvement in his condition that his friends are hopeful of an early and permanent recovery.

—Mr. and Mrs. John Wetzel Harper, of Schenectady, N. Y., are receiving congratulations on the birth of their third child and second daughter, who was born in Schenectady, Monday. Mrs. Harper was formerly Martha Barnhart, the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Barnhart, of Bellefonte.

—It has been many years since home grown apples have been as cheap as they are this winter. Baldwin, Staymen, winneps, Rhode Island green, pound apples and other good winter varieties have been peddled from door to door at a dollar a bushel. While they are not of the largest variety they are all in splendid condition. Potatoes, too, are lower in price than usual this time of year.

—Charles Saxton has resigned his position with the Johnston Motor Bus company and with his brother-in-law, William Yates, will open up a motor machine shop in the garage on the T. H. Harter property, on Pike alley, in the rear of Parrish's drug store. Mr. Saxton had been with the Emerick Motor Bus company and the Johnston Motor Bus company for sixteen years and was one of its most faithful and efficient employees.

—The grand jury for the February term of court will meet next Monday to consider the bills of indictment presented by the district attorney. The list will likely be quite large as 177 cases are listed on the quarter sessions docket. All of them, however, will not be up for trial. Quite a number have already been disposed of and others will be heard before the court the latter part of next week. At that it is the largest list of entries for a February term of court in the history of the county.

—On January 31st the Huntingdon Daily News celebrated its ninth anniversary with a sixteen page edition devoted largely to a description of its present up-to-date plant and personnel. For many years the News was published as a semi-weekly. Joseph F. Biddle became owner of the plant twenty years ago and nine years ago decided to make the paper a daily. Since then prosperity has come his way by leaps and bounds and now he has a plant worth well onto \$100,000, publishes over five thousand copies daily and has a job department equipped to turn out any kind of work.

INTERFERES WITH FIREMEN, NOW FACES COURT TRIAL.

First Case of Kind Ever Brought in Centre County Court.

George I. Purnell, an official of the American Lumber and Stone company, is under \$800 bail for trial at the May term of court for assault and battery and interfering with firemen in the discharge of their duties, and as it is the first case of the kind ever brought before the Centre county court unusual interest attaches to the outcome, as it is expected to define the duties and obligations of volunteer firemen as well as the rights of the individual and property owner.

The case grows out of a fire in the Purnell garage at his home on east Curtin street last Friday afternoon. When the alarm sounded the Logan Fire company was quick to respond and was on the ground just as the fire alarm stopped blowing. As the garage is located on the rear of the Purnell lot the firemen had to lay hose from the fireplug on Curtin street, which naturally took a few minutes of time, and it is said that Purnell berated them for being slow and indifferent.

Later he got into an altercation with O. B. Malin, chief of the Logans, and gave him a push, throwing him down. Jumping up Malin called Purnell a suggestive name and the latter hit him with his fist, knocking him down. Fire Marshall John J. Bower went to Malin's rescue and told Purnell he was under arrest, then the latter threw him down. Other firemen grabbed Purnell but others came to the front and put an end to the trouble.

After the fire Malin made information against Purnell for assault and battery and interfering with firemen, while Bower preferred charges of assault and battery and resisting arrest. Hearings were scheduled for 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon before Squire S. Kline Woodring, but before the hour named Purnell appeared at the justice's office with his attorney, Ivan Walker, and gave bail for his appearance at court, \$300 in each case.

The fire in the garage was started by a group of five or six boys who are said to have deliberately set fire to a pile of hay and straw in the garage "just to have a bonfire." As the boys are only six to eight years old they will not be held accountable. In the garage was a pony and it was gotten out without injury, but a colony of pigeons in the garage were burned to death.

The storing of hay and straw in a garage, or any such combustible material is a violation of a borough ordinance. While the fire was still burning firemen threw the hay and straw out of the building in order to extinguish the flames and while doing so the men with the hose turned the water aside and Purnell again berated them for letting it squirt on his garden.

