

The paper that P. Gray Meek edited and published for fifty-seven years and now published by his Estate at the Watchman Printing House, Bellefonte, Pa.

Editors.  
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Published weekly, every Friday morning. Entered at the postoffice, Bellefonte, Pa., as second class matter.

Terms of Subscription.—Until further notice at the following rates: Paid strictly in advance - \$1.50 Paid before expiration of year - 1.75 Paid after expiration of year - 2.00 A sample copy of the "Watchman" will be sent without cost to applicants.

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BELLEFONTE, PA., FEBRUARY 19, 1932

## ARE WE BUILDING ON SAND?

It is not the desire nor the intention of the Watchman to question the motives of those who hope to restore the business of the country through legislative enactment. It admits little faith in the efficacy of the methods they would employ, however.

Since it is impossible for anyone to foresee what the future holds, piling up prodigious debts in order to keep the wheels of industry turning at a time when there is no demand for what they may produce seems to be little else than pyramiding our difficulties. To say the least, it is not a sound structure on which to base hope of a permanent business revival.

It is a plan that bids fair to operate just as the Hawley-Smoot tariff bill has since its passage in 1930. This Act made eight hundred and ninety increases in rates that affected two thirds of our dutiable imports under the Fordney-McCumber bill of 1922. The latter imposed enormous tariff burdens upon consumers and restricted imports even of articles that did not enter into serious competition with American products. After its passage imports fell off steadily and with their decrease there was a corresponding falling off in our exports. Without stopping to consider the effect of our economic relations abroad upon our business conditions at home Congress sought to stimulate business and passed the Hawley-Smoot bill.

No sooner was it done than economists all over the country proclaimed that it would ruin American industry. The truth of these statements became evident almost at once and last month our exports reached the lowest figure that has been recorded in eighteen years.

Foreign countries being unable to ship any of their products here were unable to buy anything from us and as there was no outlet for our surplus manufactures business here threatened to come to a stand-still. To avert such a calamity American bankers began lending enormous sums of money abroad, the condition being that the loans should be used to buy American made goods.

The result was far from satisfactory, however, because the borrowing countries spent the money and since their own goods were barred by the Hawley-Smoot tariff they had no way to repay the loans. Billions of American dollars are locked up in Europe and South America for no other reason than that our great financiers thought that a national economic crisis was only a transient business disorder.

The country has paid an awful price for that blunder. And with that in mind one is justified in looking with alarm on the present riot of mortgaging its future for present needs.

## UNFORTUNATE.

The fight in the Democratic party in Pennsylvania is most deplorable, coming as it does at the time when harmony all along the line is the thing most needed, if we are to be successful in the fall.

Always, however, there are those who put selfish, personal ambitions ahead of the broad principles for which political parties contend.

It seems to us that there was no reason for that meeting sponsored by Mr. Joseph Guffey, in Harrisburg, last Friday, other than to snatch from the regularly constituted organization of our party in the State any little glory that might come to it if we should elect a President in the fall.

So far as we have heard neither National Committeeman Kistler nor State Chairman Collins has spoken a word for or against any of our many possible nominees. Yet the Harrisburg meeting would have the State believe that they are out to "stop Roosevelt." It is true they did suggest that the Pennsylvania delegation go to Chicago unopposed. The Republicans of Pennsylvania, notwithstanding they have only one candidate, are going to their convention unopposed. The Democrats of New York, Governor Roosevelt's own State, are going unopposed. In neither case is lack of binding obligation evidence that Pennsylvania Republicans will oppose Hoover's renomination or that the New York delegation will fight the nomination of Governor Roosevelt.

Had Vance McCormick, Mitch Palmer, Jim Blakeslie—he who smoked a cigarette and thought (?) and John McSparran, been there with Jimmie Magee, the editor of the Perry county Democrat, and Warren VanDyke and E. B. Zimmerman the meeting couldn't have been more of a replica of what happened in 1912.

They were the gentlemen who then "re-organized" our party when they sensed the election of Democratic President and the possibility of jobs. And the same reason motivated the meeting that Mr. Guffey engineered last Friday. He wants to make Franklin D. Roosevelt believe, in the event he is nominated and elected, that he controls the Democracy of Pennsylvania.

That's all there is to the turmoil in our party in the State. It's unfortunate, but it can't be helped as long as there are Democrats who think more of themselves than they do of Democracy.

