

—If there could be a referendum on the weather this part of the country would certainly vote wet.

—Gradually our Governor is becoming a better Latin scholar. His special session of the Legislature taught him that vox Pinchi, vox populi really isn't the same as "vox populi, vox dei."

—The consideration with which the new and Democratic Congress has treated President Hoover's plans must make the Honorable Herbert feel that he made a mistake when he deserted his first love.

—This is a Leap Year. Three decades ago it might have meant something to the female of the species. In this year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and thirty two, it means nothing to her. Every year is Leap Year to the modern girl.

—Representative McFadden wants Europe to pay her debts to the United States by ceding colonial possessions to us. Wouldn't that be lovely. We took the Philippines and several other islands, from Spain, away back in 1898 and we have the bear by the tail yet.

—Before anybody can convince us that government ownership of any public utility will help the country out of its present slough of depression he or she will have to explain to us why the Post-office Department has been in the red ever since we have known anything about it.

—Reports from Finland are to the effect that that country has repealed its dry laws by an unexpectedly large majority. Finland has given legal prohibition a thorough trial and has decided that home and school training in temperance is the more effective curb for alcoholism.

—Governor Pinchot is already out with his alibi. He says his extra session will go down in history as "Martin's Polly." The Governor says lots of things that Pennsylvanians are beginning to "take with a grain of salt." It wasn't so long ago that he said he was going to reduce automobile license fees.

—Mr. Ogden Mills, acting Secretary of the Treasury, is against the idea of "soaking the rich." So are we. We're for making everyone pay for the cost of government in exact proportion to his or her ability to pay. We think that would be only fair, but Mr. Mills probably thinks it would be "soaking the rich."

—Mr. Norris, independent Republican of Nebraska, warned his followers in Washington of the danger of a third party entering the field in the coming presidential campaign. Democrats should worry about that. They are ready to meet all comers and the more parties the Republicans split into the happier they will be.

—Nobody knows what 1932 will bring forth. Heaven forbid that it might beget a dole. The dole is wrecking England and Germany's troubles are largely because her naturally industrious people are being devitalized by it. Taxing those who will work to keep those who will not is the surest way we can think of to destroy any governmental system.

—In Pennsylvania Democratic newspapers don't amount to much, so far as what goes on at Harrisburg is concerned. However that may be, we have an idea that they were the ubiquitous little picadors that goaded Governor Gif. to the discovery that the people of Pennsylvania were not with him on his idea that only those who supported him should have jobs to help fill empty stomachs.

—When the Harlem police started "initiating" Mr. Amos Jones into the terrors of the "Third-Degree" we made the prediction that it would not be "more than a couple of weeks until the entire country would have a new issue." Amos' hours in the "sweat-box" were only a dream, but metropolitan journals are already devoting columns to editorial fulminations against that inhuman practice of police departments.

—Scientists now assert that there is a definite co-relation between sun spots and radio transmission. Inasmuch as old Sol has fewer spots now than he has had since 1924 or 1925 reception should be better than it has been for six years. Possibly it is, but the fellow who lives in a vicinity where an oil burner motor goes into action every twenty minutes would probably prefer to take chances on whatever disturbance sun-spots may make.

—The special session of the Legislature has adjourned. If all of its enactments become operative \$18,546,000 will become available for relief of unemployment in Pennsylvania. If the Governor's veto power and legal inhibitions obtrude only \$716,553 will be the offering of a session that cost the State \$366,000. It is no wonder that those who think not of partisan politics in times of universal distress tremble for fear of the sight of the red flag of revolution.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 77. BELLEFONTE, PA., JANUARY 1, 1932. NO. 1.

ONE MAN KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT ON SUNDAY EVENING.

Attorney W. G. Runkle Injured in a Car Collision on Saturday Evening.

Paul Matello, 55-year-old resident of Clarence, was so badly injured when hit by an automobile driven by Howard Chambers, son of David Chambers, of Clarence, shortly after seven o'clock on Sunday evening, that he died a few minutes after being taken to a physician's office.

The accident happened a short distance north of Clarence, on the road to Sugar Run camp. According to the most reliable information obtainable Matello with Steve Murnpack, Pete Granite, Joe Survaco, and two others all of Clarence, were walking abreast along the road toward Sugar Run camp. Chambers, driving a Ford coupe, was accompanied by Alex Dudish and Mike Murnpack. He was driving at an average speed when he was confronted with the glaring headlights of an oncoming car and failed to see the six men walking abreast on the same side of the road on which he was driving until he ran into them.

He stopped the car as quickly as possible and returned to render aid. He got two of the men who seemed to be the most injured and took them to the office of Dr. Harris, in Snow Shoe. Shortly after he arrived there another motorist brought in Matello, who had not been discovered when Chambers left with the other two men. It seems that when Matello was hit by the car he was thrown against a cable fence post, and then rolled down a small embankment. His skull was fractured and he was badly cut and bruised. None of the other men were seriously hurt.

Chambers and his two companions in the car were placed under arrest and held in custody until Monday morning when an inquest was held by coroner W. R. Heaton. After hearing all the evidence Chambers and his two companions were exonerated of all blame for the accident.

Matello is survived by his wife and six children, all grown up. Burial was made at Clarence on Wednesday afternoon.

W. G. Runkle Esq. left Bellefonte about seven o'clock Saturday evening, in his Ford touring car, to drive to his home in Potter township. Out on the curve in the road near the Titan Metal company plant his car collided head on with one driven toward Bellefonte by William Thompson, of Pine Grove Mills. Mr. Runkle's car was badly wrecked and it was first thought he had been seriously injured. He was rushed to the Centre County hospital where it was found that he had suffered a slight rib fracture and shock. Thompson, driver of the other car, was uninjured.

LeRoy Cori, of State College, is in the Centre County hospital with a fracture of the right leg above the knee as the result of an accident near Port Matilda, early Sunday morning, when his car left the roadway and crashed into a telephone pole. George W. Ellis, who was with him, was only slightly hurt.

James E. Lotz, of Port Matilda, is also a patient in the Centre County hospital, suffering with cuts and bruises and possible internal injuries as the result of an accident near Birmingham, on Sunday night. His car swerved from the highway, ran into a hill at the side of the road and rebounding, ran through the fence at the opposite side of the road and came to a stop on the edge of a steep embankment. Passing motorists took him to Tyrone where he was given first aid treatment then brought to the Centre County hospital.

HOLIDAY BUSINESS BELOW NORMAL IN BELLEFONTE.

While there appeared to be considerable activity among holiday shoppers during the week or ten days prior to Christmas the final summing up of all old-line merchants in Bellefonte shows that business was considerably below normal. Business at the Bellefonte postoffice was also decidedly short of last year. In the four days prior to Christmas there were 64,970 cancellations of stamps on letters and cards, while last year the number was 68,537. During the entire week before Christmas the cancellations were 6529 less than one year ago. There was also a considerable falling off in the volume of parcel post business, both in packages sent out from the Bellefonte office and in incoming mail.

MOTORISTS OVERCOME WITH ALCOHOL FUMES.

About five o'clock last Saturday evening a car containing six people drove up and stopped in front of the Y. M. C. A. Two women got out and practically collapsed on the pavement while the driver of the car collapsed on the seat just as the car stopped. The two women were helped into the Y and the man had to be carried in. A physician was hastily summoned, as it was the belief that the motorists were victims of monoxide gas, but the doctor found no symptoms to justify this theory. All of those affected recovered in a short time and it was the general belief that they were overcome with alcohol fumes from a leaky radiator.

The party consisted of a Mr. Coles, his wife and three children, and Mrs. Coles' mother, of Monessen, who were on their way to visit friends in Elysburg, Northumberland county. Mr. and Mrs. Coles and their eldest daughter were the ones affected while the elder lady and two younger children were not. After Mr. Coles revived he telephoned to his friends in Elysburg, telling them what had happened and another car was sent here to convey them to their destination. It was about 9.30 o'clock when they left the Y and all of them were feeling fairly fit by that time.

A FEW FACTS CONCERNING OUR COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

The first sessions of Court in Centre county were held in the stone building, now the property of the White Bros., at the corner of High and Spring streets.

The first Court house was built in 1805 and 1806 on the plot now occupied for the same purpose. It was a two-story stone building and covered only about as much ground as the front lobby, the Prothonotary's and the Recorder's offices in the present building now occupy.

In 1831 northern and southern wings were added to it.

In 1835 the columned porch was added.

In 1854-55 all the building save the porch was torn away and rebuilt.

In 1905-1906, at a cost of \$100,000, the building was improved and enlarged into its present condition. The bronze statue of Governor Curtin that stands in front of the monument on the Diamond was designed by Charles H. Niehaus, sculptor of Philadelphia, and represents the subject between the ages of forty-five and fifty.

THREE MORE PRISONERS ESCAPE FROM ROCKVIEW.

Sometime between 8.15 and 8.30 o'clock on Sunday evening Tony Messa, of Allegheny county, made his escape from Rockview by climbing over the new wire stockade. It was almost nine o'clock when his absence was discovered and in the dark it was impossible to tell which way he had gone. He was serving a sentence of 2½ to 5 years for statutory rape.

While guards were out on the hunt of Messa, Elmer Sullivan, of Erie county, serving a 3 to 6 year sentence for breaking and entering, and Clarence McCann, of Fayette county, doing one to two years for larceny, made their escape about eleven o'clock on Monday morning. The men were working at the coal pile, at the railroad, and were seen running toward the Zimmerman barn shortly before twelve o'clock but managed to get under cover on Nittany mountain before their absence was detected by prison officials.

MAIL PILOT JOHNSON TAKES TO PARACHUTE.

Last Thursday night James A. Johnson, airmail pilot for the National Air Transport, was in charge of one of a fleet of five ships west-bound with a huge cargo of Christmas mail. He was flying at an approximate height of fourteen thousand feet and over in the vicinity of Allport he encountered a terrific gale of wind and one wing was torn from his plane. The ship went into a spin and hurtled downwards. At a height of 3000 feet Johnson jumped. His parachute opened and he landed with a wrenched back and a bad bruise. The plane crashed on the highway, almost a mile distant, and was completely wrecked, but the mail was safe.

Pilot Little, with another plane, took the mail through to Cleveland while Johnson went to his destination by train. His injuries kept him out of the air for a few days only.

NEW COUNTY OFFICERS WILL BE SWORN IN, IN OPEN COURT, MONDAY.

Present Officials Rushing Work to Clean up Business on Hand.

The rattle and clatter of typewriters has been very persistent in most of the offices in the court house this week, in an endeavor of present officials to clean up all the work on hand so that the offices can be turned over to the new officials with a clean slate at 12 o'clock noon, next Monday. The new officers will all be sworn in in open court at the noon hour. While no definite announcement has been made as to who will administer the oath the probability is that the retiring Recorder will swear in Prothonotary-elect S. Claude Herr and he, in turn, will swear in the other officials. As soon as they are sworn in the keys of the various offices will be turned over to them.

As to the retiring officers, Sheriff Harry E. Dunlap will go from the jail to his new home, on east Howard street, where most of his furniture and personal belongings have already been moved. He will then be in a position to devote all of his time to the work of the contracting firm of Dunlap Bros., of which he is the head.

County Treasurer Lyman L. Smith will continue to make Bellefonte his home. Up to this time he has not decided on what he will do but has hopes of landing in a job before very long.

Recorder Lloyd A. Stover will not return to the Schaeffer hardware store, as announced in this paper several weeks ago, and until he lands in something else will devote his time to the milk business in which he is interested.

Register Harry A. Rossman will, of course, devote his energies to his automobile business. He is this week moving his cars and equipment from the garage on the corner of Allegheny and Howard streets to the Brokerhoff garage, on Cherry alley, where he will be located in the future.

County Commissioners Newton I. Wilson and Howard M. Miles will return to their respective farms, the former in Halfmoon township and the latter in Union township, where they will not be bothered with checking up the many bills the county is called upon to pay.

BOROUGH OFFICERS TO BE SWORN IN MONDAY EVENING.

All the recently-elected borough officers will be sworn in at the regular meeting of borough council, on Monday evening. While four councilmen were elected in November three of them, John S. Walker, of the North ward; Harry Badger, of the South, and Myron M. Cobb, of the West, are old members re-elected, while W. H. Doll was elected in the South ward to succeed Robert Kline. With only one new councilman there is not likely to be much change in the organization as it stands at present.

Edward Klinger will be the new overseer of the poor, taking the place of Thomas Fleming, while John F. Smith will succeed John E. Dubbs on the board of borough auditors.

COMMISSIONERS MAKE MORE APPOINTMENTS.

The recently elected County Commissioners, John S. Speary, J. Victor Brungart and Howard E. Holtzworth, held a meeting on Saturday, and made a preliminary organization by electing Mr. Speary, president, and Mr. Brungart secretary. The board confirmed the appointment of Charles E. Freeman, of Phillipsburg, as chief clerk, and Boyd Vonada, of Bellefonte, assistant clerk, and also announced the appointment of Spangler & Walker, as Commissioner's attorneys; Dr. M. A. Kirk, jail physician, and William Moyer, freeman. No selection has yet been made for janitor.

LINE COMPANY OFFICES DESTROYED BY FIRE.

The building at Oak Hall which housed the offices, blacksmith shop, store and garage of the Oak Hall Line and Stone company, at Oak Hall, was completely destroyed by fire, on Tuesday evening of last week. The fire started in the office but the origin is unknown. In addition to the building two trucks and other equipment were burned. Fortunately the books and valuable papers of the company were kept in the office at State College. The building had formerly been the hall of the Oak Hall Grange. The loss was partially covered by insurance.

—We will do your job work right

DISEASE KILLING TROUT IN SPRING CREEK.

A strange disease has lately been taking serious toll of the big trout in Bellefonte's far famed natural aquarium. Every few days one of the beauties that have lured thousands of visitors to our town, turns on its side, struggles to right itself and gives up the ghost.

On Friday morning, December 18, we watched one in the throes of death from a window in this office. Later it was taken from the creek by Frank Meter. It was 22 inches long and weighed 6 lbs. 3 oz. A careful examination revealed no external injury that might have caused it to die and an experienced fish culturist from the Pleasant Gap hatchery was called to perform an autopsy.

He discovered that inside the fish looked perfectly healthy and normal except for its liver which was very much enlarged and had turned yellow. He knew of no cause for such a condition, however. It was a rainbow trout and had roe almost as large as that of a shad. The brook and brown species spawn in the fall, but the rainbows deposit their eggs in the spring.

Several days later two or three other big fellows that had made their home just below the High street bridge died. An examination disclosed the same condition stated above.

Local piscatorialists have all manner of explanation for the trouble. Some think the trout merely die of old age, others believe they get high blood pressure from their constant diet of ground beef, and others look with suspicion on a blue colored chemical that is occasionally seen in the water.

HOWARD BOY WINS JUVENILE COURT HEARING.

Ordinarily the Watchman does not give publicity to juvenile court hearings but one was held in the library in the court house, on Tuesday afternoon, which resulted in a victory for a boy.

The case was from Howard and was an action brought against Herman Wyland, 13 years old, for incorrigibility. On the 15th of December the Wyland boy attended a rehearsal gathering for a Christmas entertainment. He had a deer tail in his hat and another boy had a rabbit's foot. Boy-like they used the deer tail and the rabbit foot with which to tickle each other's face and neck.

Miss Emma Fletcher was in charge of rehearsal and despairing of making the boys behave she tried to take Wyland's hat from him. He desisted and reaching in his pocket pulled out some small implement and made as if to strike the woman when the preacher, Rev. J. F. Winkleblech, who was present, picked up a chair and brought it down on the boy's head, knocking him partially unconscious.

At the hearing both Miss Fletcher and the pastor testified that the Wyland boy had taken a knife from his pocket and had attempted to stab the teacher, though they were unable to produce any knife. The boy testified that he did not have a knife and that the only thing he had taken out of his pocket was a cartridge lead pencil.

After hearing all the evidence the court discharged the boy.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS MADE MANY FAMILIES HAPPY.

As stated elsewhere in this issue Christmas baskets were distributed to 73 families last week while the HI-Y girls gave candy and the Boy Scouts toys. It is estimated that not less than four hundred children were given a happy Christmas in this manner who otherwise would have had a cheerless day of it.

Some days previous to Christmas a woman living close to Bellefonte applied to the Associated Charities for clothing for her children, and when the Christmas baskets were made up one was sent to her. She promptly returned the same with a note of thanks, stating that while she appreciated the spirit in which it was sent there were probably others more in need of it than she and her family, and that all she wanted was clothing for her children (which had been supplied) and she would manage to get along somehow.

Last night Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Emerick entertained the twenty-four members of the "Hate to Leave It" camping club. The club has a summer camp on the Houser farm on Spring creek and this winter gathering is an annual affair. It was at the Emerick home on Linn street.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Edward McCloskey, who will assume the office of Mayor of Johnstown, January 1, has given himself a \$500 cut in pay. "The office pays \$3500, and I guess I can get along on \$3000. Besides, the city needs the money," McCloskey said.

—Laborers employed in road work by the State Highway Department during the week ending December 19 numbered 27,396. Governor Pinchot announced today. This, he added, represents an increase of 2500 over the previous week and an increase of more than 21,000 over a year ago.

—Mrs. Leona Lord, the first woman to be convicted of being a common scold in Berks county in many years, can be thankful the old New England custom of being ducked from a stool at a village pond or creek is no longer in effect. She was sentenced on Monday by Judge Fred A. Marx to pay \$20 fine and costs in 30 days and move out of the neighborhood, or in default of moving, to give \$500 bond to keep the peace. She said she'd move.

—If the plans of William Fryberger, of Shamokin, and Claude Daniels, of Elysburg, mature, the abandoned silk mill formerly operated by Post and Sheldon at Elysburg will be re-opened within the next few weeks and employment given to one hundred and fifty persons. The Post and Sheldon mill was closed more than a year ago because of a slump in the silk business. Preliminary arrangements already have been made with the receivers to take over the property.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Parrish, of Munster, near Cresson, were killed Wednesday of last week when their automobile was struck and demolished by a fast freight train on the Pennsylvania railroad at the Bald Eagle street crossing in Lock Haven. The couple were enroute to the State Teachers College in Lock Haven to take their daughter, Loraine, to the family home at Munster to spend the Christmas holidays. According to reports Parrish failed to heed the watchman's signal at the crossing.

—Homes of two men for years prominent in the financial world in Lackawanna county, were disposed of at sheriff's sales on Saturday. The residence of James Paul, Carbonade financier, was sold for \$15,251, while the residence of the late George Stuckart went for \$750. Only a year or so ago the Paul home was re-modeled at an expense of \$100,000. Mr. Stuckart was head of the Anthracite Trust company, which closed three months ago. The police pension funds held a mortgage of \$7300 against the residence. Paul's bank was taken over by the State six months ago.

—A young man who attempted to kidnap the 12-year-old daughter of Rev. E. Dunkelberger, at Sunbury, last Friday, was turned loose by the clergyman with a fatherly reprimand. The plucky girl beat off her would-be-abductor as he attempted to seize her near her home. She bit, scratched and kicked him, all the while screaming at the top of her lungs. Her father rushed from the house, and with a neighbor, C. C. Kratzer, chased the offender. Instead of turning him over to the police, however, Rev. Dunkelberger gave him a lecture and let him go.

—After the first of January, (today) every barber in Pennsylvania must be licensed under an act of the Legislature. These licenses must be renewed each year and are restricted to applicants more than 16 years old who have served at least two years as apprentices in a barber shop. Examinations will be necessary under direction of the Department of Public Instruction and these will be held in Harrisburg and other cities. Away-back barbers were given degrees owing to their ability to perform certain operations. So it may be quite the thing hereafter to address your barber as Dr. Blank.

—Three-year-old Mabel Narhood was instantly killed Christmas by an accidentally discharged revolver while she was playing with her Christmas toys in her home, near Lewisburg. The child's romping about the living room dislodged a .44 caliber revolver from a shelf and it was discharged as it struck the floor two feet from her. The bullet pierced her shoulder. She is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Narhood. The child's mother was in the kitchen preparing the Christmas dinner when the accident occurred. The father was reading in the room in which his daughter was playing.

—Doyle Lucas, a laborer of Curwensville, was awarded a verdict of \$25,000 for the loss of one eye by a jury before federal Judge Robert A. Inch, in Brooklyn, on Tuesday, December 22nd. The defendant was the Pennsylvania railroad Co. Lucas said that on February 10, last, he was employed with a section gang on the railroad company's tracks in Clearfield county, and was given a hammer with which to drive spikes. He said he observed a flaw in the hammer but the foreman ordered him to use it anyway. A piece broke from the hammer and struck him in the eye, causing him to lose the sight. The jury deliberated three hours.

—When Anthony Spinillo, poultryman, started to climb into his automobile outside his home in Dunmore early Monday morning, two armed men commanded him to put up his hands. As Spinillo complied with the command his wife, hearing voices, rushed out and grabbed one of the gunmen. The bandit placed his hand over Mrs. Spinillo's mouth to prevent her screams from being heard, but Mrs. Spinillo bit his hand until he screamed. The second bandit, who had slugged Spinillo to the ground, became frightened and joined his pal in flight. Spinillo had more than \$100 in cash on his person, but through the courage displayed by his wife the robbers failed to get any of it.

—State Game Protector Bruce P. Yeager, Northumberland county, predicts that the winter will continue mild, due to the fur on muskrats, beavers and squirrels. For several weeks Yeager and his assistants have been watching the fur-bearing animals closely. The muskrats have built thinner-walled homes than usual upon the ground. This is an unmistakable sign of a light winter it is said. Several years ago when they built low in the water and made extra thick homes it was very cold. Then in the fall the muskrats tarried over their building and for a time it looked as though they were going to camp out all winter. They started to build during the past week, flimsy high homes.