FORMER BELLEVILLE BOY BEATEN AND ROBBED.

Walter Crissman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Crissman, of Pittsburgh, and a nephew of W. Homer Crissman, of Bellefonte, and a brother of Mrs. Harry E. Garbrick, of Coleville, was beaten up and robbed by two thugs in Pittsburgh Saturday night.

Harry has charge of a fleet of moving trucks and Saturday evening he received a telephone call to come to a certain house to arrange for a moving. He demurred about going at that hour but the man was persistent and he finally went. On entering the house he was hit over the head by a piece of iron pipe, but not knocked out. He grappled with his assailant but another thug then took a hand and Crissman was finally overcome, but not before he had bitten one of the men on the hand.

The thugs wet through his pockets and took \$90 in cash, discarding a number of checks. The thugs also overlooked Crissman's watch, a diamond ring and diamond pin he was wearing. Crissman was found a short time later and taken to a hospital but aside from a bruised head and hand he was not seriously hurt.

BELL TELEPHONE CO. TO START WORK ON LINES.

Reconstruction of telephone pole lines in Snow Shoe and the area served by that central office is scheduled to be started in a few days by the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, it was announced today by J. H. Caum, manager. The work is scheduled for completion next fall. It will necessitate an estimated expenditure of more than \$12,000.

The rebuilding project is planned in accordance with the finding of telephone engineers, who constantly are surveying existing plant facilities to prevent them from deteriorating to a point below specifications set by the Bell System.

Nearly 240 poles are to be replaced, while more than 200 will be reset.

—Having become very despondent and fearful that she might do herself bodily harm, Miss Elizabeth Brown, of Bellefonte, was taken to the Danville hospital on Tuesday morning.

PATTON TOWNSHIP ROAD HEARING HELD MONDAY.

Patton township was very much in the limelight in Bellefonte, on Monday, it being the day set for a hearing on applications to vacate six stretches of township road. The hearings were held before E. J. Thompson Esq., H. H. Hewitt and Phil E. Womelsdorf, of Phillipsburg, all members of the board of road and bridge viewers of Centre county. The supervisors of the township are J. W. Johnstonbaugh, H. P. Carson and E. G. Meyers, the two first named being the only ones present at the hearing. The pieces of roadway which the supervisors wished to vacate are as follows:

Two-tenths of a mile on the new State highway route No. 404, against which there was no protest.

Six-tenths of a mile from the west end of Matternville in a north-westerly direction toward the top of Bald Eagle mountain. No protest against this.

From Station 240 on highway route No. 404 to the Ferguson township line. This road runs from near Scotia through the Barrens, and the closing of it was opposed by a number of taxpayers, with the result that the application was refused.

Another road runs from a point near the Stevenson corner east and southeast 3½ miles, and it was vacated.

Another section runs from the Roan farm northwest a distance of 1.8 miles to a connection with the road across the mountain to Julian. This, also, was vacated.

The sixth section was the piece of road running from Gray's church southwest a distance of one mile to an oak tree on the back road, and better known as Meek's lane. This application was refused.

Quite a number of witnesses were on hand to testify as to the public necessity of the two stretches of road on which the applications were refused, and the evidence in their favor far overbalanced the testimony of the supervisors in favor of their closing. With the vacating of the four stretches of road above named against which there was practically no protest the township will have less than twenty miles of township road to take care of. The road tax last year was in the neighborhood of \$2400, and if the same mileage is continued this year the supervisors will have an average of over \$100 a mile for the upkeep of the roads under their care.

THE ROYAL FAMILY ON PARADE NEXT WEEK

What is most certainly one of the cleverest displays of brilliant acting that film audiences have been privileged to see in many months will be on parade at the Richelieu Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week.

