

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.

GEORGE R. MEEK CHARLES L. GATES MARY GRAY MEEK

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BELLEFONTE, PA. APRIL 1, 1932

A VETERAN JOURNALIST RETIRES

Thomas H. Harter, for thirty-eight years editor and owner of the Keystone Gazette, has sung his swan song and retired from active journalism.

He has been an important figure in the profession in Central Pennsylvania, so long that his name will live as a synonym for virile country weekly newspapers; one of the few remaining examples of the old fashioned school that gave to a newspaper a personality.

Politically the Watchman has never had anything in common with the Gazette. It has admired it, however, for the fearless and able manner it has stood squarely behind its convictions and it is encouraging to note that those who will dictate its future policy have dedicated themselves to an attempt to continue in the course their distinguished preceptor has charted.

We congratulate Mr. Harter on an active life well spent in constructive work and are pleased that, unlike those of so many other old newspapermen, his mellowing years in ease will be comfortable and happy because he was a good business man, as well as an able editor.

A RESULT OF BAD LEGISLATION

Surety companies bonding banks in Pennsylvania that are depositories of State funds are believed to have collected a sum approaching four million dollars in premiums during the past ten years. That is important money, especially so when the practice of requiring such bonds is questionable.

Traced to its origin few would be surprised if it were revealed that the surety companies doing business in the State were the lobbyists who put the law through the Legislature. In any event, they reaped a harvest out of it until 1931, when the depression came on and made a hazard out of what theretofore had involved little, if any risk.

Immediately they increased their rates from two to four times as great as they had been prior to 1931 and the State became a party to the hold-up because under its own law it could not deposit funds in any bank that would not have itself bonded by an approved surety company. The surety companies hold the whiphand, for the reason that they can fix their own rates for the service or go so far as to refuse to furnish a bond at all.

Under such a license these companies are the practical dictators of the depositories of all of the State's funds, whether they be in the hands of fiscal officers in Harrisburg or those of the county treasurers. The system is one that has powerful opportunities if it were taken advantage of by those into whose hands the State has legislated.

Aside from this angle of the practice there is another that is manifestly unfair to the people of Pennsylvania. It is that of making the State a preferred creditor in the case of the default of any of its depositories.

As to individuals the law deals severely with one who attempts to make one of his creditors preferred to the prejudice of others.

Is it not unfair, therefore, that the State should be a party to a practice that makes it a preferred creditor to the prejudice of its citizens who have funds in the bank in which it carries a deposit?

The individual has as much a right and more need to have his savings guaranteed as the State. Both ought to be free agents in selecting their depositories and the soundness of the banks they choose should not be impugned and their cost of operation increased by demands that they be bonded by companies that may shy away from liability at will.

THE GOVERNMENT IN BUSINESS

An increased rate in parcel post mailings has gone into effect. The Post Office Department has been doing business in the red because it has been in unfair competition with private industry.

It prints and delivers envelopes cheaper than commercial printing establishments can buy the raw stock. It transports and delivers parcels at half the price a common carrier can make the same delivery for. It does it, of course, at a loss and the only way the deficit can be made up is either through higher postal rates or higher taxation.

There is no sound reason why the government should render any service for less than it actually costs. In doing so it can't avoid discriminating against some for the benefit of others. Under the present system the person who sends one parcel post package a year is taxed to make up the loss occasioned by carrying millions of parcels for great mail order houses and other concerns using the postal service for such deliveries.

The man who cannot afford to buy government printed and stamped envelopes in large quantity is taxed to make up the loss the government takes in doing it for great business enterprises that use them in thousands or more lots. At the same time the commercial printer is being treated unfairly because he is taxed to make up the deficit that government competition with his own business has occasioned.

While it might be said that such inequities even up through the relative taxes that individuals and corporations pay it is, nevertheless, an unsound governmental practice.

No one has a right to expect his government to do something for him for nothing, for the burden of doing it must necessarily fall on others of his fellows. In fact there is nothing that can be done for nothing. Always somebody will have to pay in the end and the best government is the one that sees to it that its subjects pay no more, no less, than their proportionate share.

General Butler opened his campaign for United States Senator in Pittsburg, Wednesday evening. His platform is decidedly Pinchotque; all sucker bait. We shall forgive him for his attempt at a Roman riding act—his announced intention of appearing in the hippodrome standing squarely with one foot on a dry horse, the other on a wet one, but we can't picture the "Fighting Marine" as anything other than a fool when he declares that it is, quote: "The duty of the Federal Government to see to it that every worker gets work." Making an employment agency of Washington sounds to us much like the "Five Year Plan" in Russia.