Congress has passed the so called "lame duck" bill and since the changes in it are only minor the Senate will likely concur, so that an improbable veto is the only thing that stands in the way of its progress toward abolishing the short session of Congress and changing the date of the inauguration of future Presidents. It will require a constitutional amendment, however, before it can become operative. If it is not approved by three-fourths of the forty-eight States within seven years it will automatically become operative. If it meets such approval future sessions of Congress will convene on January 4, and the President will be inaugurated on January 24. As the custom now is a Congressman elected last November will not take his seat until the session that will convene next December. This feature of the present law has made it possible for Congressmen who have been defeated for re-election to represent their Districts for a full year after their repudiation. Such Congressmen have been dubbed "lame ducks," hence the name given to the bill that would end them.

President Hoover has appointed Benjamin N. Cardozo, Jew and Democrat, to a seat on the Supreme court of the United States. Judge Cardozo owes his opportunity of a chance to the much defamed Tammany organization of the Metropolis. He is recognized as without a peer in concept of law in the United States and he is the second of his race to occupy a seat on the bench of the government's highest tribunal.

The United States and England have joined in another "vigorous protest" to Japan. Always, it seems, a boy is being sent to do a man's work.

## Talks with The Editor

This column is to be an open forum. Everybody is invited to make use of it to express whatever opinion they may have on any subject. Nothing libelous will be published, though we will give the public the widest latitude in invective when the subject is this paper or its editor. Contributions will be signed or initialed, as the contributor may desire.—ED.

### Miss Williams Writes of Her Trip to Florida.

St. Petersburg, Fla., 2-1-32

Dear Folks at Home: "We had a delightful trip, 1390 miles from my home to this apartment. The first night we stayed in Gettysburg, the second in Richmond, the third in Fayetteville, N. C., the fourth in Waterboro, S. C., and the next night, Saturday, in Jacksonville. We then drove to St. Augustine and spent the day sight-seeing; saw many interesting and historical places. Savannah, Georgia, I think was the prettiest place through which we passed—wonderful homes, beautiful streets and flowers everywhere. Arrived in Lake Wales on Monday afternoon and stayed with Miss McCauley until Wednesday. She drove us around the country about there and a lovely country it is. The orange, grapefruit and tangerine groves are at their height and we have been thoroughly enjoying them. While there we went out to the Bok or Singing Tower and never saw anything quite so beautiful. It is built of white, pink and grey variegated Georgia marble and a native buff or yellow stone and such wonderful shrubbery and flowers everywhere. It stands on the top of a small hill and the country slopes gently down from all sides; so that it is lovely beyond description. The carillon is beautiful and the carillonist, Mr. Anton Brees, a Belgian who has taken out his first naturalization papers, lives at the Seminole Inn, where we stayed with Miss McCauley.

I wish you could see the abundance of fruit down here! We purchase both grapefruit and oranges for twenty-five cents a half bushel; fresh green peas are five cents a pound and all green groceries and staple groceries cost in proportion. There are many apartments for rent at very reasonable figures. The loveliest roads down here you have ever seen. So smooth and for so many, many miles, it's a great pleasure to travel on them. We revel in the sunshine and it is warm enough to go without coats. We were out to the beaches yesterday where there were many in swimming and we expect to go soon. Wish our friends could be with us for am sure they would all enjoy it!"

HELENE A. WILLIAMS

Miss Williams and her aunt, Mrs. Mary Williams, of Beech Creek, left Bellefonte on January 17 to motor to Florida where they will spend the rest of the winter, having taken an apartment at St. Petersburg. The Miss McCauley referred to in the letter above is Miss Anna McCauley, who was the Red Cross nurse here several years ago.—Editor's Note.

Frank Nelson Bids for Position as Street Commissioner Bellefonte, Pa., Jan. 7, 1932

The Town Council of Bellefonte: Gentlemen: I hereby make application for the position of Street Commissioner of Bellefonte Borough. I agree to do the necessary work of the Borough that would come under my jurisdiction and also do the blacksmithing for the Borough if you furnish me with a forge and place to do it. I offer to render this service for \$100.00 per month. Now gentlemen, please let this have your strict attention. Respectfully yours, FRANK NELSON

P.S.—Six hundred dollars and about fifty dollars worth of blacksmithing would be a saving to the taxpayers.

A SPLENDID CANDIDATE FOR THE SUPERIOR COURT

Robert A. Henderson, Democratic candidate for Judge of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania, was born at Spruce Creek, Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, November 2, 1870. He was reared on a farm and received his preliminary education in the public schools of his native county. After graduation from Juniata College he taught school for several terms in Huntingdon county. Mr. Henderson then enrolled in the Dickinson School of Law and was graduated with his class in 1894. Immediately thereafter he opened offices in Altoona for the practice of his chosen profession and has remained there since that time. Soon after his admission to the Blair county bar, Mr. Henderson was assigned to the defense in what proved to be one of the most notorious and bitterly fought murder cases in the history of the county. His complete success in this important case was prophetic of his subsequent career at the bar. Over a period of thirty years he has been intimately connected with the most important litigation in Blair county and today enjoys a merited reputation as a lawyer of eminence and integrity. Numerous cases scattered throughout the legal reports of both the Supreme and Superior courts of his native State testify to a brilliant legal scholarship that has ripened and matured as the years have passed. Aside from his interest in the law, Mr. Henderson has always been actively engaged in Democratic politics. To the party and its principles he has always given a steadfast loyalty and support. Forty years of unwavering devotion to the Dem-

## FIFTY YEARS AGO IN CENTRE COUNTY.

Items taken from the Watchman issue of February 24, 1882.

Tuesday was election day and it was an exceedingly wet and disagreeable one. John Powers was re-elected Burgess, over John Sourbeck, by a majority of 210. Robert McKnight won out in his fight for council in the North ward. L. O. Meek defeated William Mills, colored, for school director, by eleven votes in the West. In the South ward the Democrats made a clean sweep of all the offices they were entitled to.

The hall of the Undine fire company on the night of the 7th was a success. Prior to that night the boys were somewhat afraid that there would not be ladies enough, as "the girls had all got religion" at the recent revivals, they said, but the event proved that either the girls had not all "got religion" or else a lot of them who had had gone to the ball anyway.

At the election last Tuesday Mrs. John P. Harris, Democrat, came within 36 votes of beating her husband, John P. Harris, Republican, for school director in the North ward. The normal Republican majority there is about 100 and while Mr. Harris was acting very nervous about the polls all day his good wife sat serenely at home. No telling what might have happened had she been out electioneering like he was.

At a very interesting spelling bee held in the Harrisonville school house a few evenings ago master George Hile, a lad of eleven years, spelled everybody down and among them were quite a few teachers and other expert spellers.

Quite a number of mechanics from Pleasant Gap have gone to Cresson to work on the big summer resort hotel that is being built there.

Married.—February 16th, at the home of Mr. Joseph Marshall, Buffalo Run, at one o'clock, p. m., by the Rev. W. O. Wright, Mr. D. H. Shively and Miss Mary Etta Marshall, all of Buffalo Run, Centre County, Pa. There were about forty guests present.

Wheat is 1.25, corn .75, oats .50, potatoes 1.25, eggs .25, butter .35, ham .12 and bacon .10.

During the absence of Maj. R. H. Forster in Washington, D. C., J. Rees Van Ormer will act as local editor of the Centre Democrat.

The proprietor of the Lock Haven "Republican" is threatening to start an evening daily to be called the "Express."

County Treasurer D. C. Keller moved to Bellefonte from Centre Hall last week and he and his family are now ensconced in the Baney house, on north Allegheny street.

Editor's Note.—The Baney house stood where the house now occupied by Horatio S. Moore stands.

The Philipsburg "Journal" has been enlarged to eight columns to the page and last week installed a new Campbell power press.

Mrs. Dorman, of Nittany valley, was badly injured a few nights ago. She was in attendance at a concert and while the crowd was assembling two boys engaged in a foot race. One of them ran into her, knocking her down with such force as to injure her seriously. In fact she has been confined to bed ever since and is not getting better fast.

John J. Lejeal, piano tuner, will be here to see his customers about March 1st.

Because of unhappiness at home a man named Whitney, of Penn Hall, tried to commit suicide on Wednesday of last week. He shot himself both in the forehead and in the chest. He was still living on Saturday but doesn't want to get well, because he says he will only do it again. The tragedy occurred at a small store midway between Penn Hall and Spring Mills. He rode to the spot with William Krape and told him what he was going to do, but Mr. Krape put no credence in the statement and drove on only to be shocked by the reports of a pistol before he had gotten one hundred yards away.

Notwithstanding that attendance at chapel at State College is not compulsory on Sunday an average of more than seven hundred students attend the morning service. Of course only ministers and divinity school heads who are outstanding in their calling are invited to officiate at these services.

The party has brought him a deserved recognition as one of its leaders of State wide prominence and prestige.

In 1921 he was nominated by the Democratic party for the office of President Judge of Blair county and was opposed in that contest by the Hon. Thomas J. Baldrige, one of the present Justices of the Superior Court, and to the complete surprise of everyone when the vote was counted after days of disputed computation, Judge Baldrige was declared the winner by the narrow margin of 242 votes.

Mr. Henderson has several times represented the party as delegate at its national convention, acting in this capacity at its most recent convention in Houston, Texas, in 1928. At the present time he is chairman of the Democratic committee in Blair county.

The party's choice of Mr. Henderson as its nominee for the office of Judge of the Superior Court is one that meets with the unanimous approval of Democrats throughout the State. Friends and admirers everywhere, regardless of political affiliations have been profuse in their wishes of success and in the expression of their opinion that a minority interest as substantial as that represented by the Democratic party in Pennsylvania should be recognized by his election.

## A HODGE—PODGE OF NEWSY INCIDENTS.

During 1931 exactly 191 Centre countians were patients at the Geisinger hospital, Danville. Aaronsburg was represented with 9 patients, Bellefonte 55, Blanchard 1, Boalsburg 1, Centre Hall 6, Coburn 4, Curtin 1, Fleming 2, Madisonburg 2, Millheim 16, Nittany 1, Orviston 3, Philipsburg 2, Pleasant Gap 2, Rebersburg 8, Spring Mills 8, State College 66, Woodward 4 and 4 whose post office address was not given. From the above it will be seen that State College led in the number of patients but Bellefonte, with a hospital of its own, was a close second.

And speaking of hospitals, the Centre County hospital has been made beneficiary of bequests, during the past year, of \$7,300, with a possibility of more in the final settlement of several estates. As planned by the board of managers all bequests received will be placed in an endowment fund and where specific uses are provided for the income, it will be so applied, but where the bequest is general and to be used at the discretion of the board of managers it will be carried as a general endowment with the hope that some day, through gifts and bequests, the fund will be large enough so that the income therefrom will make it possible to forego the annual drives for support. Of course this will be some years in the future and must not be regarded as an excuse to withhold contributions when the hospital drive is put on this spring.

Next Tuesday the entire county will celebrate the 200th anniversary of George Washington, and yet, as a matter of fact, it isn't the real anniversary of his birth. George was born on February 11, 1732, but at the time of the revision of the calendar in 1752, when the Julian calendar was adopted, ten days were suppressed and leap year accounted for another day which shoved George's anniversary ahead eleven days, or on February 22nd, and that is the day we now celebrate.

Though it might be a little late we just now happened to recall the fact that when Sheriff Dunlap went out of office he left Sheriff Boob a whole jail full of prisoners but he didn't leave him any of that stuff he kept under lock and key in the cellar. And he didn't take any of it with him, either. All the stuff was taken out and dumped, late in December, on order of court. There was one time during Mr. Dunlap's term as sheriff that he had stored in his cellar nineteen 50-gallon barrels of illicit whiskey, and while so far as we know no official examination or test was made of it, it was reported to have been a fairly good brand, but it was all dumped where it would do the least harm.

According to the calendar Sunday was Valentine day and we've got a Chinese coin with a square hole in the centre which we will pay for information as to the sender of one we received. It is a libel on our looks and poetically untruthful as to our tastes and inclinations. Of course the handwriting was disguised but we incline to the belief that the sender was a woman, and we have our suspicions as to her identity.

A bit of news that escaped us last week had to do with a big explosion on south Thomas street. An ex-officer holder over there was feeding his chickens "Lay or Bust." The rooster ate some of it—and he couldn't lay.

Three market wagons were backed up at the curb in front of the court house, last Saturday morning, and the offerings consisted of fresh beef and pork, chickens, eggs, apples, dried corn and a few canned goods. There has been only one Saturday during the winter, so far as the writer recalls, that there was no curb market, a most unusual record.

A little boy passed away at the Centre County hospital last week. During the few days he was so critically ill in that institution a young nurse was especially kind and attentive to his every want and need, but her faithful ministrations could not save the child's life. Several days after the little body had been laid away in its final resting place the father of the child appeared at the home of the nurse's mother with a load of coal which he presented to her as appreciation of the kindness of her daughter.

A certain Bellefonte woman has been serving on the grand jury this week and it has been a novel experience for her, as she never before had been inside the court house to hear or observe court proceedings of any kind; and when she reads this item it will probably be her first intimation of how near she came to being appointed forewoman of the jury.

Councilman Thomas Beaver is wondering what will happen to the big trout when the Street committee of the borough council lays that proposed sewer down Spring creek. Why should Tom worry now? The big trout might all be dead by the time the committee secures permission from the State to lay the sewer.

## DEATHS.

HALE.—Mrs. Sophia A. Hale, for many years one of the best known residents of Philipsburg, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C. A. Snow, in Youngstown, Ohio, on Wednesday of last week, as the result of general debility.

She was a daughter of Richard and Mary Ann Atherton and was born in Philipsburg on February 2nd, 1840, hence had reached the age of 92 years and 8 days. In 1860 she married Elias W. Hale who passed away in 1881. Two children were the result of this union, James P. Hale and Mrs. Snow, both of Youngstown, Ohio. Mrs. Hale made her home at "Halehurst," Philipsburg, until fourteen years ago when she disposed of the home and went to Youngstown to make her home with her daughter.

She was a daughter of Richard and Episcopal church, of Philipsburg, and a woman of most pleasing personality. The remains were taken to Philipsburg where funeral services were held in the Episcopal church, last Saturday afternoon, by Rev. Franklin T. Eastment, burial being made in the Philipsburg cemetery.

PEACE.—John W. Peace died at his home at Milesburg, last Friday morning, following a lingering illness with diseases incident to his advanced age. He was born at Curtin 83 years ago, at a time when it was the location of one of the busiest iron manufacturing plants in the county. The result was when he grew to manhood he learned the trade of a puddler and worked in the rolling mill at that place until it was dismantled. Of late years he had lived in Milesburg.

He is survived by his wife and seven children, Mrs. Lyman Heaton, of Palmer; Mrs. Theodore Boone, of East Liverpool, Ohio; Mrs. Lee Smith, of Altoona; Mrs. Etta Gearhart, of Baltimore; Mrs. Roy L. Hall, of Milesburg; William Peace, of Bellefonte, and Lester, of Lock Haven. A sister, Mrs. Sarah Simcox, of Woolrich, was a nurse in the Civil war, and another sister lives in Williamsport.

Funeral services were held at his late home, at two o'clock on Sunday afternoon, by Rev. M. C. Piper, burial being made in the Treziulny cemetery.

ELDER.—Mrs. Harriet S. Elder, wife of Samuel Y. Elder, died at her home at Millbrook, College township, on Wednesday morning of last week, as the result of heart trouble.

She was a daughter of Simon and Mary Baird and was born on April 18th, 1864, at her death being 67 years, 9 months and 22 days old. She is survived by her husband and four children, Mrs. Ralph Walker and Mrs. R. R. Rossman, of State College, R. F. D.; Miss Sadie and George, at home. She had been a member of the Lutheran church at Pine Grove Mills for many years.

Funeral services were held at her late home, at 10 o'clock Saturday morning, by Rev. Grubb, of Juniata burial being made in the new cemetery at Pine Grove Mills.

GEISS.—Miss Elsie Geiss died at the Woman's hospital, Philadelphia, last Friday night, following several years' illness with heart trouble. She was a daughter of David and Sarah Geiss and was born at Centre Hall about 64 years ago. She lived at Centre Hall until going to Philadelphia twenty-one years ago. Her survivors include her father, who is 92 years old, one brother and a sister, D. Wagner Geiss, of Bellefonte, and Mrs. Virginia Miller, of Philadelphia. The remains were taken to Centre Hall, on Monday, where funeral services were held by Rev. S. F. Greenhoe, assisted by Rev. W. J. Wagner, burial being made in the Centre Hall cemetery.

SCHENCK.—Charles F. Schenck, of Howard township, died at the Lock Haven hospital, Saturday night, of blood poisoning, the result of a compound fracture of the right leg sustained in a fall from a tree which he had been trimming two weeks previous. He was a son of Michael and Susan Schenck and was 70 years, 6 months and 6 days old. His wife died several years ago and his only survivor is one brother, A. A. Schenck, of Howard. Funeral services were held on Tuesday evening and on Wednesday the remains were taken to Philadelphia for burial.

On Monday evening an unknown young woman got a nasty fall as she was on her way out of the postoffice. Going down the short flight of steps from the lobby to the vestibule she either made a misstep or the heel of her shoe caught on one of the steps, and she fell forward to the floor of the vestibule. While she suffered no broken bones the right side of her face was badly bruised and she was almost knocked unconscious. She revived sufficiently in a few minutes to leave the postoffice unaided and disappeared without disclosing her identity.

Betty Spicer, five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Spicer, of Pleasant Gap, suffered a fracture of the left arm, near the shoulder, Saturday evening, when she was hit and knocked down by a hit and run driver. Her condition, however, is not serious.