"The Royal Family of Broadway" is based on the famous play, "The Royal Family," by George S. Kaufman and Edna Ferber. It depicts the home life of a leading family of American stage performers.

But it is not the impressive quality of the original playwrighting alone which makes this play a wonderful movie. Most of the splendid attributes of this production are found in the stirring craftsmanship of Fredric March, Ina Claire, Henrietta Crosman and Mary Brian, as presentable a quartet of sterling actors as one could wish for.

The "Royal Family of Broadway" is rich in comedy, romance, pathos and drama, it is invested with sparkling glamor—it moves with the dazzling speed of a meteor.

MORE FISH PUT INTO STREAMS THAN WILL BE CAUGHT.

Here's good news for the ardent fishermen. During 1930 391,998,893 fish were placed in the various streams of the State. This included 817,002 trout, 336,427 black bass, 17,141,685 pike perch, 323,182,864 yellow perch, 1,439,890 sunfish, 899,340 catfish, 32,847,000 blue pike, 4,000,000 cisco, 738,035 minnows, 366,900 frogs, 20,010 pickerel, 10,182,920 suckers and 27,000 miscellaneous species.

After reading the above, figure out just what your percentage of the above should be then keep it for comparison with your catch on April 15th.

NEW POSTOFFICE BUILDING MIGHT BE STARTED IN 1932.

Assurances have been received from Congressman J. M. Chase that construction of a new government postoffice building for Bellefonte is expected to be started not later than the spring of 1932. In the public buildings appropriations announced by the Secretary of the Treasury, last week, \$125,000 was allocated for the proposed Bellefonte building. Up to the present time no available site has been selected or suggested.

YOUR ARE INVITED TO A CARD PARTY.

Next Tuesday evening, February 17th, at eight o'clock, Hugh Quigley's class of the Episcopal church school will hold a card party in the Episcopal parish house, to which the public is cordially invited. Both bridge and five hundred will be played. Refreshments will be served by the boys. Admission—50c.

DRILLING FOR WATER TO SUPPLY CENTRE HALL.

Frank Fisher Has a Cistern that Rivals the Fabled "Wonderful Pitcher."

Kold Bros., of Myerstown, are drilling another well at Centre Hall to help out with the water supply. Some time ago the town had a well put down a short distance below the reservoir to a depth of 128 feet, and struck a fair flow of water but not sufficient for the needs of the borough. This well was drilled almost entirely through a limestone ledge. The new well now being drilled is about 75 feet below the first well and by Friday evening it was down 110 feet and was filled with water to within ten feet of the top. This well was drilled entirely through slate rock, not a sign of limestone being in evidence. As there is no certainty of the strength of the water supply drilling will be continued to a depth of 150 feet before a test of the well is made.

As this item is being written (Monday afternoon) we are in the midst of the biggest snow fall of the winter. It is five inches deep and still snowing, and naturally everybody is wondering if it will melt soon and relieve the drought which has for months been so serious in Centre county as well as throughout the State.

Many farmers through the county have had wells drilled and some have found sufficient water for their needs, while others have not. Up at State College a well is being put down in the hope of finding sufficient water to augment the borough's supply. Out at Pleasant Gap the stream which supplies the reservoir is very low and the people there are also considering the question of putting down a well.

All of which brings up the vagaries of water courses beneath the earth's surface. Up on Bald Eagle mountain, or to be more exact in a slight dip between the mountain chains, about north of the Clemson home, is the home of Oscar Shively. Some years ago he had a well drilled for water and struck an underground stream with head enough that it flowed out of the casing in the well. Several years ago, however, a pump was installed in the well to insure a regular supply.

