

—So far as this neck-o-the woods is concerned March came in like a very gentle lamb.

—Gen. Smedley D. Butler, the stormy petrel, has decided to run for the United States Senate in Pennsylvania. He will be extra-dry, but not Mumm.

—In thirty-four days the trout fishing season will open. We are not looking forward to the great event with our usual impatience. There are so many idle men in the country that we fear our flies will be tangled on fishermen all the time we will have to devote to our favorite recreation.

—We are glad that both Col. and Mrs. Lindbergh were at home when their little boy was stolen from their country house near Hope-well, N. J., Tuesday evening. You know there was considerable talk about their going off on that flying trip around the world, last year, when he was only a year old.

—A big, husky tramp called at an apartment house in Bellefonte, a day or so ago, in quest of a pair of much needed pants. It just happened that he found himself at the door of one occupied by two lone women and it is reported that he was promptly informed that he was in the right church but the wrong pew.

—Adams county sportsmen have petitioned the Game Commission to close that county to deer hunting. They say they can satisfy their urge for the thrill of the chase by hunting in the northern counties of the State. That's sportsmanship for you. Other counties where deer are to be found ought to petition the Commission to permit them to refuse licenses to the Adams county bunch.

—Congress is going to give forty-million bushels of wheat that is bulging the bins of the Federal Farm Board to feed the poor. That's interesting, but we're right here to predict that the poor will yammer because it isn't ground into flour and baked into bread for them. And most of those who do accept it will forthwith sell it at any price, thereby talking about the last shingle off the roof of the poor farmer who produced it.

—The mobilization of the U. S. fleet for maneuvers in the Pacific is, of course, merely part of the navy's custom of perfecting itself through mimic warfare. At least that is what the public would believe were it not for the announcement that two hundred and two vessels are in the maneuvers. It is not usual for such a large number of our fighting ships to concentrate anywhere in times of peace. The present movement is more likely a roundabout notice to Japan that if diplomatic notes from us command no respect by her something else might.

—During the Collins trial last week a Bellefonte woman undertook to crash the gate to the courtroom. A State policeman was on guard and tried to shoo her off like he had done hundreds of others during the day. Being a woman she wanted to know what the big idea was and wanted the officer to know that because she is a taxpayer she owns part of the building and is going to look into it whenever she wants to. Whereupon the minion of the law said: "Lady, I'm too tired to start another argument. If all you want to do is look in come on and take a peep." She proceeded to the glass door, saw Collins on the stand and departed happy because all she had wanted was to see him. With fifteen hundred people fighting to get into five hundred seats we imagine that officer was telling no lie when he said he was too tired to start another argument.

—We owe Gen. Edward Martin, Republican State Chairman, an apology. Last week we identified him as the gentleman who had returned one of the police "courtesy cards" recently sent out by Maj. Eugene H. Lederer, burgess of State College, candidate for Congress and political thorn in the flesh of the Hons. J. Mitch. Chase and J. Banks Kurtz. Gen. Martin resents our intimation that he might be one of those fellows who look gift horses in the mouth. As a matter of fact it was another Mr. Martin, having the same initials as the General, who wrote the rather uncomplimentary letter to Burgess Lederer concerning his "courtesy cards" and inasmuch as it made the front page of the State College Times we imagined its author to be an important person—say the distinguished gentleman who is just now trying to get the Japs in Philadelphia and the Chinks in Pittsburgh into a peace parley so that we Democrats don't run away with his State next fall. We wrote the paragraph with some misgiving, because we could scarcely believe Gen. Martin to be the kind of a man we were picturing. We are glad to have discovered he is not and glad to make this apology for our hasty conclusion.

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Heaton Drew Verdict of Voluntary Manslaughter

Given Sentence of Six to Twelve Years in Penitentiary for Killing Robert Moore at Desert Hunting Camp in Allegheny Mountains on February 7th.

"Guilty of voluntary manslaughter," intoned the voice of A. C. Longee, foreman of the jury of eleven men and one woman, at 7:30 o'clock on Saturday evening, as their verdict in the case of Warren M. (Piney) Heaton, tried for the murder of Robert Moore, on the morning of February 6th, at the Desert hunting camp in the Allegheny mountains; and "guilty of voluntary manslaughter" answered the jury in chorus immediately thereafter.

