

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.

To Correspondents.—No communications published unless accompanied by the real name of the writer.

In ordering change of address always give the old as well as the new address. It is important that the publisher be notified when a subscriber wishes the paper discontinued. In all such cases the subscription must be paid up to date of cancellation.

BELLEFONTE, PA., - - - - - JUNE 24, 1932

## IT WAS A WAKE, NOT A CONVENTION.

The Republican National Convention in Chicago last week was a rather forlorn gathering. In truth it was more like a wake than the kind of a get-together of leaders in which a militant party launches a hopeful campaign.

It was not at all like the enthusiastic gathering, four years ago, when Mr. Hoover was first put in nomination. Then everything was rosy. A great (?) man was to lead the party's battle, business conditions were normal, or nearly so, and all that was needed to insure victory was the promise of four more years of prosperity.

The prospect was different last week. The G. O. P. faced November with fear and misgiving. It realized that national faith in its ability to keep the dinner pail always full has been shattered and that the leader it was destined to choose was not nearly so much a wizard as he had been touted to be four years ago.

As a matter of fact Mr. Hoover was never anything more than an engineer. Before he left the Democratic party, in order that his ambition to be President might have a better chance of gratification, his reputation for ability was founded entirely on accomplishment in the engineering world—a purely technical field. He had never had experience in statecraft or party leadership. He was not a contributor to constructive thought in governmental processes and the wobbling, impotent administration that has followed his election to the Presidency proves that outside of his chosen profession he is lost.

He had no control of a Congress of his own party and, because of that executive failure and lack of vision, was like a child when the crash came on. With the country in the throes of its greatest panic for two years there isn't an act that can be pointed to as evidence that he tried to avert it or gave a constructive suggestion for its relief. Every one of the panaceas he has offered has proven as spurious as the concoctions of a snake doctor.

If there were nothing else to reveal the weakness and vacillation of the Hoover character in handling great problems of government his attitude on the Prohibition plank of his party should be sufficient proof of it. Before the antagonists of the Eighteenth Amendment became cohesively organized the President was for the Volstead Act, without equivocation. Then it was "a noble experiment." When a noticeable change in public sentiment became apparent he shut up like a clam. And when he discovered he would have little chance, if any, of being re-elected unless he agreed to stand on a weasel-worded platform he revealed a back bone as wilted as that of a used bath towel.

Republicans at Chicago knew these facts. They knew, also, that none of the other many presidential possibilities their party numbers would come to rescue the wreck that Hoover has made of it, so they went grimly and gloomily through the process of putting him into the bed of his own making; there to sleep into political oblivion.

## MR. GARNER ENTERS THE FIELD.

On the eve of the Democratic National Convention Speaker Garner has tossed his hat into the presidential contest ring. While Mr. Garner has the delegates of only two States, Texas and California, committed to him the announcement that he is a serious contender for the nomination might complicate deliberations at Chicago more than his delegate strength would indicate.

His blunt declaration in favor of the outright repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment will be reflected in the attitude of his delegates toward the plank in the party platform concerning solution of that problem and it is possible that in the turmoil that is likely to arise between the outright repealists and those advocating the rights of the States to have sole control of the liquor traffic that the ninety delegates representing Texas and California may be drawn into conflicts that may have a tendency to drive them away from Roosevelt after Mr. Garner gives up.

In any event, Mr. Garner is something more now than "a favorite son" candidate. His delegates will not filter away from him after a few complimentary ballots. They will stick until he gives the word and since they are necessary to possible abrogation of the two-thirds rule the importance of his candidacy is all the more apparent.

Just what the Texan may have in mind is probably his own secret, but whatever it may be it is likely to have considerable effect on the outcome of the convention.

The Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic women are sending to all Pennsylvania delegates to the party's national convention a copy of the resolution they passed at their April meeting in Scranton. It declared for "a courageous and outright declaration against national prohibition and return to the Jeffersonian doctrine of States' Rights." It looks as if the ladies will have their wishes gratified. The Chicago convention will undoubtedly adopt a plank advocating just such a governmental procedure and since it is going to be ratified by the entire country in November we have a sneakin' notion that President Hoover, being so anxious to be re-elected, would be glad to come back into the fold and run on such a platform if he were invited. There will be no invitation, however.

The National Rifle Association is of the opinion that banditry is losing in its fight against law and order because the country is so full of "untrained citizens who have the fortitude to stand up and shoot it out with a desperado." The Association cites statistics in Chicago, where forty-one have been exterminated by others than officers of the law during the past eighteen months, as proof of its conviction. Extermination of banditry is very much to be desired, but the "untrained citizen who stands up and shoots it out with a desperado" has more fortitude than good sense.