At the Frank Fisher farm down Pennsvalley, known by the older residents as the General Buchanan farm, are a well and a cistern less than twenty feet apart. The well is a dug well about 30 feet deep and has only a few feet of water in it. The cistern is twelve feet deep, built with a concrete wall and cemented on the inside. At the present time it is practically full of water notwithstanding the fact that for two months last summer the rain spout was turned out of the cistern and that it has been used for all purposes at the farm home without showing any appreciable lowering of the water. How the water gets into the cistern is a puzzling question. It does not seep in from the well because the water level in the well is below the bottom of the cistern. And if there is an underground source of supply for the cistern, why doesn't it affect the well which is so close to it. While the water supply of the cistern is a mystifying one neither Mr. Fisher nor the man who occupies his farm are going to do any digging to find out the inexplicable source for fear of destroying the supply.

ONE-ARMED VETERAN IN BLAIR COUNTY COURT.

James Eagen, a one-armed veteran of the World war, who gave his residence as Centre county, appeared in the Blair county court, last Friday, on the charge of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated. The man was arrested by motor patrolman Walsh, when passing through Altoona. It was represented that he was on his way to a United States hospital for treatment. He possessed a doctor's certificate showing that he had chronic appendicitis and that an operation is necessary to save his life. He had lost his right arm in the World war, and he has seen much service in the United States army in the Philippines and other places. He said that he took a drink as he was seized with a severe pain, shortly before being arrested. He was released on his own recognizance to proceed to the hospital.

BABY CLINICS TO BE HELD BEGINNING 3 P. M. TODAY.

The first of a series of baby clinics will be held in the W. C. T. U. room, in Petrikin hall, this (Friday) afternoon, at 3 o'clock, and will be continued every Friday afternoon hereafter at the same hour until further notice. The clinics are being sponsored by the Mother's Club of Bellefonte. The examining physician will be Dr. Richard H. Hoffman, who will be assisted by Miss Kelchline and Miss Noll, school and State nurses.

The clinic will offer free service to mothers of small children and it is hoped that a large number of women who have been looking forward to a baby clinic for a long time will avail themselves of this opportunity to have their children up to three years of age, weighed, measured and given physical examination.

NEWS PURELY PERSONAL.

—Mrs. Daniel Clemson is up from Williamsport this week, a guest at the home of her father, P. H. Gherity.

—Mr. and Mrs. William F. Holt, of Phillipsburg, are spending the winter at the Altamonte hotel, Altamonte Springs, Florida.

—Mrs. Edward Brown went to Wilmington, Del., last week to visit for an indefinite time with her daughter, Mrs. Winters.

—Mrs. Pedrick has been in from Pine Glen for the past two weeks, a guest of her sister, Mrs. C. Y. Wagner, at the Wagner home on Willowbank street.

—Miss Mary Forbes, instructor in English in the Bellefonte High school, spent the week-end with friends in Johnstown, where she taught before coming to Bellefonte.

—Lester Musser has been discharged from the Centre county hospital with the assurance of a complete recovery from his recent serious accident, in which his arm was so badly injured by an electric saw.

—While in Clearfield for two weeks, Mrs. Carrie Eckenroth was a guest of Mrs. Carroll, Mrs. Hogentogler and Mrs. Conrad, all one time residents of Bellefonte. Mrs. Eckenroth returned home Tuesday.

—Mrs. D. H. Hastings has been back home during the week, for one of her frequent short visits in Bellefonte, being a guest while here, of Col. and Mrs. J. L. Spangler, at their home on Allegheny street.

—Miss Nannie Delaney was up from Milesburg Tuesday to spend a part of the day in the shops of Bellefonte. Miss Delaney's sister, Miss Mary, who has been ill for much of the winter, is gradually recovering.

—Returning from a trip to Zellenople, Wednesday of last week, F. W. West was accompanied by Mrs. H. C. Eichholtz and son Frank and Mrs. G. A. Pearce, who were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Widdowson, until Sunday.

—Mrs. Hibler, who was thought to be seriously ill for several months is now able to be up in her chair for the greater part of the day. During her sickness, Mrs. Hibler has been at the home of her brother, Charles Osmer, on east Bishop street.

