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Editors. GEORGE R. MECK CHARLES L. GATES MARY GRAY MECK

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## WHY WAS IT NOT DONE "LONG AGO"?

In referring to the swollen Federal payrolls the Philadelphia Public Ledger concludes the leading editorial in its last Sunday edition with the following paragraph:

"To experienced observers it is as astonishing as it is gratifying that Congress should actually have started to use the ax on the Governments' expenditures. This may not be the ideal method, but, confronted by an emergency, it is doing what should have been done, if more carefully and systematically, long ago."

Such an admission by our esteemed, but bitterly partisan contemporary is, indeed, strange reading. The Ledger has always been a proponent of the theory that nothing good could come out of the Democratic party's elevation to power. Having groped its way in the limited horizon of party bigotry it is not surprising that it should think "experienced observers" must regard any constructive action of a Democratic Congress as "astonishing."

The cost of government has mounted to such colossal sums through duplication of Federal and State activities, paying pensions and salaries, both, to certain classes of employees and other such needless extravagances that something must be done about it before those who pay the taxes are reduced to serfdom by an office holding bureaucracy.

As the Ledger says it should have been done "long ago," but it has only to come to such a conclusion after a Democratic Congress started to the rescue of the Country. Since Woodrow Wilson left the White House, in 1920, there have been the greatest scandals and the wildest orgy of spending public money the country has ever gone through, yet never a word of admonition came from the Republican press. The moment, however, it senses political rebellion it assumes the sycophantic "yes man" attitude and says it ought to have been done "long ago."

Experienced observers will understand that, too. The Republican party has been in control for twelve years. During all that time its representatives aided and abetted those who were blowing the economic bubbles that busted in 1929. When the emptiness of the pretty baubles was revealed and the country discovered that all the golden Hoover prosperity was only tinsel there was great consternation. For a while the President thought we could lift ourselves out of the slough by our own bootstraps. Failing to accomplish anything by such a futile suggestion he has since been prescribing more fake cure-alls than the slickest Indian medicine men of yesteryear ever dreamed of concocting.

It was not until the people elected a Democratic Congress that he or any of his party organs thought to apply to the conduct of government the same practices of rigid economy that necessity has made applicable in the business enterprises and the homes of our land.

Indeed it should have been done "long ago," but the Ledger didn't think so until its idols started toppling from the pedestals on which it had helped place them.

## HOW DID WE GET THIS WAY?

Here in Centre county, in the midst of an inestimable wealth of natural resources, there are many people actually face to face with the problem of subsistence.

It is paradoxical that in the midst of plenty there is really little.

One hundred and fifty years ago the first settlers came with practically no tools, cleared the land, built homes and raised crops enough to feed their families, and aside from the handicaps of pioneering, were happy and contented. They had no money, machinery or transportation systems.

The second generation that followed them lived on the farms they had cleared, raised large families and either gave their children an advanced education for a professional career or endowed them with a farm when they left the shelter of the parental roof tree. Today many of the farms that did that for those who had a will to work are being abandoned because it is held that they won't produce a living for even two people.

Has something gone wrong with the land or has the offspring of the rugged, resourceful types of half a century ago been refined by advancing civilization until—like the silk worm—it would rather die than dig for a living?

There is no need for anybody in Centre county to be hungry. Even it could be happy and contented, notwithstanding the depression that all talk about and few move to relieve, if it were not for what William Feather has so aptly termed the two standards of living—city conveniences and rustic toil.

The trouble with the world today is that it devotes so much time raving about the glories of the sunset that it forgets the sunsets' reminder that it is time to feed the chickens, milk the cows and "slop" the pigs that are to give it eggs and milk and meat to eat tomorrow.

In the Roosevelt-Smith contest in Pennsylvania "the Happy Warrior" has lost by twenty thousand or more votes, but he carried Cambria, Delaware, Elk, Erie, Greene, Lackawanna, Luzerne, McKean, Philadelphia, Schuylkill and Wayne counties. As a matter of fact the strength he developed in the State is surprising. Especially so, since few thinking Democrats regarded him as a serious contender for the honor.

The poor old Governor and his ambitious lady were certainly treated rough in Tuesday's primaries. Mrs. Pinchot was completely squelched in the Fifteenth Congressional District, which she aspired to represent. All the Gov's roads and all the Gov's men can't make Cornelia a politician again.