The beneficence of the Hawley-Smoot tariff bill is alarmingly revealed in the exports of our country. Our best customer, before a Republican Congress foisted it on the country, was Canada. For the first four months of 1931 our exports to Canada were valued at one hundred and fifty-five million dollars. For the first four of 1932 they were eighty-eight million dollars. That's a drop that is not likely to be pointed to with pride by any of the Republican orators who cut loose during the coming campaign.

On the eve of his departure for Chicago one of Alfred E. Smith's confidential advisors remarked: "Our mission is not to stop anyone else, or to nominate anyone else" than Al. The "happy warrior" is both a delegate and a candidate and will undoubtedly be a stellar figure in the convention. He might do to Roosevelt what Bryan did to Champ Clark at Baltimore, notwithstanding the prophetic remark of his friend Proskanauer. But of he should do that and gain the nomination for himself even Hoover would defeat him.

## FIFTY YEARS AGO IN CENTRE COUNTY.

Items taken from the Watchman issue of June 30, 1882.

**Married.**—On the 28th instant, at the residence of the bride's parents, in Bellefonte, Pa., by Rev. Mr. Woodcock of the M. E. church of Milesburg, Mr. C. A. Lindsey, of Houtzdale, Clearfield county, and Miss Lizzie Campbell, of Bellefonte.

—John Hawley, living on Howard street, Bellefonte, desires information that might lead to the recovery of his cow. The animal is eight years old, color between fawn and dark red. She went astray on Monday. (Editor's Note.—It is probable that Mr. Hawley's cow was like the Persian Kitty that developed the urge to hit "The Primrose Path.")

The Mill Hall woolen mills, which were built in 1830, were burned last Friday morning. The loss is variously estimated at \$9,000.00 to \$11,000.00. F. M. Welch & Bro., were the owners of the machinery, while Robert Mann owned the buildings.

—The Phillipsburg Driving Park Association will have a race meet on July 4 and 5. Purses of \$200.00 will be offered for three of the races and \$100.00 for each of the other two that are listed. D. W. Holt is president of the Association; John A. Mull, secretary; J. N. Casanova, treasurer.

—Mrs. Fred Chandler, of Zion, is very low with cancer. She has suffered from this virulent affliction for some time.

—The new Lutheran church at Zion is going up rapidly, though the work has been slowed up somewhat by the sudden disappearance of the best hod carrier on the job, a fellow who could carry monstrous loads of brick. In these days of strikes and scarcity of hands his quitting has been a serious blow to the progress of the work.

—Among the young men who took a prominent part in making the festival in the Presbyterian church at Port Matilda, on the 17th instant, realize \$100.00 for the church were: D. Foster Williams, Dr. P. W. Swope, Dr. Harshbarger, Harry Chaney and Budd Thompson.

Wheat is 1.25, rye, .80, corn .75, oats .50, eggs .20, bacon .15, ham .16, butter .15.

—Gentlemen's fine socks, six pair for a quarter, at the Boston Clothing house, in the Reynolds block, Bellefonte.

—Dr. Hoy has heart disease, bad. He caught it on "Bunker Hill."

—R. M. Magee Esq., is happy over the fact that he is the possessor of a horned toad sent him from Arizona by a former Centre countian now located there.

—The go-ahead borough of Phillipsburg is to be lighted with electric light soon. They don't talk long about anything out there; they just jump in and do it.

—A big thunder storm played the dickens with the festival that the Presbyterian Mite Society undertook to hold on the lawn surrounding Mr. Furst's mansion, on Linn St., last Saturday evening. They had a tent erected in anticipation of such untoward interference, but it leaked and the ice cream, strawberries and people all got wet.

—A great many youngsters in Bellefonte are enjoying (?) the measles at the present time.

—"Dode" McCafferty reached home from Atlantic City last week and his brother James will be home from Bradford for the Fourth.

—Oliver Witmer, son of Charles Witmer, of Benner Twp., while engaged on the new house being erected by John Bartruff, on Bishop St., fell from a dormer window to the ground, a fall of 25 ft., and landed on a board pile. One of his wrists was broken and he received other painful injuries.

## STATE COLLEGE TO HAVE ROUSING 4TH OF JULY

The Alpha Fire Co., of State College, will sponsor a three day celebration of the Fourth of July in that place. According to the program a rousing time will be provided for all who attend and, as it says, there will be something doing every minute.