—Miss Betty Casebeer, who was recently operated for appendicitis while at school at Fairfax Hall, Waynesboro, Virginia, is to be brought home as soon as she has recovered sufficiently to stand the trip, but will probably not return to school again until fall.

—Mrs. Earl Hoffer was hostess on a drive to Northumberland last week, her guests being Mrs. Harvey Wetzel, Mrs. Oscar Wetzel, her daughter, Mrs. McCoy and Mrs. McCoy's daughter, Amy Jane and Mrs. J. M. Hartwick. The party spent the day there with Mrs. Melissa Hillbush and her family.

—Mrs. W. F. McCoy, who had been in Bellefonte for several months helping out with the clerical work in the First National bank, returned to her home in Ambridge, Pa., on Sunday. Mr. McCoy drove in for her on Saturday. While here Mrs. McCoy was a guest of her mother, Mrs. Oscar Wetzel, of Willowbank street.

—Mrs. Frost, of Philadelphia, formerly Miss Charlotte Crittenden and her brother-in-law, Clayton C. Johnson, who accompanied Mrs. Johnson's body here Monday from Waterbury, Conn., spent Monday night at Curtin, guests of Mrs. Frost's and Mrs. Johnson's niece, Mrs. Harry H. Curtin. Both left, Tuesday, to return east.

—While in town shopping, on Wednesday afternoon, Mrs. Arthur Eckley and her interesting little daughter, Hazel, honored the Watchman office with a short call. The Eckleys live at Coleville and being a daughter of Jacob Cole, Mrs. Eckley is a descendant of the family for which that pleasant suburb of Bellefonte was named.

—Miss Marie Royer, who has been home off duty for three weeks, suffering with an infected hand, is now thought to be rapidly recovering. Miss Royer is the nurse in charge of Frank Hens, of Altoona, the hunting accident case, in the Centre county hospital since last fall. During Miss Royer's illness Miss Leitzel had charge of Mr. Hens.

—Mrs. John A. Woodcock's sister, Miss Rebecca Forbes, drove here Saturday from Chambersburg with Miss Kathleen Seibert for an overnight visit, while Dr. Woodcock came Sunday from Scranton, remaining in Bellefonte until Monday. During their visit definite plans were made for Mrs. Woodcock's moving from the McManus property into Petrikin Hall.

—The William Calverts and the Norman Calverts, of Williamsport, the Malcolm Wetters, of Milesburg, with the Guy Lyon and Edward Miller families of Bellefonte, were the guests at the Mrs. Della Miller home on east Bishop street Sunday. The family got-together party was given in celebration of Mrs. Matilda Spotts' eighty-seventh birthday. Mrs. Spotts being the mother of Mrs. Miller, with whom she makes her home.

—Miss Mary H. Linn, of Bellefonte, Miss Anne McCormick, of Harrisburg, and Miss Helen Gross, of Wilmington, S. C., will sail from New York, on the Aquitania, Friday, February 27, Miss Gross to join friends in England for the summer and Miss Linn and Miss McCormick for two months in southern Europe. Miss Linn and Miss McCormick, whose guest Miss Linn will be on the trip, intend going directly to Paris, where they will make definite plans for their stay abroad, the greater part of which time is to be spent in Sicily and Italy. Present arrangements are for their return to America about the first of May.

—Up to this time the Nittany valley branch of the Dairyman's League has not utilized the two box cars fitted up on a railroad siding here as a temporary milk shipping station. The reason given is that milk production is now at a low ebb owing to the continued drought and scarcity of feed, and that all the milk the members are producing is now being hauled to the station at Mill Hall. With the coming of spring, however, they anticipate making Bellefonte a shipping point.

Gherity—Miller—Robert J. Gherity and Miss Virginia M. Miller, both of Tyrone, were married at St. Matthew's Catholic church in that place, at 7 o'clock on Wednesday morning of last week, by Rev. James A. Tolan. They were attended by Mr. and Mrs. James C. Davis, brother-in-law and sister of the bridegroom. Inmediately following the ceremony a wedding breakfast was served at the home of the bride after which the young couple left on a motor wedding trip to Washington, D. C.

The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Angus R. Miller, is a graduate of the Tyrone High school, class of 1926, and for two years has been in the employ of the J. A. Gardner Importing company. The bridegroom is a son of P. H. Gherity, of Bellefonte, but has been a resident of Tyrone for twelve years. He is employed by the Acme Tire company and is prominently identified with the Tyrone fire department, being secretary of the Citizens' Fire company and secretary of the Firemen's Relief Association.

—The recent act of vandalism perpetrated at the Mrs. Joseph Baker summer home, at Snow Shoe Intersection, has brought to light a story of attempted robbery of the Sycamore club just shortly before Christmas. On a Sunday afternoon two members of the club took a motor trip up Bald Eagle valley. On the way they decided to go over to the club house just for a look around. Arriving there they discovered a broken window and going in found all the bedding, silverware and most of the china piled up near the door, in shape to be moved quickly when an opportunity presented itself. The men put everything back in place and fixed the window against further intrusion.

—We call attention to the bit of verse "Trees in the Forest" that will be found on page 4, column 1, of this issue because of the fact that it was written by a little girl, Helen Olsen, only nine years old. The singular part of her gift is that she does not write her thoughts. She thinks them out, commits them to memory and keeps no other record of them than what is stored in her brain. The one we publish was gotten only by persuading her to recite it often enough for another to write it down while she was unaware of the purpose.

—Governor Pinchot's declaration in Harrisburg, last week, that he will give no consideration to office seekers until after the adjournment of the 1931 session of the Legislature, and that he will not see applicants personally, is not very comforting to the horde of his supporters in Centre county who have been hugging the delusion that they would be placed in the front ranks at the public crib just as soon as the Governor got his seat in the executive mansion thoroughly warmed up.

—Members of St. John's Catholic church are in the midst of their annual fair, which is being held in the rooms over the Bellefonte Trust company. It opened with a bang, last evening, and will be continued this evening and tomorrow night. Beautiful articles are on display and plenty of diversified amusement is offered for the entertainment of the crowd. The public is invited and as everybody knows that these Catholic fairs are always worth attending there should be no lack of patronage.

—Because of the fact that she has frequently stopped in Bellefonte in her airplane flights it will be interesting to note that Miss Amelia Earhart was married to George P. Putnam, of New York, on Saturday last. She and her husband spent Sunday in their apartment in a New York hotel and on Monday morning both of them went to work as usual, Miss Earhart as manager of an airplane traffic line and Mr. Putnam at his desk in a New York publishing house.

—Miss Louise Meyer, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry N. Meyer, who is a junior at Hood college, has been chosen by the student body to represent the college at the athletic conference of American college women, to be held at Syracuse, March 13 and 14. Miss Claire Williams, of Philadelphia, also of the class of '32, was elected as a second delegate.

—The Elizabeth M. Kerlin property, on east Howard street, sold at sheriff's sale on January 31st, was purchased by Frank Houser, who is already occupying it with his family.

SALE REGISTER.

MARCH 18.—At the residence of Roland Spicer on the Swartz farm on the middle Buffalo Run road, 4 miles west of Bellefonte, a clean up sale, 6 horses, 14 milk cows, 18 head of other cattle, 25 hogs, 50 chickens, 2 tractors, and a general line of farm implements in good condition. Some household articles will also be offered. Sale will start at 9:30. L. F. Mayer, auctioneer.

Bellefonte Grain Markets.

Corrected Weekly by C. Y. Wagner & Co.

Wheat	.....	.80
Corn	.....	.75
Oats	.....	.60
Rye	.....	.60
Barley	.....	.60
Buckwheat	.....	.75