Congress heard its masters' voice on Tuesday and, evidently, liked it. Speaker Garner took the floor and in a very few moments had the house cheering and pledging itself to the work of immediately passing a tax bill that will bring enough revenue to balance the budget. On Monday the world thought Garner licked. On Tuesday it was a different story.

FIFTY YEARS AGO IN CENTRE COUNTY.

Items taken from the Watchman issue of April 7, 1882.

At the closing of Port Matilda school No. 2, on March 24th, Professor Morrison's pupils gave him a great surprise by presenting him with a box containing a clothes brush, a hand mirror, a bottle of cologne, six handkerchiefs and a combination pencil. Miss Bertha McKinney made the presentation speech.

Seventeen persons from the borough of Millheim, embracing some of the best men and women of the town, together with the two Kerlin families making fourteen more, and enough from Buffalo Run valley and Walker township to make a whole carload, left for the west, last Tuesday afternoon, with the intent of making that section their future homes.

On Thursday afternoon the charcoal shed at Curtin's iron works, containing about 1000 bushels of charcoal, were burned to the ground. After the sheds were consumed the fire in the coal was extinguished by covering it with sand.

Miss Ohnmacht's grand concert will come off in Humes' Hall tomorrow, Saturday, night.

A few cows got to dancing on the High street bridge over the race on Wednesday last. Their lively stepping caused the old structure to vibrate so that the gas main hanging to its under side was snapped clear off.

On Monday morning last the old council met for the last time and the new group of borough fathers were sworn in. The new members are Robert McKnight from the North ward, David Bartley from the West and Joseph Ceader from the South. The Democrats organized the body by electing Mr. McKnight president. Isaac Mitchell was continued in his position as clerk. Geo. W. Rogers and W. W. Bateman were put in charge of the water works, thereby ousting Samuel Ryan. W. C. Heinle Esq., was made solicitor, John O'Leary street commissioner and Peter McMahon lamp lighter.

Waterman's plan for numbering the houses in town was approved and he was authorized to go ahead on condition that the charge for his work should be made against the property owners and not the borough.

Miss Mardi Roan has opened a dressmaking establishment in the McCafferty building, opposite the depot, and next door to the "Holly Tree Inn."

F. X. Lehman, the new proprietor of the Butts house, lately Brown's hotel, has been making some marked improvements on the property.

Squire John Shannon, of Centre Hall, died there on Sunday, of typhoid pneumonia, after only a week's illness. Mr. Shannon was one of the prominent Democrats of the county and was elected Treasurer in 1863, succeeding Dr. J. B. Mitchell.

The Y. M. C. A. reports for March as follows: Visitors, men, 402; boys 544. Average attendance at the regular Monday evening meetings, Friday evenings 55.

On the 30th of March Mr. George H. Waite and Miss Sarah Sharp, both of Bellefonte, were united in marriage at the Methodist parsonage by the Rev. G. D. Pennepacker.

CUBAN WIFE MURDERER ELECTROCUTED MONDAY.

Quincy Wallandz, Cuban wife murderer, of Philadelphia, was electrocuted at Rockview penitentiary on Monday morning, but his execution was delayed over two hours because of a blown out fuse on the electric circuit serving the institution.

Instead of seven o'clock, the usual hour for electrocutions, it was 9:37 when the Cuban was taken to the chair. One minute later Robert Elliott threw the switch and at 9:42 he was pronounced dead by Dr. W. A. Barrett.

Wallandz was a tuberculosis victim, in an advanced stage. He was originally scheduled to go the chair on February 29th. Philadelphia officers started to bring him to Bellefonte on February 27th but owing to his condition the Governor granted a thirty day respite and he was taken off the train at Coatesville and taken back to Philadelphia. Efforts to secure another respite having failed he was brought to the death house, Saturday, by automobile.

But he wasn't as sick a man as reported. He walked into the death house and he walked to the death chair on Monday morning. He left a note in which he said, "Boys, I die brave. Put your faith in God." Wallandz killed his estranged wife last July. He was tried and convicted in November and the Board of Pardons refused to commute his death sentence to life imprisonment.