The celebration will open Saturday evening at 7 with a concert by the Pine Grove band. At the same time there will be a midway in full swing on Atherton street, races, Dorktown minstrels and announcement of winners in the High school popularity contest.

On Sunday evening at 6 the Lemon band will give a concert on the front campus and Burgess Lederer will present medals to members of the Alpha company who have been in active service twenty-five years.

On Monday, the Fourth, doings will start with a fire drill at the primary school building and conclude at midnight with the announcement of who gets the automobile that will be given away. The day will be crowded with all sorts of entertainment. Pine Grove and State College will meet in a baseball game at 9:45. The I. O. O. F. orphanage band of Sunbury will give morning, afternoon and evening concerts, there will be a baby parade, magnificent fireworks display, a pet show, and a ladder and first-aid demonstration by the Undine Fire Co., of Bellefonte. The latter will be made at 1:45 on College Ave., between Pugh and Frazier streets.

—The Bellefonte chapter of the American Red Cross has another supply of flour on hand, the carload of wheat received by the C. Y. Wagner & Co. mill two weeks ago having been turned into flour and now ready for distribution to those who need and deserve it.

## A HODGE-PODGE OF NEWSY INCIDENTS

The G. O. P. did the expected at Chicago last week. The convention was so thoroughly saturated with Hooverism that his nomination with no concerted opposition was a foregone conclusion, and Dolly Gann forced the nomination of brother Charlie Curtis, notwithstanding the fact that party leaders do not deem him a strong tail to the Republican kite. The convention straddled the prohibition question which will give the party barnstormers a chance to talk temperance in bone dry States and preach repeal of the 18th amendment in wet latitudes.

Next week the Democrats will meet in the same building in Chicago that housed the Republicans last week. The building, we understand, has been properly fumigated and aired so there ought not to be any mollycoddle germs floating around. The disciples of Jefferson, Cleveland and Wilson have a golden opportunity staring them in the face if the delegates sent to Chicago to represent the party do not make jackasses out of themselves before the shindig is over.

Sunday was "Father's day" but not a florist in Bellefonte had a special sale of flowers in his behalf, neither did the pastors of any of the churches have any unusual services for the dads of Bellefonte. In fact we don't believe one out of every twenty children in the town knew it was Father's day, and yet he is entitled to his share of the credit for them being here as well as a whole lot of other things since they arrived. But take it from us, ninety-nine dads in every hundred will fight shy of celebratin' over him for anything he has done for his family or his country.

And speaking of dads why is it that big men prefer little women and a big woman generally ties up with a runt of a man? On the street, Saturday night, we saw a woman who looked six feet tall with a man who hardly topped five, and the woman had become stoop shouldered in trying to get her head down low enough to talk to her husband in a natural tone of voice. When she stood up straight every word she said floated right over the top of his head.

The Pennsylvania railroad is still curtailing expenses. Up until recently the Pennsylvania-Lehigh express was well patronized but now travel by train has been so curtailed that even it has been cut down to three cars—a combination baggage and smoker, a coach and a combination lunch and chair car. And it is a rare day when they are crowded. Evidently the people haven't the money to travel with.

On one morning last week we counted cars from five different States parked in front of the Penn Belle hotel and one thing particularly noticeable was that there were three cars with Ohio licenses. Commenting on this fact to another Bellefonte man we were informed that every Ohio license seen on a car doesn't mean the owner lives in Ohio. It seems that there is a standard fee of \$5.00 for a license on all pleasure cars in that State and some Pennsylvanians, it is charged, take advantage of this fact to have their cars registered in Ohio and go to that State on a visit late in the year, stay long enough to get a license, then come back into Pennsylvania. In fact, we are told, there are one or more such men living in Centre county.

If you have a dog that barks at night, annoys the neighbors as well as yourself here's a sure sleep-producing trick which is vouched for by a dog-loving attorney of Bellefonte. Pat the dog on the head, pull his ears in a friendly way, give him a few more pats then spread a pair of your old pants on the floor and it will promptly curl up on them and go to sleep. Whether a woman could do likewise the lawyer didn't say.

Wanted—A sure death for the Mexican bean beetle without using a hammer.

## STORMSTOWN 4-H CLUB ORGANIZED LAST WEEK

The Stormstown community 4-H poultry club held their first meeting on Tuesday evening of last week at the home of Harry Fisher. The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, George Gray; vice president, Roger Way; secretary-treasurer, Edith Davidson. It was decided at the meeting to meet regularly once a month during the summer and programs were planned, such as instructions regarding the care and handling of chicks, recreational programs, etc.

This club is made up of ten members, under the direction of Ellis Peters, club leader, and the agricultural extension service.

Other members of the organization are: Elwood Way, Donald Fisher, Wilford Fisher, Marjorie Tomco, Beulah Peters, Philip W. Ghaner, and Thomas G. Wilson.

Owing to the absence of Miss Noll, State health nurse, no baby clinics will be held in Bellefonte until September 2nd.

## DEATHS OF THE WEEK HERE AND ELSEWHERE

**WOODCOCK.**—In the passing of Mrs. Anna C. Forbes Woodcock, widow of Rev. John A. Woodcock, Bellefonte loses another of its women who, for half a century, had been closely identified with the social and religious life of the town. An octogenarian, she had been in failing health for several years and her death was the result of general debility.

A daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Forbes she was born near Chambersburg, in Franklin county. Educated in the public schools of her home community she engaged in teaching, an occupation she followed until her marriage, in 1870, to John A. Woodcock, then a young minister in the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. During the ensuing dozen or fifteen years her home was where it pleased the presiding Bishop of the annual conference to send her husband, but in 1883, Rev. Woodcock, at his own request, was placed on the superannuated list and he then located permanently in Bellefonte, in a house erected for his own occupancy on east Linn street. It was there that Rev. Woodcock died in 1895 and five years later Mrs. Woodcock sold the home and went to Scranton to reside with her son, Dr. Lee B. Woodcock. She was there eleven years and during that time inaugurated the beginner's department in the Elm Park Methodist church, the largest one of that denomination in the city, and which developed into one of the largest departments in the church.

Returning to Bellefonte in 1909 she inaugurated the beginner's department in the church here which has also proven a success. It was through her suggestion that the Home Missionary society of the church undertook the task of educating one young woman a year, a work that has been continued ever since. During the years that have intervened since 1909 most of her time was spent in Bellefonte, although she made periodical and sometimes lengthy visits to her old home, at Chambersburg, as well as with her son, Dr. Woodcock, at Scranton. In 1911 she accompanied her son on a three months trip to Vienna.

Her survivors include two sons, Dr. Lee B. Woodcock, of Scranton, and Rev. Jay R. Woodcock, of Syracuse, N. Y.; two sisters and one brother, the Misses Mary and Rebecca Forbes, and Wilson Forbes, of Chambersburg.

Private funeral services were held at her late apartment, in Petrikin hall, at 10:30 o'clock on Wednesday morning, conducted by her son Jay and Rev. Horace Lincoln Jacobs, interment being made in the Union cemetery.

**SMELTZER.**—Clyde Newton Smeltzer, a well known retired farmer, died at his home at State College, last Friday, as the result of hardening of the arteries. He had not been in good health for a year or more but his condition did not become serious until several weeks ago.

He was born at Pleasant Gap on September 30th, 1866, hence was in his 66th year. Most of his adult life was spent in farming in Buffalo Run valley but ten years ago he quit the farm and moved to State College. He is survived by his wife and the following children: Harry Smeltzer, of Bellefonte; Earl Smeltzer and Mrs. Luther Krebs, of State College; Orvis and Edward Smeltzer, of Bellefonte R. D.; LeRoy, of Centre Hall, and Norman, at home. He also leaves three step-sons, Curtis, George and Marion Meyers, all of State College.

He was a member of the Reformed church and Rev. H. L. Wink had charge of the funeral services which were held at his late home at 10 o'clock on Monday morning, burial being made in the Meyers cemetery.

**WEBER.**—Mrs. Blanche E. Weber, wife of William Weber, died at her home at Howard, on Tuesday afternoon, following several months' illness with a complication of diseases.

She was a daughter of Dr. L. R. and Sarah E. Hensyl and was born at Howard on July 5th, 1869, hence was 62 years, 11 months and 16 days old. She was an active member of the Evangelical church and Sunday school, a member of the Social club and the Eastern Star. In December, 1891, she married Mr. Weber who survives with one daughter, Mrs. R. I. Hoch, of Lock Haven. She also leaves two brothers and a sister, Dr. George F. Hensyl, of Mahanoy City; Dr. W. C. Hensyl, of Berwick, and Mrs. Annie I. Kurtz, of Howard.

Funeral services were held at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon by Rev. I. N. Blair, of Williamsport, and Rev. W. E. Yingling, of Howard, burial being made in the Schenck cemetery.

**KLINE.**—Mrs. Rebecca J. Kline, wife of Jackson Kline, of Howard, died on Friday morning as the result of a stroke of paralysis sustained several months ago. Her maiden name was Rebecca Jane Musser and she was born in Pennsylvania 73 years ago. She married Mr. Kline 41 years ago and he is her only survivor. Funeral services were held at her late home on Sunday afternoon by Rev. W. E. Yingling, burial being made in the Heckman cemetery.

**CLARKE.**—Thomas J. Clarke, a native of Bellefonte, died at his home in Baltimore, on Saturday, June 11th, following an illness of eight months. During that time he underwent a serious operation, at Johns Hopkins hospital, and had recovered sufficiently to return to his home, but a relapse ensued which resulted in his death.

He was a son of James B. and Maria Louise Green Clark and was born in Bellefonte on January 8th, 1865, hence was in his 68th year. When a child his parents moved from Bellefonte onto a farm in Benner township and it was there he grew to manhood. He was educated in the schools of Bellefonte and at the Bellefonte Academy. He left Bellefonte about 33 years ago to become superintendent of the Standard Lime and Stone company, operated by the Baker Bros., in West Virginia. Later he became a contractor for the same firm and located in Baltimore.

While living in West Virginia he married Miss Blanche C. Burnett, who survives with the following children: Thomas C. Clarke Jr., Joseph W. C. Baker, John A., Mrs. Levan Sothern, George A. and Blanche M. Clarke, all of Baltimore. He also leaves the following sisters and brother: Mrs. J. C. Lambert, of Philadelphia; Dr. J. W. Clarke, of Johnstown, and the Misses Mary E., Maria L., Susan A. and Anastasia S., all of Bellefonte.

Funeral mass was held in the Catholic church, Baltimore, on the morning of June 15th, burial being made in the Druid Ridge cemetery.

**HAINES.**—Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Haines, widow of the late David Haines, who served as a policeman in Bellefonte for a number of years, celebrated her 90th birthday anniversary on Sunday. In feeble health for several months she apparently enjoyed the day. However, at 12:40 o'clock on Wednesday she quietly passed away, the result of a stroke of paralysis.

She was a daughter of Jackson and Elizabeth Barry and was born at Coalrain Forge on June 19th, 1842. It was after her marriage to Mr. Haines that they came to Bellefonte and this had been her home ever since. She was a member of the United Brethren church and one of the class of old-fashioned women who made their home a kingdom for themselves and family, and as a housekeeper she had few equals.

Mr. Haines died eighteen years ago but she is survived by two sons, Charles and William, and one brother, S. T. Barry, all of McKeesport. Her grand-daughter, Miss Margaret Haines, has made her home with her grandmother since the death of her own mother, and was especially careful in looking after her wants. Now that Mrs. Haines has passed away she will go to her father, Charles Haines, at McKeesport.

Funeral services will be held at her late home at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon by Rev. G. E. Household, burial to be made in the Union cemetery.

**WANCE.**—Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Wance, died at her home at Rebersburg, on the night of June 10th, as the result of a stroke of cerebral apoplexy.

She was a daughter of Scott and Susan Bower Stover and was born in Miles township June 17th, 1879, hence was 52 years, 11 months and 23 days old. She was a member of the Reformed church most of her life. She is survived by her husband, Levi Wance; her parents, and one sister and a brother, Mrs. J. D. Hauser, of State College, and Edgar Stover, of Bloomfield, N. J.

Funeral services were held in the Reformed church, at Rebersburg, on Monday morning of last week, by Rev. A. J. Miller, burial being made in the Rebersburg cemetery.

**McCOOL.**—Bruce Franklin McCool died at his home, east of Centre Hall, at nine o'clock on Sunday morning as the result of heart disease.

He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ammon McCool and was born at Spring Mills 26 years ago. He married Miss Mary E. Weaver who survives with one daughter, Jane Marie. He also leaves two sisters, Mrs. James Brooks and Mrs. Margaret From. Funeral services were held by Rev. D. R. Keener, at 2:30 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, burial being made in the Centre Hall cemetery.

**BOY FALLS INTO CREEK WHEN LIMB BREAKS**

On Wednesday morning Billy Nolan, ten year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Nolan, of north Spring street, climbed into a tree, on north Water street, to watch the men digging the ditch in Spring creek for the sanitary sewer. The limb he was perched on broke off and he fell twenty feet, landing in the ditch that had been dug.

He was knocked unconscious but was taken from the water as quickly as possible and rushed to the hospital. An examination revealed no broken bones but head and back injuries. While his condition was regarded as serious he was removed to his home. Yesterday he was slightly improved.

A feature of the morning service in the Methodist church, on Sunday, will be a violin solo by Miss Eleanor Barnhart.