N. B. Spangler, attorney for Heaton, made no remarks to the court upon the verdict and when asked if he had anything to say before sentence be pronounced Heaton replied: "Your Honor, Judge; before you, my God and my family, I promise never again to take a drink of liquor, never to play cards or gamble during the rest of my life." In pronouncing sentence Judge Fleming told Heaton that he ought to be very thankful that the jury viewed the crime with the leniency it did and that he was not before him for sentence on a first degree verdict. He said that he sympathized with his family and also with him but it was his duty to impose sentence not only for the crime for which the jury adjudged him guilty, but as a lesson and deterrent to others that they cannot take human life without paying the penalty therefore. He then sentenced him to pay the costs, a dollar fine and undergo imprisonment in the western penitentiary for not less than six nor more than fifteen years, and stand committed until the sentence is completed with.

The verdict came after two days of a hard fought trial, which, however was devoid of any intense thrills, as it was well known that the Commonwealth was not after a death verdict, though a strong fight was made for either a first degree with life imprisonment or second degree, which would have carried a penalty of ten to twenty years.

While many facts were not brought out at the trial, politics, love and passion, inflamed with liberal portions of moonshine liquor, washed down with foaming steins of homemade brew, were all intertwined either directly or indirectly in Heaton's fight for life.

Drawing of the jury to sit on the trial was made on Thursday night and resulted as follows:

- A. C. Longee, merchant, State College
Lott H. Neff, funeral director, Howard
Harry Gunter, contractor, Philipsburg
J. W. Merryman, laborer, Rush Township
James R. Ankey, farmer, Burnside township
William O. Graden, laborer, Gregg township
S. B. Wasson, farmer, Harris township
John W. Shuey, laborer, Port Matilda
Mrs. Edna Billett, housewife, Spring township
Joseph Peters, farmer, Benner township
William Reese, miner, Rush township.

Mr. Reese also served on the jury which convicted Fred Collins of murder in the first degree for the killing of Elizabeth Hickok.

When court convened at 9:30 o'clock on Friday morning district attorney John G. Love opened the case for the Commonwealth in a very brief address to the jury.

The first witness called was Dr. W. R. Heaton, whose testimony was brief and confined to a description of the wound in the body of Robert Moore, which caused his death.

The second witness was funeral director Von. E. Johnson, of Snow Shoe, who told about preparing the body for burial and of the finding of a paper wad in the clothing of the deceased. The wad was identified and offered as exhibit No. 1. Moore's sweater was also offered in evidence as exhibit 2.

Dr. E. H. Harris told of the body having been brought to him and that death had probably occurred fifteen minutes previous. He also described the wound.

The next witness called was John Moore, brother of Robert Moore. He stated that on Saturday evening, February 6, he had made a trip to Snow Shoe and when he returned got his brother Robert and Joe Shutika and took a short drive. Returning they went to Pete's place (Pete Girardi.) Returned from there

to the barber shop. Warren Heaton was there. Played rum. Heaton was in the game. While there someone came in and told of a party at the Desert hunting camp. Took a load out in his car—a 2-door Ford sedan. There were eight of them, four on each seat. It was after 11 o'clock. Camp about three miles from Clarence. When we left the barber shop went to Pete's. Had seven quarts of beer. Andy Bogash joined the party. Had whiskey at barber shop and bought whiskey at Pete's, a pint bottle. Warren Heaton and the witness each took a drink of whiskey a half mile from the camp. Robert didn't take any. Parked the car about ten yards from camp and all went in. Heaton went in and said, "you threw my boy out of camp." There were three girls in camp. I told him not to cause trouble or he'd have to walk home. He later came to me and kicked me under the chin. A fight started. Had been there about fifteen minutes. The girls and four men left shortly after we got there. Robert and Paul Shank were standing near the Ford supply truck. Heaton went into camp. Saw Heaton in door of camp with gun in hand. Turned around and heard shot. Heard my brother say, "I'm shot in the stomach." Saw Heaton running around the camp with gun in hand. I got Robert and we put him in car and drove to Snow Shoe. Got to camp about 12:30 o'clock. Robert was standing about two yards from the porch when shot. Porch about four feet wide. Saw Heaton about ten o'clock Saturday morning. Said then that if he went to camp that evening there would be trouble.

On cross-examination Moore admitted that he was blamed for being drunk. At Pete's they drank seven quart bottles of beer. Had only one drink on way to camp.

The next witness was Paul Shank. He testified that he was a member of the supper party. Told of going to Philipsburg for the girls and of young Heaton coming to camp and also of the larger party coming later. Heaton was pretty drunk; He was trying to get the "pickup" truck started. Warren was in and out of camp. Saw John Moore throw Heaton down. Didn't know where Robert was at that time. After the scrap between Heaton and Moore, Heaton went into camp. Saw him in there with a gun in his hand. Did not see shot fired, as he was standing with his back to camp. Helped pick the body up and put it in the car.

On cross-examination Shank said he went to camp for a chicken dinner. Had one quart of liquor but didn't see any beer. Didn't know what Robert was doing just before the shot was fired. On redirect examination Shank identified photos of the camp.

John Moore, on being recalled, stated that it was a pint bottle of liquor he had at the barber shop.

Joe Shutika was called but did not respond.

Clyde Goodyear was the next witness. He testified to knowing Heaton. Saw him at Desert camp about twelve o'clock. Came in and grabbed me and started to tussle. I got kicked on the jaw. Went outside and got in the truck. Was back in the camp a few minutes afterwards. Saw Heaton standing at the stove but didn't notice that he had anything in his hands. Went back out and got in truck. Stayed in camp after all the others had gone, and about two o'clock two fellows came after me. He also identified photos of camp. On cross-examination witness stated that he had gone along with Paul Shank to Philipsburg to get the girls. He stayed at camp to hunt the keys for the truck which had been lost.

William Harnish testified that he went out to the camp early to get the chickens ready for the dinner. Roy Heaton came there but didn't stay long. Saw Warren Heaton about twelve o'clock. He jumped on the table and grabbed me by the neck. Several fellows caught him and I went out and got in the car with the girls, who had left the camp. The gun was kept at the

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WILLIAMS BREAKS JAIL BY SCALING HIGH WALL AND MAKES HIS ESCAPE.

Takes Leave Just Five Hours After Being Sentenced to the Penitentiary For Robbery.

W. G. Williams, who has spent fourteen of his thirty four years behind prison bars, and who, at 2:30 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, was given seven and a half to fifteen years more in the western penitentiary for the part he took in the robbery of the offices of the Citizens Building and Loan Association, at Philipsburg, on the evening of December 7th, 1931, escaped from the Centre county jail within five hours after receiving his sentence by scaling the twenty foot wall which surrounds the jail yard.

The exact hour or minute of his departure is not known definitely. Sheriff John M. Boob had opened the jail doors about four o'clock and permitted the prisoners the freedom of the jail yard for their daily exercise. Both he and deputy sheriff John Bower were in court in charge of Warren M. Heaton being tried for murder, while a trusty was in charge of the prisoners. At supper time he called them in to eat and Williams was with the others. He ate sparingly then went out again, but soon returned and drank some of his coffee. He again went out, but that time failed to return.

At six o'clock, believing all the prisoners inside, the trusty locked the doors and shortly after that deputy sheriff Bower went to the jail to see that all the doors were locked. It was close to eight o'clock when the trusty went to lock the prisoners in their cells that he found Williams missing and he quickly started for the court house to notify the sheriff. The latter was on his way up to the jail with Heaton and as soon as he could get him locked up he started a search for Williams.

An investigation showed that he had climbed onto a porch roof extending from the laundry into the jail yard, and with a board which he had torn from an old boardwalk and stood on end on the porch roof was able to climb up to the top of the twenty foot wall. He had taken with him a hook torn from a water spout and some seven or eight feet of a wire clothes line cut from the line strung in the jail yard.

Walking on the wall to the east end of the yard he managed to fasten the hook in a crevice on top of the wall and tying the section of clothes line to it let himself down on the outside. But he miscalculated the height of the wall and in the drop from the end of the clothes line to the ground suffered a badly sprained ankle.

He was able to make his way down to Pike alley and along the alley to the home of Mrs. Belle McKinley where he leaned against the house and remained some fifteen or twenty minutes. It was near 8 o'clock when Clyde Lingle, Mrs. McKinley's son-in-law, of Lewistown, who was over on a visit, returned from a trip down town. Williams accosted him and offered him six dollars to take him to Philipsburg. As he was a stranger Lingle hesitated and finally telling him to wait a few minutes, came back down town to see Mrs. McKinley, who works in Mrs. Martin's restaurant, in the Heverly block. She told him if he did go to take somebody along. Going out onto the street Lingle met Lyman Osman, his cousin, and asked him to go along and he agreed to do so. The two men went back up the alley, helped Williams into the car, as his ankle was badly swollen by that time, and they started. When they got down onto Allegheny street Williams gave Lingle a ten dollar bill and Osman went into Parrish's drug store and got some adhesive tape and ointment for Williams to bandage his ankle. They also got some gas and oil, the total bill being about two dollars and Williams told them to keep the balance as their pay for the trip.

They took him to Philipsburg, left him out on Second street, where he hobbled from the roadway and slumped down onto a porch. The men then returned to Bellefonte, arriving here about midnight, and it was not until Sunday morning that they learned that they had unwittingly and without their knowledge aided a prisoner in getting away.

When Williams made his escape from the jail he left his hat and overcoat behind and it has not been definitely established whether he had a hat or overcoat on when Lin-

ROCKVIEW OFFICIALS DENY REPORT OF TWO INMATES BEING SHOT

Early in the week a persistent rumor was circulated about Bellefonte that two inmates at Rockview penitentiary had been shot by a young man living on one of the prison farms. Officials at the penitentiary not only characterize the rumor as a malicious falsehood but are endeavoring to trace its source with a view of instituting criminal proceedings against the person who started it.

YOUNG MAN JAILED FOR WORTHLESS CHECKS

Last Friday morning chief of police Harry Dukeman took from a certain boarding house in Bellefonte a young man and woman who not only were posing as man and wife, but the man had succeeded in passing several worthless checks at different places in town. He gave his name as Fred Truman, of Irvana, Clearfield county, and it later developed that the girl was not his wife but a high school girl from Punxsutawney. As there was no direct charge against her she was sent home to her parents. In order to protect the girl as far as possible the authorities are withholding her name.

All told five checks were passed by the young man, four of them being for \$5.00 and one for \$5.75. They were all signed with the name of Fred Moore. The checks were passed at J. D. Hunter's stationery store, A Fauble, Mingle's shoe store, in Bellefonte, the Milesburg Store Co. and Frank L. Wetzler, Milesburg. Truman waived a hearing and is being held a prisoner in the county jail.

COLLINS MURDER TRIAL WILL COST COUNTY \$1900.

The horrible crime of Fred Collins, negro inmate of the psychopathic ward at Rockview penitentiary, will cost Centre county taxpayers in the neighborhood of \$1000 by the time he has been put to death in the electric chair. Appointed to defend the negro Johnston & Johnston will receive a fee of \$200 from the county. Dr. Cornelius C. Whorley, the psychiatrist who testified as to Collins' sanity, charged a fee of \$300. Commonwealth and court costs amounted to \$138.43. Bringing Collins in from Pittsburgh and taking him back after his conviction added \$144.72 to the bill of expense. Other miscellaneous costs will run the total up to about a thousand dollars.

It might be interesting to the public to know that the jury on the Collins case took but three ballots while it was out. One on the question of the negro's sanity, one on his guilt as indicted, and one on the punishment to be meted out, and there were no dissenting votes on either ballot.

SHORT SESSION OF COMMON PLEAS COURT

Of the nineteen cases scheduled for trial at common pleas court, this week, all but three were continued, and the result was that it required only one day to dispose of the three cases. The first was a case in assumption brought by S. R. Rishel against Theodore Davis Baol, et al. After hearing the plaintiff's testimony the court granted a voluntary nonsuit.

The second case pertained to the opening of a judgment and was brought by W. A. Fye against Myrtle Huber and Anna L. Kruminer. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for the full amount of the claim.

In the case of Anna Zeleznick vs. the Spring Township School board, a non-suit was awarded.

During 1931 State police made 16,154 arrests for crime. Convictions ran to 82% of the total.

gile and Osman took him to Philipsburg or not.

The fact that he was injured in his jump from the jail wall may aid in his recapture. Prison officials at Rockview struck off one hundred of his pictures and prison record which were broadcast on Sunday, as well as news of the escape sent out over the teletype.

As stated above Williams has spent fourteen years behind prison bars. He was sentenced on Saturday to seven and a half to fifteen years for his part in the robbery and faces a duplication of his latter sentence for breaking and escaping. jail.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE

—Seven Erie county men were fined \$350 each Saturday for illegal fishing in Erie Bay. The men were accused of fishing with nets and without state licenses.

—The Shindel Mill of Hughesville has opened after being idle for one year. The mill, with a force of 100 operatives, reopened under the management of the receivers of the corporation which recently went into bankruptcy.

—Suspension of operations at the Susquehanna silk mill at Lock Haven, Saturday night leaves more than 600 workers out of work as the plant has been closed for two weeks because of the garment workers strike at New York city.

—His clothes still afire, Louis Cohen, 50, was found burned to death near the furnace in his home, at Wilkes-Barre Cohen's brother, Harry, found the body when he came to the house on a visit. He said the man's clothing had apparently caught fire while he was fixing the furnace during the absence of the family from the house.

—While splitting a large piece of wood from a white oak tree he had recently cut down, C. R. Seaman, of North Bend, found in the center of the wood, a horseshoe, with all the nails in place. The horseshoe had evidently been nailed to the tree many years ago, and the bark and sap gradually covered it, burying it in the center of the tree.

—Hundreds of fish in Sandy Lake, Mercer county, are dying, and samples of water have been sent to the State Fish Commission for analysis. The source of pollution of the lake has not been determined. A survey today shows nearly 800 fish dead or dying in the shallows. Among them are muskellungs, bass, wall-eyed pike, salmon, perch and carp.

—John Baker, of Scranton, was burned to death Monday morning when he was pinned under a truck load of sugar, of which he was the driver, when the truck left the road, upset and burned at Wind Gap, near Easton. Leroy Orwig, of Moosic, who accompanied Baker, was seriously burned but managed to escape from the truck. He was taken to the Easton hospital.

—Public schools at Bloomsburg were ordered closed from Thursday until Monday because of an outbreak of grip among the pupils. High school basket ball games with Berwick on Friday and Lock Haven on Saturday were postponed. One hundred and seventy-four of 900 students in the high school, as well as several teachers, were down with the disease.

—Mr. and Mrs. Peter Sharkey, of Exeter borough, were saved from burning to death by their two children when fire broke out on the first floor of the family home. Their escape being cut off by smoke and flames sweeping up the stairway, Anna, 14 and Peter Jr., climbed out on the porch roof, dropped to the ground, secured a ladder and led their parents to safety.

—The Millfinburg Body company, Millfinburg's largest industry, received a government order for 500 one-half ton bodies, Wednesday of last week. The bodies are for the use of the post office department. This order will be good news for many men in Millfinburg as it will mean steady employment for some time. At present a special ambulance patrol body is being built to be shipped to the Hawaiian Islands.

—Unless Margaret McClure, address unknown, appears at the clerk of courts office in West Chester within two weeks, a legacy amounting to \$190 which she inherited from the estate of the late Margaret Stone will be turned over to the State. Attorney General William A. Schnader petitioned the Chester county court to have the money deposited with the State Treasurer. The \$190 has been awaiting the missing heir for seven years.

—A year old sheep, inoculated last week with dangerous and contagious disease germs, was stolen from the experimental laboratory at Charleroi-Monessen hospital, on Monday. Hospital attaches and police are making frantic efforts to recover the animal, which is laden with potential illness and death for persons with whom it comes in contact. Fear is expressed that needy persons may have taken the sheep for use as food.

—Struck by a train as she pushed her five-year-old granddaughter from a Pennsylvania railroad track crossing Mrs. Rose Messerel, 65, of West Hickory, died Friday night in Warren General hospital. The child was un hurt. Mrs. Messerel and the girl, Jean McKinley, started across the tracks unaware of the approaching freight train. The woman pushed the child to safety but could not save herself. She suffered a fractured skull and died three hours later.

—Alleged drunken drivers, arrested either in Williamsport or Lycoming county, are to be examined at the expense of the county, district attorney John C. Youngman announced last week, after his plan had been approved by the court. The State Highway Patrol, police chiefs in the boroughs of the county and the city police have been notified of the plan which is to be put into effect at once. Doctors called upon to examine alleged drunken drivers will be paid \$5 if the call is made during ordinary business hours and \$10 if the examination is made outside of regular business hours.

—Miss Louise G. Thomas, former teller of the closed Anthracite Trust company, at Scranton, for whom a warrant, charging embezzlement of \$10,703.30, was issued last Thursday, surrendered. Miss Thomas appeared before Alderman Davis and entered bail in the sum of \$3000. George W. Morrow, her counsel, said that the authorities were hasty in having a warrant issued for her as a fugitive. He said Miss Thomas had been out of the city for an extended period, and until she heard of the warrant being issued had no idea that she was to be so seriously accused. Miss Thomas is accused of appropriating the bank's money during a period extending from June 4, 1930, until August 14, 1931. The amounts ranged from \$30 to \$4800.