BIG CHEVALIER SHOW AT CATHAUM MONDAY

A happy blending of mirth, melody and romance, Maurice Chevalier's latest picture hit, "One Hour With You," comes to the Cathaum theatre, State College, next Monday and Tuesday as sparkling, sophisticated entertainment. Special Chevalier songs and a lilting musical score by Oscar Straus feature this tuneful production, while the plot is highly amusing in the typical Chevalier naughty-but-nice-manner.

A brilliant cast makes this even more enjoyable. Beautiful Jeannette MacDonald, Genevieve Tobin, Charlie Ruggles and Roland Young have leading roles in support of Chevalier. The latter is cast as a fashionable doctor whom the ladies adore, which leads to many complications.

A HODGE-PODGE OF NEWSY INCIDENTS

We'll venture the assertion that not a cent of the tax-payers' money will get away from the county's cash box during the next four years without legally executed documents to show for it. County treasurer Robert F. Hunter has already exhibited traits of a faithful watch dog. Recently a county official visited the treasurer's office to draw expense money on the prospect of future costs, stating that such had been the custom for some years past. The gentleman was informed that the custom terminated January 18th, 1932, and that the only way money could be had from the treasurer's office was on a signed order by the county commissioners.

Depression has struck the Centre county jail and Sheriff John M. Boob has a hard time figuring just where he is at. When he took office in January the County Commissioners reduced the payment for boarding prisoners from 70 to 60 cents a day. When Sheriff Dunlap retired from office he left as a legacy to Mr. Boob thirty-one prisoners. That number has gradually dwindled until now he has only seventeen, and he is trying to figure out whether he is saving money by feeding that number at 60 cents or losing money because he don't have more.

Two over-enthusiastic Bellefonte trout fishermen missed the big sportsmen's dinner and meeting at the Nittany Lion Inn, last Thursday evening by twenty-four hours. They had been talking about the dinner for a week previous and had all plans made to go up, but their plans were for Friday evening, instead of Thursday, consequently they were badly disappointed when they learned on Friday morning that the dinner had been the previous night.

During the past week or two more big trout have been observed in the closed portion of Spring creek, opposite the Watchman office, than have been seen there at any time during the winter. Probably the advent of Spring is the influence that has sent them up stream from John McCoy's dam.

It is reported that a Clinton county bootlegger who is doing a thriving business in Bellefonte and other towns in Centre county has a novel way of keeping officers off his track. In addition to his consignment of wet goods he invariably has from three to half a dozen children in his car, clinging to the belief that no officer would suspect a man with a load of children of transporting liquor. And so far he has gotten away with it.

The cool weather, Easter Sunday, proved a blessing in disguise to the women and girls who had no new spring finery. They were able to go to church and feel entirely comfortable in their winter clothing.

How funny it is to see a man's hat torn from his head by the wind and go rolling along a dirt covered street. That is if it is some other man's hat, but it is not at all funny if it is your own.

A certain Bellefonte landlord was asked by one of his tenants to reduce his rent, as he claimed it was too much for him to pay, but the property owner maintained he couldn't do it because most of his other tenants couldn't pay their rent, either.

Remember this is April Fool's day and if somebody offers to pay you a bill long overdue be sure the money isn't counterfeit.

In a neighboring town conditions are such that many renters are compelled to abide with most any rent the landlord demands because they cannot afford to move; but then most of them don't expect to pay the rent, anyway.

Did any of you ever try to write a column when you had nothing to write about? If you didn't, try it just once and you'll know how we feel now.

HOW TO TREAT OATS TO GET RID OF SMUT

The latest methods for treating seed oats for the control of smut will be demonstrated on three different farms in Penns and Brush valleys on Monday, April 4th. These demonstrations have been arranged by R. C. Blaney and will be conducted by Prof. George Zundel, of the State College extension service. The schedule of meetings is as follows: Fred Esterline, Madisonburg, at 9 A. M. Cleve Eungard, Spring Mills, at 1:30 P. M. Cloyd Brooks, Centre Hall, at 4 P. M.

A survey made on a large number of oats fields, last year, in all parts of Centre county, showed that there was 15% smut prevalent in the fields that had not been treated. In the treated fields there was practically no smut. This treatment is very helpful and can be done at a cost of 1 cent per bushel. Farmers who did not have smut last year used the treatment and it is good insurance.

The public is cordially invited and urged to attend these meetings and become more familiar with the method of this treatment.

—We will do your job work right

HOWARD.

Miss Dorothy Iddings spent the week-end at her home at Millinburg.

Harry Williams, of Altoona, spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. Kate Williams.

Miss Mary Romanosky, of Somerset, was the week-end guest of Miss Mary Weber.

Raymond Pletcher, of Cleveland, Ohio, spent the Easter holidays at his home here.

Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Kilpatrick were Sunday guests at the home of Mrs. Stella Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Girard Altenderfer were guests, Sunday, of friends and relatives in Jersey Shore.

Miss Carrye Butler spent last Wednesday in Lock Haven, a guest at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Cluston.

C. D. Johnston, who is employed as a guard at Rockview, spent Easter at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Pletcher.

W. K. McDowell attended the meeting of the Centre county Bankers' Association, in Bellefonte, Tuesday evening.

Edwin Robb and Miss McFate, of Philadelphia, were guests over the week-end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Hall.

Prof. and Mrs. J. C. Weirick, of Abington, were guests, over the week-end, of the former's mother, Mrs. J. C. Weirick.

George B. Lucas, a student at Penna. State College, spent the Easter vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Lucas.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lyman and family, of Coudersport, were week-end guests of Mrs. Lyman's mother, Mrs. Stella V. Williams.

Dr. and Mrs. William Hensyl, of Berwick, spent the week-end with the former's sisters, Mrs. W. J. Kurtz and Mrs. William Weber.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Lauth and daughters, Pat and Marie, spent Easter with Mrs. Lauth's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Pletcher.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Muffley and sons, of Morgantown, W. Va., spent the week-end with Mrs. Muffley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Muffley.

Prof. and Mrs. M. S. McDowell and daughters, of State College, were called, Saturday afternoon, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. T. McDowell.

The annual egg hunt, for the children, sponsored by the Parent Teachers Association, was held at the playground at the High school building, on Friday afternoon.

Miss Helen Weber, of Philadelphia; Miss Mary Weber, of Somerset; Miss Lauretta Weber, of Clearfield, and Walter Weber of Monessen, spent the Easter holidays with their mother, Mrs. John Weber.

The special union services held in the Evangelical church Good Friday, were well attended. Miss Kathryn Gutelius sang two solos, Miss Vonda Johnson at the piano. Rev. Neilson, pastor of the Christian church, delivered a splendid sermon.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Kline celebrated their wedding anniversary, at their home Monday evening. The guests were Mrs. Lucy Shank, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Confer, Mrs. Samuel Kline and son Frank, Misses Alma Pletcher and Anna Holter.

A number of friends of the children of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Lucas held a farewell party for them, at their home last Saturday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, who have been living on the Butler farm, will move to the farm of Glenn Rogers, near Huston.

John C. Hoy held a public sale of household goods on Saturday afternoon, which was attended by quite a large crowd. Mr. Hoy will make his home with his sister, Mrs. Fietta Harter, and has rented his home to Robert McCloskey, who will move there in the near future.

Early services were held in the Christian chapel, Easter morning, at

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEMOCRATIC TICKET

FOR CONGRESS We are authorized to announce that Frederick E. Kerr, of 805 south Second St., Clearfield, Pa., is a candidate for nomination for Congress in the Twenty-third Congressional District, of Pennsylvania, comprising Blair, Centre and Clearfield Counties, subject to the rules governing the Democratic primaries to be held on April 26, 1932.

DISTRICT NATIONAL DELEGATE To the Democratic voters of the 23rd Congressional District, Counties of Clearfield, Centre and Blair. Bernard J. Clark, of Altoona, Pa., solicits your votes and your influence on Primary Day, April 26, 1932, to enable him to assist in nominating the next president of the United States.

REPUBLICAN TICKET

FOR CONGRESS We are authorized to announce the name of Floyd G. Hoenstine, of Hollidaysburg, Blair county, Pa., as a candidate for nomination on the Republican ticket for Congressman from the Twenty-third District composed of Blair, Centre and Clearfield counties, subject to the rules governing the Republican party at the primary April 26, 1932.

We are authorized to announce that Eugene H. Lederer, of State College, Centre County is a candidate for Representative of the 23rd Pennsylvania Congressional District subject to the decision of the Republican voters as expressed at the Primaries April 26, 1932.

COUNTY CHAIRMAN

We are authorized to announce that Bond C. White, of Spring township, is a candidate for Chairman of the Republican County Committee of Centre County, subject to the decision of the voters of the party as expressed at the Primaries to be held on Tuesday, April 26, 1932.

DISTRICT DELEGATE TO NATIONAL CONVENTION We are authorized to announce that Charles P. Long, of Spring Mills, is a candidate for delegate from the 23rd Congressional District to the Republican National Convention, subject to the rules governing the primary to be held April 26, 1932.

BOALSBURG.

George Rowe, who has been seriously ill for several weeks, is improving slowly.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Coxe and son Paul, of Indiana, visited friends in town from Friday until Sunday.

Prof. and Mrs. E. H. Meyer spent several days with their daughter, Mrs. Richard Goheen and family, at Indiana.

William Nevil moved from the George Shugerts apartment on Academy street, to the cottage on the William Meyer property.

Mrs. Levi Rhone, of Williamsport, is helping to care for her aged mother, Mrs. Ellen Young, who had been ill but is now improving.

Miss Rosella Meyer and Miss Evelyn Meyer, of Mansfield teacher's college, spent their Easter vacation with their parents and friends, at the Mothersbaugh home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph H. Dale, of Bellefonte, spent Easter with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Dale.

A number of persons in this vicinity, who are employed at State College, were compelled to remain at home, Monday, on account of the condition of the roads.

Miss Dorothy Lonebarger, of Athens, and Mr. and Mrs. Jerre Zettle and daughter, of Pleasant Gap, were week-end visitors at the B. P. Lonebarger home.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bubeck and son are enjoying a few days visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Mothersbaugh. Mac Mothersbaugh and friend were also week-end visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. McGirk, of Altoona, is spending sometime at the home of Miss Anna Dale. Mr. and Mrs. Hugh C. Dale and daughter, of the Branch, were also guests of Miss Dale on Sunday.

R. F. Gingerich, of Linden Hall, was a caller in town on Saturday. Dr. and Mrs. George C. Hall, of Wilmington, Del., remembered a number of their friends about town by sending easter greeting cards.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Dale and Miss Rachael Hunter moved to their country home on the Branch, on Friday; Mr. and Mrs. Luther Dale and family, of Oak Hall, moved into their Main street residence vacated by the Edwin Dales. A bit of history might be mentioned in connection with the Luther Dale family leaving the homestead, at Oak Hall, the son and daughter being the sixth generation of the Dales to occupy the farm.

Since the farm land, (then a part of Harris Twp.), was cleared the Dales have been the only tenants. Mr. Gorman and family, of the Branch, who moved onto the farm, Friday, are the first of another name to occupy the homestead.

6 o'clock. The sermon was delivered by Rev. L. F. Sheetz, A solo, "He Arose," was sung by Miss Mary Gutelius, of New Jersey, who is spending the Easter vacation with her sister, Miss Kathryn and their mother, Mrs. Bessie Gutelius.

Special services were held in the Methodist church, on Sunday, to dedicate gifts which were presented to teachers by two of the Bible school classes. The Sunshine class, taught by Mrs. T. A. Pletcher, presented the church with a beautiful illuminated cross and the Keystone class, of which Mrs. W. C. Thompson is teacher, gave a very pretty altar cushion.

The Howard Community Health Service placed crates in the schools of the borough and township, Curtin, Mt. Eagle, Blanchard and Jacksonville, for an Easter contribution of eggs for the Centre County hospital, and succeeded in filling two crates. The organization wishes to take this opportunity of thanking the parents and children for their contributions, also the teachers for their kindness in helping with this work.

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CATHAUM

STATE COLLEGE

(Matinee at 1:30. Evenings at 6:00)

FRIDAY—

Spencer Tracy and Star Cast in "SKY DEVILS"

SATURDAY—

Bert Wheeler, Robert Woolsey in "GIRL CRAZY"

MONDAY AND TUESDAY—

Maurice Chevalier, Genevieve Tobin, Jeanette MacDonald, Charlie Ruggles in "ONE HOUR WITH YOU"

WEDNESDAY—

Elissa Landi, Victor McLaglen in "THE DEVIL'S LOTTERY"

THURSDAY—

Richard Barthelmess, Marian Marsh in "ALIAS THE DOCTOR"

NITTANY THEATRE

FRIDAY—

"THE BEAST OF THE CITY"

SATURDAY—

"SKY DEVILS"

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY—

Another Sherlock Holmes Mystery "THE SPECKLED BAND"

THURSDAY—

"THE DEVIL'S LOTTERY"