There are eight counties in the Fifteenth Congressional District of Pennsylvania. It is the one in which the Governor's lady ran for the nomination for Congress. Three per cent of the State's population resides there and twenty-five per cent of the new road building announced for 1932 has been allocated for their benefit. Tuesday witnessed the results obtained by a Governor who could countenance such an unjust distribution of the State's money. Undoubtedly that road building program was not sufficient to make votes for his wife.

The Democrats elected a Congressman in the Cambria county district, where a special election was held to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Representative J. Russel Leach, Republican. George E. Wolfe was the victor in a three-cornered fight.

## FIFTY YEARS AGO IN CENTRE COUNTY.

Items taken from the Watchman issue of May 5, 1882.

—On the third of May, 1882, Mr. Reuben F. Shaffer and Miss Sallie I. Weaver were married in this place by Rev. Geo. Pennypacker.

—On Wednesday a horse, that was tied to a hitching post in front of Doll and Mingle's Shoe store, took fright at something, pulled the post out of its hole and raced off down the pavement. A little child of William A. Lyon was knocked down and injured about the head, but not seriously.

—Mr. James Milliken, trustee, is advertising the large and handsome Milliken residence on Allegheny street for sale.

—Mr. George L. Potter, late of the Renovo shops, has been appointed to the position of assistant master mechanic of the P. R. R. shops at Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Mr. Potter is the elder son of the late lamented Dr. George L. Potter, of this place.

—The railroad bridge near Flemington, this side of Lock Haven, was burned on Saturday night. The catastrophe compelled the Bachelor and Doris circus train, which was on the way here from Milton, to run clear back to Harrisburg and come by way of Tyrone. It was a Sunday jump for the outfit so it had plenty of time to make its Bellefonte stand. Incidentally, the weather was fine and the circus was generally judged the best one ever to visit us. The two headed lady sang duets with herself and danced, too, but the feature of the show we will remember longest was that imitable Irishman, John Patterson, one of the clowns, and his singing of "Bridget Donahue."

—Mr. and Mrs. James Long, of Philipsburg, and late of Spring Mills, have just passed through a terrible affliction. All of their children, three little girls, died of diphtheria within two days last week.

—Owen McCann, so long a prominent resident of Port Matilda, and the Democratic leader of that section, has moved to Tyrone, where he has taken possession of one of his houses there.

—Port Matilda is having quite a building boom. James Marks, Charles Cowher, James Wisner and Solomon Weaver are all building new homes there and the town is spreading out so fast that some of the hopeful residents see the probability of its incorporating as a borough before very long.

—Daniel, the oldest of the six Derr brothers, passed away at his home on Ridge street yesterday morning. He was a gunsmith and plumber by trade and had been an esteemed resident of Bellefonte for forty years.

—Tom Laughlin, son of Martin Laughlin, of Lamb street, is home on a visit.

—David W. Keller followed his sweetheart, Miss Maggie Pennington, to Pleasant Hill, Iowa, and the trip was not without compensation for she finally consented to become Mrs. Keller. The ceremony was performed at the bride's parental home there on the evening of April 18. As both the young folks were well known here their many friends join in our congratulations to Dave, especially, that his long and pressing suit has finally won him a charming woman for his wife.

—Miss Kate Bowers, of this place, has opened a subscription school in Milesburg and Miss Lida McGinley has embarked in the same kind of a venture in Coleville.

—Rev. J. F. DeLong, pastor of the Reformed church in this place, was married to Miss Amanda E. Lashaw, of Stenton, near Easton, on April 27. Rev. DeLong is a full cousin of Capt. DeLong, who commanded the ill-fated Arctic exploration ship, "the Jeannette."

## ANNUAL MEETING OF MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary society of the West Susquehanna Classis of the Reformed church was held in St. John's church, Bellefonte, last Thursday, with a fairly large attendance. Mrs. M. H. Brouse, president of the society, presided. The business of the meeting included the reading of reports, appointments of committees, etc. The treasurer's report showed that during the year the various societies had collected and paid out \$1,838.52. The speaker at the evening session was Mrs. C. K. Stout, a missionary at Bagdad, India.

