

The Centre Reporter.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

THE PEOPLE NOT AWARE OF THE GREAT EXTRAVAGANCE.

Wanted Increase in Expenses to be Made a Campaign Issue.—Prosperity not Due to Republicanism.

WASHINGTON, June 25.—The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee will make a specialty of circulating literature showing up Republican extravagance in public expenditures. Notable in this class of literature is the speech of Representative Livingston, of Ga., in which he said: "And I call attention also to the constant and gradual increase in the appropriations for Pensions, and likewise to the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriations. These items could not have been affected to any great extent by the Spanish American war. It shows, indeed, an increase all along the line, despite the fact that the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds have held back all matters before them, and the Committee on Rivers and Harbors, all matters before them, with two or three exceptions, and all accounts and claims have been practically barred from consideration at this session. It should be borne in mind that in the case of the appropriations for the Navy, the authorization of the eight new warships,—two battleships, three armored cruisers, and three protected cruisers,—involves an ultimate expenditure for construction, armor and armament, of something like \$56,000,000, not one dollar of which is now appropriated. The dominant party attempted to commit this Congress at this session, and will doubtless renew their efforts at the coming session to so commit the government to what is known as the ship-subsidy scheme, which involves the sum of \$120,000,000 to be expended throughout a term of years."

Senator Harris, of Kansas, said of the political outlook just before leaving Washington, for his home: "The people are not to be deluded into the idea that the existing prosperity is the product of the Republican administration. We are having prosperity in the west, but it is due to good seasons, hard work, rigid economy and self-denial. Unfavorable conditions elsewhere, even now, are advancing the price of wheat, which will greatly benefit the farmers of Kansas and the west, but these unfavorable conditions were not brought around by Republican administration. The people understand the reasons for these things. Further than this, the people recognize that the late session of Congress, gave to the trusts of all kinds, all that they asked for. They also recognize that Congress absolutely refused to do for the country those things which were demanded irrespective of party, such as an amended Interstate Commerce law, Anti-Trust Legislation, a reduction of the War Taxes, providing for the Nicaragua Canal, and other things." Senator Harris says the Bryan ticket will carry Kansas easily, and if the right candidate for vice president is nominated at Kansas City several other middle-western states.

Republicans are condemning their own management of Cuban affairs by widely advertising the fact that since the exposure of the wholesale stealing of Cuban funds by Republican officials there has been reductions in the salary list in Havana alone which will result in a saving of \$1,200,000 a year. Such an open acknowledgement of extravagance and incompetency, has seldom if ever been made by an American administration.

Speaking of Cuban matters, the Republicans on the Senate Committee, charged with investigating receipts and expenditures in Cuba, seem to have accomplished their purpose of postponing the investigation until too late for its finding to have any effect on the Presidential campaign, by the agreement not to start the investigation until furnished with statements from the War, Treasury and Postoffice Departments, showing the receipts and expenditures in Cuba, under each. Of course, those departments claim to be having those statements prepared as fast as possible, but nobody seems to know, or to care to say, when they will be ready. Senator Platt, of Conn., Chairman of the Committee, when asked when the Committee would begin the investigation said it could not begin until furnished with those statements which are to be made the basis of the investigation. That leaves the administration free to hasten or postpone the beginning of the investigation, by hurrying or delaying the preparation of those statements.

This government seems to be getting tangled up in that big Chinese puzzle. Secretary Hay says we are not at war with China, and all the diplomatic representatives of the European nations say the same for their governments, and the Chinese minister says

his government has not sanctioned any ill treatment of foreigners or any of the fighting that has taken place; that the whole trouble is due to rioting, such as occasionally occurs in every country. The Chinese Minister has also assured Secretary Hay that he had received official information that all the foreign ministers in Peking, which has been cut off from the coast cities for more than a week, were safe and well. Notwithstanding all this, the administration and the European governments are proceeding as though we and they were at war with China, and troops are being hurriedly forwarded to form an allied army for the invasion of China, and the allied troops now on the ground are fighting the Chinese. If all that isn't the worst sort of a Chinese puzzle, pray, what is it?

Is Litigation Being Wisely Eschewed?

There is one pleasing feature in the dispositions of men as developed in the last decade in this county, and in some other counties, that lawsuits are becoming less frequent in our courts than previously. The lists of civil cases are not near so long and lawyers generally complain they have little to do.

Seventy-five per cent of the lawsuits of the past, in our courts, could have been avoided by the litigants, by listening to reason, evincing an honorable and neighborly disposition of concession and governing their tempers. Many expensive lawsuits were built upon trifles, ending in a loss of large sums by both parties, who only then had their eyes opened to the fact that they were big fools. Men who are governed by the golden rule, "Love thy neighbor as thyself, and do unto others as you would have them do unto you," never go into court, they try their differences and misunderstandings in their own court of common sense, with the above seventeen infallible words of law as their guide. This law preserves friendships and neighborly good will, saves thousands of hard-earned dollars and when observed, renders life pleasant.

In former years there were two full weeks of court, quarterly, at Bellefonte, and at the close several scores of cases untried for want of time. There has been a marvelous improvement in the past few years—the trial list has few cases, court adjourns after a few days' sitting, and the once over-worked lawyers have all the time desired to go fishing, sleigh riding and swimming.

In Union county court, at recent terms, was opened with no cases to try. We seem to be approaching that happy condition of affairs in Centre county—may we finally get there. In some other counties the court proceedings show a wholesome drop-off in litigation.

What might have ended in one of the greatest lawsuits on record was avoided by a spirit of concession, between Abraham and Lot. Read brief of the case, Gen. 13:7-9.

Reduced Rates to Chicago.

For the benefit of all persons wishing to be in Chicago during the National Prohibition Convention, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell round-trip tickets to Chicago at rate of one fare for the round trip. Tickets to be sold and good going June 25 and 26, and returning, after proper validation by the Joint Agent of the terminal lines at Chicago, leaving Chicago to July 4, inclusive. A fee of twenty-five cents for each ticket will be collected by the Joint Agent when tickets are validated for return passage.

Alarming Wheat Shortage.

The Chicago Times-Herald a few days ago published a crop report prepared by Snow, the crop expert, who has just completed a two weeks' trip thro' the States of Minnesota, North and South Dakota. He declares the situation a national calamity, and claims the wheat failure the worst ever known. He estimates the Dakotas as promising only 20,000,000 bushels each, and Minnesota, 35,000,000, a total of 75,000,000, against 200,000,000 last year and 225,000,000 in 1898.

To Charleston, S. C.

For the meeting of the National Educational Association at Charleston, S. C., July 7-15, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell excursion tickets from all stations on its lines to Charleston at the rate of one fare for the round trip, plus \$2.00. Tickets to be sold July 5 to 8, inclusive, and to be good to return until September 1, inclusive. On the return trip stop-over will be allowed at Washington on deposit of ticket with Joint Agent and on payment of fee of \$1.00. June 21-23

A Man Drowned.

A few days ago a Hungarian named Andrew Hinnick went bathing in the creek at Snow Shoe, and drowned. The body was not recovered until the next morning.

GOT 60 CENTS.

Robbers Break into the Spring Mills Post-office and Krape's Store.

On Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning robbers broke into the post-office and Krape's shoe store at Spring Mills, but for their work secured only about sixty cents.

The blacksmith shop of Jerry Condo was broken into, where the thieves secured a brace and bit, chisel and screw driver. With these tools entrance was forced to Charley Krape's shoe store by breaking the two locks securing the front door. The robbers were apparently after money only as Mr. Krape could not discover that they had taken any goods from the store. The post-office building was forced by prying open the door with a chisel. Postmaster Long had not locked his safe but the thieves to get at the cash drawer in the safe tore out all the partitions on the inside. The safe was empty, but upon a table was sixty cents in pennies, and this was all the money that the thieves found in the office. Mr. Long had taken all the stamps and cash with him when he closed for the night. Three tramps circulating in the locality on Tuesday are suspected of doing the robbery.

LATE NEWS NOTES.

The President will spend the hot months at his old home in Canton.

The Governor of Bombay wires that there were 10,277 deaths from cholera out of 15,479 cases during the week ending June 16.

The famine situation in India is unchanged. Rains are needed to enable the natives to engage in plowing and sowing the autumn crops.

American troops have been ordered to China, and war with the empire seems to be imminent, the President having taken strong military measures.

A railroad culvert being weakened by a washout during recent heavy rains, near McDonough, Ga., a train ran into the gully and was wrecked, causing a loss of 37 lives.

The outcome of the troubles in China is believed will be the partitioning of the empire, the oldest upon earth, among the Powers, the United States to get a slice. The population of China is estimated at 400 millions.

It is believed that the Democratic National Convention which meets at Kansas City, July 4th, will be stamped for ex-Gov. Hill, of New York, for Vice President. The name of Bryan will be the only one offered for President.

American soldiers have been killed in the outbreak in China and reinforcements have been ordered thither from Manila. England, France and Russia have also had losses. In the fighting thus far some 4000 Chinamen are reported to have been killed.

The National hotel, in Lewistown, took fire on Monday afternoon from a defective flue, but by hard work of the firemen the flames were put out. The combined loss of the owner Wm. Bear, and of the lessee, James Clover, is estimated at \$2000. At the same time fire was set to the large stable of Dr. M. R. Thompson, but an early discovery enabled the firemen to put out the flames.

Mystery of the Recent Forest Fires.

It is a singular co-incidence that the recent forest fires started in all parts of the state near about the same time raging in over half the counties. How is this accounted for? Was it accidental? Was it a plot? The first week of these fires in our own county, there were outbreaks in a score or more widely separated mountain sections. Lightning could not have been the origin; nor mere accident, nor even sparks carried by the wind, as there was much dead calm. The same conditions existed at the same time in the other counties of the state scourged by these fires. A wide-spread plot could have made it possible, but that is not probable. Who can clear up the mystery?

Since the fires have ceased, the surface of the untouched portions of the forests covered with dry brush and other combustible material, has remained free from the flames all thro' a dry period of weeks.

Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses were issued during the past week: Calvin Ruhl, Colyer, and Flora Stiffler, Tusseyville. Clyde E. Bradford and Jennie Dunkle, Centre Hall. Arthur M. Grove, Potter township, and Eveline Blanche Haugh, of Miles twp. Frank N. Lucas, Snow Shoe, and Sue H. Weaver, Moshannon. Burton E. Hendricks, of Blanchard, and Annie M. Rines, Flemington. James M. Kustenbender, Lemont, and Annie Houser, Houserville. John Edgar Fryberger and Caroline Chase McGaffey, Philipsburg. Emmet T. Jordan and Maude Bollinger, Colyer.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Boalsburg Has a Destructive Fire on Tuesday Morning.—Six Barns and Stable, with Lot of Outbuildings Destroyed.

Boalsburg had a very destructive fire on Tuesday morning, which destroyed two barns and four stables, along with a number of outbuildings, in the heart of the town.

The fire started in the barn of Mrs. Emma Fisher, the origin of which is attributed to some children playing with fire crackers and matches in or near Mrs. Fisher's barn. This building was soon in flames, and they quickly communicated to the other stables and barns surrounding, until six structures were blazing furiously, and threatened for a time to wipe out the entire eastern section of the town. A bucket brigade was formed which did excellent work in putting out the fires that had started on several house roofs and other buildings. Everyone took a hand in fighting the fire to confine it within the district, and aid was secured from the State College fire department, which rendered valuable assistance.

Mrs. Fisher's barn, ice house, with other outbuildings, were totally destroyed. Loss, \$500; insurance \$300 in the Centre Hall company. David Keller, stable and outbuildings, Adam Hosterman, barn, no insurance; Anna Cooper, stable; Lot W. Kimport, stable, with \$200 insurance; Alex. Kuhn, stable. Total loss about \$2000.

It was only by the most strenuous efforts that the dwellings of Mrs. Fisher and Adam Hosterman were saved. Everyone, men, women and children worked nobly in fighting the flames, and two brave young lasses worked like beavers carrying water and then fainted dead away when all danger was over. No live stock was burned, as there was plenty time to remove all from the buildings.

When the alarm was first given, Miss Sallie Keller, who lives with her brother, David Keller, ran out into the street. A man on horseback riding furiously through the town, knocked Miss Keller down, breaking her leg. She is badly injured.

SUICIDE NEAR HOWARD.

Wm. Masden, a Well-to-do Farmer Ends Life by Hanging.

Wm. Masden, a well-to-do farmer residing one mile west of Howard, committed suicide some time during Tuesday night and was discovered Wednesday morning hanging by the neck to a rafter in the garret of his home. When found he was dead, and had been so for several hours.

The cause for his committing this tragic deed is said to have been due to an unbalanced mind. For the past six months the neighbors say he has been acting strangely. No other cause for the rash act can be assigned as he was apparently very prosperous and his family relations were always of the pleasantest.

He was a native of Clinton county, and was about fifty years of age. He is survived by a wife and four children. Two brothers, who reside near Beech Creek also survive him. Also a half brother and a half sister, who reside in Clinton county. The funeral will take place Friday morning.

District League Convention.

The Central District Luther League held its sixth annual convention at Boalsburg, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Thirteen societies were represented by forty delegates and visitors from the various organizations. The following subjects were ably discussed by excellent essays and talks: "Self Culture;" "Our Pastor—How Can We Help Him?" "Reason Why Our Young People Should be Organized;" "What Should We do to Enlist Their Interest in Church Work." "Dangers to Which Young People are Subject;" "What Relation Does the Young Peoples' Society Sustain to the Church?" Rev. D. E. Rupley, of Lock Haven, delivered a very interesting address. Tuesday evening, subject, "The Bible in Our Public Schools." Wednesday evening, Rev. Charles W. Heisler, D. D., Pres. Susquehanna University, entertained the convention with an able address, subject, "Young Lutherans for the Twentieth Century." The officers who served during the past year were re-elected as follows: Pres., Clement Dale, Esq.; Bellefonte; Vice Presidents, Rev. Charles T. Alken, Pine Grove Mills, B. F. Homan, Oak Hall; Rec. Sec., W. M. Kerlin, Centre Hall; Cor. Sec., Rev. W. M. Spangler, Salona; Treas.; Miss Sara E. Klose. W. M. KERLIN, Sec'y.

Fine Concert.

The DeMoss Family, "Lyric Bards of America," 42 musical instruments used at each entertainment. Concert in the United Evangelical church, in Centre Hall, Thursday eve., July 12.

All Eyes on Kansas City.

The national Democratic convention will assemble in Kansas City on Wednesday, July 4. The convention will undoubtedly nominate as its standard bearer William Jennings Bryan, the most popular living Democrat.

The Philadelphia Sunday Times will on July 1, present its readers with a handsome lithographed portrait of Mr. Bryan. The portrait is made from a photograph forwarded to The Times from Lincoln, Nebraska, by the distinguished Democratic leader himself, and is in every particular a faithful likeness.

The Sunday Times of the same date will contain a valuable article by Col. A. K. McClure, in which this celebrated writer gives the history of past Democratic conventions and writes of many interesting and exciting incidents connected therewith. Among other things of special interest there will also appear on July 1 a richly illustrated article on Mr. Bryan and his family at home on their farm, signed articles by prominent Democrats on the national outlook, etc., etc. The Sunday Times of July 1, issued on the eve of the national convention, will be of unusual interest to every student of political history. Don't be disappointed. Order your copy in advance.

Foster's Weather Forecast.

About date of this bulletin a warm wave will be in the great central valleys, moving slowly eastward and a cool wave will then be in the Rockies of the north west.

Temperature of the week ending 8 a. m. July 2 will average below and rainfall will be about normal east of the Rockies, below west.

The crops are so far along that results can be fairly estimated from appearances, except corn, which yet must take the risk of running the gauntlet of a July and August drouth. Often when June ends with the greatest promises a drouth in July suddenly changes all to gloom and failure. Great uncertainty beclouds the present brilliant prospects of a maize crop. In southern states the corn is about matured, but corn producing districts proper do not extend much south of Mason's and Dixon's line.

My long ago prediction that a fair crop of spring wheat would be produced in northwest sections of great central valleys now appears to have been well founded. The drouth of May and first part of June came to that section as foretold, and, while a great scare resulted, these bulletins persisted in predicting timely rains.

Readable Clippings.

A great national meeting is a good thing. Several thousand little puffed up politicians, whose conceit gets intolerable in their respective parishes, find out when they go to the big meeting how small they are.—Ph. Ledger.

Some fellows never get over sizing themselves up big; but their actions are ever the opposite, little in all their doings.—Virg. