

INK SLINGS.

BY GEORGE R. MEER.

In 1900 the total cost of our national defense was \$163,392,646. In 1929 it had risen to \$678,413,795. That's some jump for a country that emblazons its coins with "In God We Trust."

Mary Garden and Madame Schuman-Heink are two of the great operatic stars of yesterday; two of the army of foolish greats who are not content to rest on their laurels. Just why do they persist in thinking they can still sing.

In Buffalo, several weeks ago, a noted scientist told a meeting of medical men that "alcohol is a natural element in the human brain." That being the case why squander money on boot-leggers? Cultivate the brain and be your own boot-legger.

The poor tax levied in Bellefonte would provide five dollars a week for only twenty-three families. Inasmuch as maintenance of the borough home consumes more than half of the total assessment the amount available for temporary relief to individuals is really very small.

The Donaldson-Allen tragedy in Philadelphia last week leaves a trail of broken hearts and wrecked lives. It is just another case of a young girl who loved not wisely, but too well. Her brother is in prison charged with the murder of her betrayer and while the law will regard his crime as the greatest in the sad affair we are wondering if it is blacker than that of the Donaldson boy who betrayed a woman and then told another man that he had done it.

If it should become the prerogative of the Democrats to organize the next House of Congress John F. Garner, of Texas, will undoubtedly be made Speaker. In that event his wife will automatically take an official social precedence she has not been entitled to heretofore. It is gratifying to know that Mrs. Garner is a sensible woman. There is proof of that in her own statement to the effect that if her husband is made Speaker she will not embarrass any host or hostess by putting over the chair they seat her in at their tables. All of which is to say that Mrs. Garner is not "catty" like Alice Roosevelt Longworth and Dolly Gann. "Princess Alice," wife of the lamented Speaker, and Mrs. Gann, house-keeper for Vice President Curtis, make spectacles of themselves in Washington some time ago over their relative rights in the matter of seating at official dinners.

We don't know anything about the material needs of Mr. Owen K. Adams, of Lock Haven. That is, whether he has a job or wants one. We hope he has one, but if he is out of luck, like so many millions more in the country, we want to tell the world that there is a man who doesn't sleep at the switch. On September 18th he notified the writer of this column that he intended to keep an eye on it. The implication was that, like Lowell Thomas' green and red eyed fish, he was going to regulate it's traffic in news about King Carol and Konrad Bercovic, the Rumanian author who we once charged with giving Carol the "breaks" for no other apparent reason than fear of having his head chopped off. Suspecting that Mr. Adams was not as alert as Lowell's fish we set a trap for him last week in the "Talks with the Editor" column you will find the reason we recommend Mr. Adams as a man who, when he cuts out a job for himself sticks to it.

What's in a jinx? Last Friday, November 13, officers of the court were recounting the ballots cast for Boob and Keeler by the voters of Millheim borough. As you know the official count had established a margin of only two between them in their shrivelly race. Any little miff might have thrown the Democrat out and the Republican in. We happened to be out of town while the recount was going on. On the return home something went wrong with the car at Hublersburg. The garage man there was trying to correct the disorder and our thoughts wandered off to the court house in Bellefonte and wondered whether the thread by which our pet candidate was hanging had been snapped. Then we walked to the rear of the car and discovered we had a "flat", along with our other troubles. Raising our face toward Heaven for some sort of consolation we saw a new moon hanging over the crest of Nittany mountain, but we saw it over our left shoulder. Friday, the 3th, a "flat" and a new moon over the left shoulder. Our friend Harver, of the Gazette, hasn't looked gloomier at any moment since the awful news tapped on his tympanum, than we felt at that moment. When we arrived home and heard that Boob had gained twelve in the recount we could have promised to hug and kiss as many telephone girls as they say "brother" Keeler promised to make his deputy sheriff. And God only knows what a contract that would have been.

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BOOB GAINS SIX VOTES, KEELER LOST SIX IN MILLHEIM RECOUNT.

The Change Shows Boob Elected by Fourteen of a Majority Over Keeler.

The recount of the ballots cast at the election in Millheim, on November 3rd, proved a boomerang to the Republican candidate for Sheriff, Harry V. Keeler, of Bellefonte, and his party backers, who, last week, instituted proceedings for a recount on the allegation that they had reason to believe that a "fraud or error" had been committed. While no evidence of fraud was found the recount showed an error of six votes, but they were in favor of Mr. Boob and against Keeler. All of the votes were found in what had evidently been counted as straight Republican ballots. The voters had marked an X in the Republican party column and then put an X after Boob's name in the Democratic column, and in computing the returns on election night the board had evidently overlooked the latter X.

When the ballot box was brought into court, last Friday afternoon, it was examined very carefully as rumors were abroad that it bore evidence of having been tampered with. The board on the back of the box on which the hinges were fastened was somewhat loose and contained new nails at both ends. It developed, however, that it was only the natural result of long usage.

The box was opened by Sheriff Dunlap in the presence of the court and the men appointed to make the recount. These were Charles F. Cook, G. Hunter Kisely, Earl C. Hoffer and John Bower Jr., of Bellefonte, and Charles E. Freeman, of Philipsburg. They began the count at 2:30 and completed it at 6:30. Aside from the six votes mentioned above other ballots over which there was some doubt were those on which there were cross marks after both the names of Raymond Brooks and John L. Wetzler, for Register of Wills. As there was some uncertainty as to the intent of the voter the ballot was not counted for either one of the men.

A discrepancy of one vote was also found in the recount for County Commissioners. One ballot was found on which the voter had marked an X after the names of both Democratic candidates and also Howard E. Holtzworth, and the result was the vote was not counted for any of the three candidates voted for.

By agreement of both county chairmen and the attorneys representing the two candidates the recount was confined to the county ticket alone. Both Mr. Boob and Mr. Keeler were in court but the latter did not stay for the finish. Early Saturday morning Mr. Keeler went to the prothonotary's office and asked for the return of his deposit of \$50 because of the change in the vote made by the recount, but inasmuch as the act of the Legislature providing for a recount of votes specifies that there must be "a material change which will affect the result," and the recount showed no such change, his money was not returned. At this writing it is not known whether any attempt will be made to open other ballot boxes for a recount, or not.

At exactly three o'clock last Friday afternoon, or half an hour after the recount was begun, Judge M. Ward Fleming attached his signature to the books of the official count of the election which had been completed two days previous and which gave Mr. Boob two of a majority. In reality, however, he ought to have fourteen.

CHRISTMAS SEALS HAVE ARRIVED IN BELLEFONTE.

The consignment of Christmas seals for Bellefonte has arrived and the committee will have them ready for the mail November 27th, when the sale will begin. The menace of tuberculosis is being increased by the depression and it would be a tragedy if the great fight against the "White Plague" should be lessened.

Unemployment and lowered incomes, with the accompanying undernourishment and the mental and physical stress being experienced by many persons, provide fertile ground for the germs of tuberculosis. The organized and united movement to prevent and control tuberculosis must go on unabated. Citizens can aid this vital effort through the support of the 25th Christmas seal sale which provides funds for the tuberculosis societies.

OAK HALL MAN KILLED IN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT SATURDAY EVENING.

Abram C. Coble, of Oak Hall, was killed instantly, at 6:45 o'clock Saturday evening, when the car he was driving crashed almost head-on into an Edwards Motor Co. bus at Deep Vue, on the mountain road from Sandy Ridge to Bald Eagle. The bus was in charge of Rufus Neeper, of Curwensville. Coble was driving a model T. Ford coupe.

The bus was on its eastern trip and was coming down the mountain while Coble was on his way toward Sandy Ridge, and was evidently on a hunting expedition, as a gun and hunting clothes were found in the wrecked car after the accident.

According to the driver of the bus and other witnesses the lights on the Ford were poor and Coble was on the wrong side of the road. To avoid hitting him the bus driver swung to the left and as he did so Coble also swung over to the right with the result that the two machines crashed. Coble was thrown through the window of his car and landed on the hard-surface road. His skull was crushed his back and left leg broken. The impact broke the left front wheel of the bus and forced it from the road over a small embankment. The wrecked Ford followed and came to rest alongside the bus. One passenger in the bus was slightly injured. A State highway patrolman, of Philipsburg, and Dr. W. R. Heaton, county coroner, investigated the accident and promptly exonerated the bus driver of all blame. Coroner Heaton also decided that an inquest was unnecessary.

Coble had been in the county courts at least twice for violations of the motor code and it is alleged that he was operating the car with another man's license at the time of the accident.

Coble was a son of Mr. Calvin Coble and was born at Oak Hall 34 years ago. In addition to his parents he is survived by one brother and a sister, John Coble, living at "The Evergreens," near State College, and Bessie, at home. He was a member of the Boal Troop, at Boalsburg. Burial was made at Boalsburg on Tuesday morning.

PLEASANT HILL GIRL KILLED BY AUTOMOBILE

At noon, on Monday, Norma Shimmel, nine-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Shimmel, of Pleasant Hill, near Philipsburg, was in the act of crossing the road from the school house to a store to get some candy when she was run down by an automobile driven by Samuel Ferraro, of Curwensville. The child was picked up and taken to the McGirk sanitarium, Philipsburg, but life was already extinct. Her parents, five brothers and one sister survive.

MAN JAILED FOR LOANING HIS DRIVER'S LICENSE.

At a brief session of court, last Saturday morning, Robert G. Lytle, of Milroy, was sentenced to pay the costs, pay a fine of \$50 and spend ten days in the Centre county jail for loaning his automobile driver's license to another man. Lytle, with three other men, was picked up at Spring Mills by highway patrolman S. C. Dale. The young man driving the car presented the license card of Mr. Lytle but finally admitted he was not the man. At the hearing the three men who were in the car with Lytle testified that he was not the operator of the car at the time of arrest.

Last January C. H. Bubb, F. B. Weaver and F. A. Howe were arrested for a violation of the liquid fuel act by John D. Whitecar. They gave bond for their appearance in court but for various reasons their cases had been continued. The men were notified to appear in court, last Saturday, and failing to do so, their bail-bonds were forfeited and bench warrants issued for their arrest.

His bogus check worker got in the work in Bellefonte again, recently. Two checks were passed on unsuspecting clerks at two business places. In both cases the checks were purported to be signed by residents of Axe Mann. While neither check was very large, both were big enough to mean a comfortable week's salary. As the man, or men, who passed the checks was a stranger there is little likelihood of detection and capture. To be on the safe side merchants and their employees should decline to cash checks for strangers.

CASES DISPOSED OF IN COURT THIS WEEK.

Non-suit Granted in Famous Detrayer-Children Ejectment Proceeding.

When court convened, on Monday morning, the trial list for the week was gone over with the following result:

Sarah M. Gallagher vs. Lulu Rowland Hollenback, an action in assumpsit. Settled.

Polydorus Baroutsis vs. George J. Gregory, an action in assumpsit. Continued owing to the illness of defendant.

Robert Dodds vs. W. H. Homan, R. G. Homan and Ernest Homan, an action in replevin. Continued until February term of court.

A. L. Duck vs. Nellie M. Gramley, administratrix, etc., of estate of W. O. Gramley, deceased, and Nellie M. Gramley, widow and sole heir of W. O. Gramley, deceased, being an action to foreclose a mortgage given the plaintiff by W. O. Gramley during his life. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$5148.30.

The Federal Land Bank, of Baltimore, Maryland, vs. the Estate of Judge O. Irwin, deceased; Mary J. Irwin, widow; Orlando N. Irwin, Andrew J. Irwin, Mary E. Holt, nee Irwin, Thomas H. Irwin, Eva B. Irwin, and Roy Wilkinson, guardian ad litem for Charles B. Irwin, Gladys P. Irwin, Helen R. Irwin, George R. Irwin, Gertrude E. Irwin, Catherine Irwin and Ruby L. Irwin, heirs of Judge O. Irwin, deceased, being a foreclosure proceeding on a mortgage given by the defendant in his life time. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$987.91.

Issac Holt and Emma Holt, his wife, vs. E. F. Titus, administratrix of the estate of Edward D. Philips, deceased; Maggie Philips, widow; Earl Philips, Daniel Philips, Polly Philips and J. N. Eberts, guardian of Howard Philips and Ruth Philips, minor children of Edward D. Philips, deceased, heirs and legal representatives of the said Edward D. Philips, deceased, being an action to revive and continue the lien of a judgment against the defendants. Verdict in favor of the plaintiffs for \$1115.40.

On Tuesday morning the already famous ejectment case of John H. Detwiler vs. Musser J. Coldren, an action to determine the ownership of a narrow strip of land on the top of Nittany mountain, was taken up for retrial. This case was first tried at the September term of court, 1929, and resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff. The defendant then appealed the case to the Supreme court where argument was made in October, 1930. The higher court awarded a new trial and it was not until this session that the case was reached. And it didn't last long, at that. When the Supreme court granted a new trial it did so with the declaration that Mr. Bitner should not be regarded as a competent witness against his own deed, as the latter instrument must stand as the best evidence in court. When the plaintiff sought to introduce his testimony counsel for defendant promptly made a motion for a compulsory non-suit and after some argument it was granted by the court. Counsel for the plaintiff then made a motion to remove the non-suit and argument on the motion will take place later. In the meantime, until further action, Coldren is regarded as the legal owner of the ten foot strip of mountain land which is the foundation of the case.

In the case of H. C. Stine vs. John Shindler and Henry Shindler, an action to recover for labor and material furnished in the erection of a house in Boggs township, the jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$44.10.

The next case taken up was that of Rufus B. Owens and Eva M. Owens vs. R. F. Welty, an action in trespass to recover damages for a wrecked automobile in a collision between the plaintiff's and defendant's car, on Nittany mountain, on November 2nd, 1930, when Richard Matthews, of Altoona, was killed by being hit by a card driven by Harry Ruhl, of Lewistown, who ran into the wreck. After hearing the evidence the jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff in the sum of \$376.26.

Sergeant Harold E. Miller, who for the past year has had supervision over the Bellefonte, Philipsburg and DuBois sub-stations of the State highway patrol, has been transferred to Williamsport, going there on Monday, and Sergeant W. G. Graham, of Bellefonte, has been assigned as supervisor of the district.

COUNTY FARM FOLKS TO MEET HERE TOMORROW.

Entertaining and Instructive Program for Annual Session of the Agricultural Extension Association.

Centre county farm folks will visit Bellefonte tomorrow to attend the annual meeting of the Centre County Agricultural Extension Association. According to the president, C. E. Peters, of Stormstown, a very interesting and instructive program has been arranged and the largest crowd is expected in the history of the organization.

Mr. Peters reports the complete program as follows: 10 A. M. Business session, court room, court house. Report of accomplishments during the past year by Miss Alexson, home economics worker and county agent, R. C. Blaney. Treasurer's report by W. C. Smeltzer, treasurer. Election of officers for next year.

11:15 A. M. "What an Agricultural Extension Program Should Be in Depression Times," Earle Moffett, State College.

12:15 P. M. Sauer Kraut dinner, Y. M. C. A., Price 50c. Special singing by the entire group, led by Cecil Walker, song leader for the Bellefonte Kiwanis club.

1:45 P. M. Court room, court house. "The Farmers Tax Problems," Prof. H. N. Reist, agricultural economics department, State College, Pa.

2:45 P. M. Concert by the Boalsburg banjo band.

3:45 P. M. Adjournment.

This program has been arranged for the entertainment and instruction of both men and women, and all farm people in Centre county, also bankers and business men, are urged to attend.

LACK OF RAIN DRYING UP SPRINGS AND STREAMS.

Many springs and streams in Centre county have either gone dry or are so nearly so, because of the lack of rain, that farmers in the country districts are having a hard time finding enough water for their stock. Up in Halfmoon township is a stream that years ago had a sufficient flow to operate a grist mill. Today there is only a trickle of water flowing along the bed of the stream which is almost grown shut with ranks grass.

The upper part of Bald Eagle creek is so low that a child can walk across it on stones most anywhere. The same condition prevails on Buffalo Run. Springs in Buffalo Run valley that were never known to go dry are now so low that the owners are wondering how much longer they will last if rain does not come.

In this connection a peculiar thing happened on Wednesday of last week. Farmers living up in the Barrens have no water of any kind and they have been hauling a supply from the spring at the home of H. D. Meek on the old Dempster L. Meek farm near Waddie. On Wednesday afternoon three farmers from the Barrens went to the spring with truck loads of milk cans which they filled with water. The last man was driving away as Mrs. Meek returned home. It was late and she hurried to the spring to get water with which to prepare supper and was astonished to see that the spring had literally been dipped dry by the farmers and she had to go to another small spring to get enough of water to cook her supper.

Similar low water conditions prevail all over Centre county, as the few showers of rain we have had have not been enough to make any impression on either the springs or streams.

ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS RAID MOOSE AND ELKS IN PHILPSBURG.

Prohibition enforcement officers invaded Philipsburg, Wednesday of last week, while the citizens of that place were gathering for the Armistice day celebration, and raided both the Moose and Elks lodges. A quantity of illegal beer was found at both places and it was poured down a sewer. Several punch boards were confiscated at the Elks lodge. The stewards of both lodges were placed under arrest and later the officers of the clubs were arrested. They were all held in \$500 bail for their appearance at the February term of court, and all were able to give bond.

COUNTY GRANGE MEETING

There will be a meeting of Centre county Pomona Grange on Saturday, Nov. 21, at Centre Hall.

V. A. AUMAN, Secretary

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

The body of a man, so badly decomposed that it was almost a skeleton, was found on Tuesday by hunters at Langan's, a mining settlement near DuPont, in Lackawanna county. State police and coroner Jenkins went to the place but found nothing that would identify the body.

A shortage of \$105,000 in the accounts of Webster G. Drew, indicted treasurer of Bradford, was disclosed this week in the report of J. V. Brown, auditor and acting city treasurer. In addition the school board accuses Drew of being short \$122,000 in his funds. Brown reported that the city would realize \$50,000 from Drew's bond as surety and \$7,500 from his brokerage accounts.

Mike Lipko, who was convicted before Judge Koch, at Pottsville, on a charge of arson in connection with the burning of the barn at the Schuylkill county almshouse, was given from four to eight years, in the eastern penitentiary. Lipko, an inmate of the almshouse, set fire to the barn after being reprimanded by one of the stewards on account of annoying the other inmates.

His vision impaired by a heavy fog, Harry Ulrich, 61, ran against an automobile in West York on Tuesday morning with such force that he was killed. He was on his way to work and was running to board a street car when the accident occurred. The man's head shattered the glass in a front door of the automobile. His skull was fractured. The driver of the automobile was E. A. Wherley.

When a windlass on which he was being lowered into a well gave way, Sol Maurer, elderly resident of Blue Bell, near Philipsburg, was precipitated more than 27 feet to the bottom. An examination at the Philipsburg State hospital revealed that he received fractures of both heels. So seriously is he injured, that it is believed he may never be able to walk. The accident occurred last Tuesday.

Mrs. Betty Bardo, widow of Sheriff E. B. Bardo, of Lycoming county, is an applicant for the office of county commissioner, to which her husband was elected at the general election. Mrs. Bardo will ask the incoming judges to appoint her as a county official. She will base her appeal on the fact that Dr. Bardo received the highest number of votes cast for a county commissioner. Dr. Bardo died on the day following the election.

Edward Donovan, Jersey Shore, suffered a fractured jaw, lacerations of the left temple and right knee, and Ralph Brownlee, Jersey Shore, a fractured collarbone, when the car in which they were taking Miss Fay Passell to her home in Lockport overturned Monday morning near the second island bridge, two miles east of Lock Haven, and burst into flames. Passing motorists extricated them and rushed them to the Lock Haven hospital.

The largest passenger car order in the history of the Berwick plant of the American Car and Foundry company was awarded last week by New York and amounts to \$10,750,000, sufficient to provide work for a year for 1500 men. A dispatch from New York carried the news of the order, news of which Berwick officials and employees have been waiting for nearly two months since the announcement was made that the Berwick plant was low bidder on the contract.

Louis Seltzer, proprietor of a clothing store which was destroyed in the disastrous fire recently, at Hughesville, has given a large amount of salvaged goods to the overseers of the poor of the borough for distribution. The goods which Mr. Seltzer has donated for the welfare of the poor and needy families of the borough and vicinity are in good condition but are unusable. Some goods are being salvaged almost every day as the work of cleaning up the ruins is underway.

William L. Armstrong, of Meadowlands, Washington county, was granted \$40,000 damages for the death of his wife and young son and injury of himself, in a verdict which a jury returned against the Pennsylvania Railroad company, on Monday. The suit was the outgrowth of a grade crossing accident at Meadowlands, January 31, 1927. Armstrong, who said a locomotive struck his automobile after a railroad truck had signaled him to cross the tracks, asked for \$50,000 damages.

A coroner's jury in Harrisburg has held a 19-year-old Philadelphia girl responsible for the death, two weeks ago, of a Lancaster woman in an auto accident near Middletown. The girl, charged with involuntary manslaughter, is Miss Louise Tait, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Charles H. Tait, 5415 Overbrook Ave., Philadelphia. With three other girls, Miss Tait was bound for State College on a week-end party. Near Middletown she attempted to pass another machine bound for Harrisburg. The two cars collided, causing the death of Mrs. J. S. Neusteroth, a passenger in the latter machine.

Three students of the Pennsylvania State College have been suggested for Pennsylvania nominations for Rhodes scholarships. Two are from the school of education, Harry W. Porter, of Pittsburg, and George Fisanick, of Barnesboro, while the third, Harry W. Brick, of Philadelphia, is enrolled in the school of agriculture. Every year 32 American students are sent to Oxford University, England, for two years on Rhodes Scholarships. To select these men the United States is divided into eight districts of six States each. Each State makes two nominations from the candidates submitted, and from these nominees the scholarship men are selected.

Many feet trod over a package containing \$875, dropped in a Uniontown store, before it finally was picked up by the manager. Hours later Mrs. Jennie Shaneyfelter, a widow, appeared at police headquarters to make anxious inquiry about the package, which contained her life savings. For years Mrs. Shaneyfelter had kept the money wrapped in a handkerchief in a purse around which she had securely tied plain paper. She never left the money at home when she was absent. As she left the store she dropped the package and did not miss it until she arrived home. She solicited the aid of the police. They visited the store and was told that the package had been found.