Officers elected and installed for the ensuing year included the following: President, Mrs. M. H. Brouse; first vice president, Mrs. Frank M. Fisher; second vice president, Mrs. C. H. Zeckman; recording secretary, Mr. G. A. Fred Greisinger; statistical secretary, Miss Lillian Knecht; corresponding secretary, Miss Loretta Lataw; treasurer, Mrs. Harry E. Hartshorn; and Mrs. J. M. Hartsock.

—Michael Flannigan, of Snow Shoe, who was convicted at the last term of court of assault and battery and on April 6th sentenced to pay a fine of one dollar and imprisonment in the county jail for not less than one month nor more than a year, was granted a parole, on Saturday, on condition he arrange to pay his fine and costs. Flannigan, some months ago, sustained an injury on the hip while at work in a coal mine and the fact that it was giving him considerable trouble while confined in jail most likely was the reason for his early discharge.

## A HODGE-PODGE OF NEWSY INCIDENTS

The preliminary skirmish in the battle for political supremacy is over. The victors have not much to crow over, because they are only really beginning their fight, while the losers can console themselves with the fact that they won't have to lie awake nights wondering where they are at. And the public in general will be able to walk the streets without fear of being buttonholed by a political worker in an endeavor to force home the fact that the candidate he represents is the only man who can bring order out of the chaos of depression in which this country is now floundering. With the primaries over we'll all have a breathing spell of several months before the opening hullabaloo of the fall campaign.

If fish commissioner Oliver M. Deibler had happened in Bellefonte, on Sunday, he most certainly would have been impressed with the sight along south Water street where hundreds of strangers stopped to take a look at the big trout, among them some of the beauties he sent here from the Mount Pleasant hatchery. Crowds swarmed the pavement from the noon hour up until five o'clock and enough ground beef was thrown to the fish to keep them from getting real hungry for several days.

Whether it is because of interest aroused by the activities of the Garden club or a personal desire to cultivate the ground we are not informed, but we do know of a number of people in Bellefonte who are going to do some gardening this year who haven't been very active in that direction for some time past; and we hope they won't have the same experience that a certain Bellefonte woman had several years ago when she made her first venture in planting a flower garden. A lover of the old-time flowers she planted what she supposed were morning glory seeds. She watered and watched her plot of ground but time passed and no plants shot through the earth. Finally her husband decided to investigate and digging carefully into the well prepared soil he uncovered the tiny pellets and a broad grin overspread his face when he discovered that instead of morning glory seed his better half had planted a box of little liver pills that she had taken from the cabinet instead of the seeds.

In a certain county not a hundred miles from Bellefonte ten couples took out marriage licenses in one week who asked that the licenses be kept secret for the time being. Most of the brides were school teachers and were afraid of losing their jobs if it was found out they were married. Quite frequently couples in Centre county make the request that their license be kept out of the newspapers, but it is mostly for some other reason.

And speaking of school teachers recalls a story told us last week about a certain married teacher in the county who is being paid \$100 a month. She and her husband constitute the family. The husband has not had steady work and they have run behind in some of their bills. Recently a merchant left his account with a justice of the peace for collection and the justice sent the woman a notice to that effect. She visited the "Squire's" office and told him that it would be simply impossible to settle the account now as she needed the money to pay the last installment on the family automobile. The automobile is probably one of the reasons why so many families in the country today do not have the money to meet their legitimate living expenses.

Up to this time not a single fisherman has come in to claim that quart we offered last week for the biggest fish story, and we have just been wondering if we changed it from milk to something else whether it would bring results.

If you don't find this column very interesting don't blame the writer. He can't put everything in it he knows. If he did, he'd have to leave town before the ink dries on the paper, and go so far away that county detective Leo Boden couldn't reach him with one of prothonotary S. Claude Herr's bench warrants. And that's that.

—Mr. and Mrs. George P. Hoover, of Altoona, celebrated the 32nd anniversary of their marriage on Wednesday of last week. Centre countians will be interested in this item because both Mr. and Mrs. Hoover were natives of Bald Eagle valley. He was born and grew to manhood at Unionville. Mrs. Hoover, prior to her marriage, was Miss Mary Margaret Woodring. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Woodring and was born and grew to womanhood at Port Matilda. On April 20th, 1900, the young people went to Cumberland, Md., where they were married by Rev. Yingling. Shortly after that momentous event they located in Altoona where they have lived ever since. They are the parents of seven children, all but two of whom were home for the anniversary celebration.

## JUNIORS PICKED BY BELLEFONTE HIGH FOR DECLAMATORY CONTEST

After careful trials conducted by the High school English teachers for all members of the Junior class, the competitors for the annual declamatory contest have been selected and are now preparing for the event. Those selected are: Helen Myers, Gladys Sampson, Margaret Mills, Mary Hartie, Betty Woomer, Norman Kirk, Roy Wilkinson, Philip Mabius, James Bair, Calvin Purnell; Alternates, Pauline Saxion, Lawrence McClure.

## BOOKS WANTED

Stories by Edgar Allen Poe; Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; (1) Old Chester Tales and (2) Dr. Lavendar's People, Margaret Deland; Tales from a Roll Top Desk, Christopher D. Morley; Ben Hur, Lew Wallace; Under the Red Robe, Stanley Weyman; (1) Little Minister and (2) Sentimental Tommy, James M. Barrie; The Light that Failed, Rudyard Kipling; Master of Ballantrae, R. L. Stevenson.

## HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR MUSIC WEEK

The music organizations of the local high school will appear in a joint concert, Thursday afternoon, May fifth, at three o'clock, in the State theatre.

The orchestra will open the program with a group of three numbers following which the glee club will make its initial appearance in its new role of mixed chorus, in several fine groups of pleasing numbers. Especially attractive is the German setting—the chorus singing both the English and German text—of "Wenn Die Rosen Blühen" by Richardt, a truly beautiful ballad of the Eighteenth century.

The band will climax the program with a group of very splendid selections under the able direction of Harold Wion. The other groups are under the leadership of Mrs. Krader.

Inasmuch as no admission fee will be required, it is hoped a good audience will hear these young folks in their contribution for the Music Week program, outlined by the Federation of Music.

## GRADE PROGRAM FOR MUSIC WEEK

As has been the custom in past years, the grades will give their annual "Last Day" play and preparations are being made to make it a very splendid entertainment. The four upper grades will continue in the spirit of the George Washington bicentennial celebration in their "Episodes in the Life of Washington," and a cantata, "Paul Revere," an unusually difficult musical setting of the entire poem.

The little folks are thoroughly enjoying their first taste of the material recently presented to them for their part of the performance. We have the "Old Woman Who Lived in the Shoe," in a most delightful new environment—turning all the nursery rhymes topsy-turvy in their "health" stories, for here King Cole does not call for his pipe, but "for his fruit, his milk, and his cereals three." There are no four and twenty black birds baked in a pie, but "Four and twenty vegetables cooked in a pan" to result in the gaining of a pound a day for those who need to build up. Another group will bring "Silver Hair" and the "Three Bears"—all in song—a most unique style of presenting this ever delightful story.

Third and fourth grades will present "America, the Melting Pot of the World," a novelty written by Mrs. Krader embracing the song and dance material learned as part of the year's outline of music for these grades. Many nationalities will arrive. Folk songs and dances will enhance this little sketch, which promises a colorful place in the program of which it will be a part. Watch for further announcements regarding this entertainment by the grades at the close of the present school term.

## CHAPEL

A rather unusual program was given in chapel Friday morning. Five girls of the home economics class, under the direction of Miss Goodrich, staged a tableau on etiquette. There were two tables placed on the platform. At one table were seated Mr. and Mrs. Right, played by Madeline Purnell and Jane Curtin. At the other table were seated Mr. and Mrs. Wrong, portrayed by Hazel Dunlap and Eleanor Wion. Jane McCoy, as Emily Post, read from a book of etiquette. As she read, Mr. and Mrs. Right carried on their part by eating with the best of manners. But Mr. and Mrs. Wrong did everything wrong. They slumped on the table, scrubbed their lips with the napkins, toyed with the food, dropped their silverware and then picked it up, and many other things that are all taboo. These wrong actions brought many laughs from the audience of students. The girls, taking the parts of Messrs. Right and Wrong, were dressed in men's clothing.

This tableau was very helpful in showing the students what the correct table manners are, and what actions at the table are correct.

## DEBATERS DEFEATED BY DISTRICT CHAMPIONS

Bellefonte High's debating team failed to win the district championship at Huntingdon, last Friday, by losing the opening debate to the representatives from Williamsburg.

High. The latter school was adjudged the winner of the Central district after defeating Selingsgrove in the final tilt. This victory entitles the teams to compete for State honors at Pittsburgh next Friday and Saturday.

The local teams, with but two exceptions, were composed of students debating for the first time on any team. Betty Woomer, who led the affirmative last year, acted in the same capacity this season, while her colleague, Roy Wilkinson, made his first appearance as a debater several weeks ago. Both these debaters are Juniors and will no doubt form one of next year's teams, judging from the quality of their work during the past few months. Virginia McClellan, a Sophomore, acted as alternate throughout the season and will undoubtedly earn a speaking post next year. Cheryl McCormick, another Sophomore, was berthed as second alternate, and although her active services were not required this season, she is expected to take a prominent part next fall. The negative side was upheld by Martha Brugger and Eleanor Johnson, as speakers, while Annette Decker served as alternate. Miss Decker was the only one of this team who had had previous debating experience. Unfortunately all of these students are Seniors and expect to be graduated in June. Their absence will be keenly felt next year as an entire new team will have to be selected.

Both teams deserve considerable praise for the type of work they have done this year. Every member has worked hard in collecting material and preparing speeches. Naturally their inexperience made them somewhat less forceful and persuasive on the platform, factors which contributed to their defeat at Huntingdon, but their arguments were on a par with, or superior to, those of any team with whom they debated. Some of the members of the team lived in the outlying districts but did not miss a single rehearsal. All of them devoted considerable spare time to study and rehearsal of their constructive speeches and all co-operated with the coaching staff in a thoroughly commendable manner. The entire High school joins in congratulating them not only upon the spirit with which they entered into the work, but also upon their winning the championship of Centre county.

The coaching staff and both teams take this opportunity to extend their appreciation to Mr. Blaine Mabius, who so kindly loaned his car on several occasions.

## TWENTY CASES ON LIST FOR MAY TERM OF COURT

Twenty cases have been put on the list for trial at the May term of common pleas court which will convene on Monday, May 23rd. They are as follows:

Grant Dull vs. Solomon M. Nissley. Issue awarded.

People's National Bank of State College vs. Annie L. Krumrine and Clemson Bros. Judgment opened.

Ralph A. Smith vs. J. Clyde Thomas, Raymond S. Howard and Martin Dunlap. Ejectment.

Polydorus Bartosis vs. George J. Gregory. Ejectment.

Robert Dodds vs. W. H. Homan, R. G. Homan and Ernest Homan. Replevin.

Minnie Askey vs. First National Bank of Osceola Mills. Feigned issue.

Standard accident and Insurance Co. vs. Alex C. Bailey and Lewis Stine, trading and doing business as Bailey and Stine. Assumpsit.

Charles Miller, minor, by his parents and next friends, Thomas and Rose Miller, vs. Harry E. Cleveland. Trespass.

Betty Lou Miller, minor, by her parents and next friends, Thomas and Rose Miller, vs. Harry E. Cleveland. Trespass.

Dr. R. L. Capers vs. John A. Shuey. Appeal.

S. R. McCartney vs. Joseph Leathers. Trespass.

George B. McClellan vs. J. W. Mowery. Assumpsit.

Nannie Coxey vs. Dana D. Decker. Trespass.

Charlotte Wigham and Robert R. McMonigal, vs. The Concordia Fire Insurance company, of Milwaukee. Assumpsit.

Mary Natalla vs. Howard Chambers. Trespass.

The W. E. Hoffman company vs. George Mayes. Appeal.

Maude E. Decker and A. H. Walker vs. Col. G. Decker, trading and doing business as the Decker Chevrolet Co. Trespass.

Bruce J. Miller vs. G. A. Pivrotto, owner and reputed owner, Mechanics lien.

Allison G. Hollabaugh vs. G. A. Pivrotto, owner and reputed owner. Mechanics lien.

Irvn Mohnkern and Ruel Mohnkern, trading and doing business as the Mohnkern Lumber company, vs. G. A. Pivrotto, owner and reputed owner. Mechanics lien.

—William Butterworth, of Rush township, was arrested, last week, by fish warden Toner M. Griffith while fishing with two rods in Black Bear run for walking away from the stream and leaving his rods and lines unguarded. At a hearing before justice of the peace E. R. Hancock, last Thursday evening, he was fined \$20 and costs. After rendering his decision the "Squire" decided to hold the matter under consideration ten days before making it final.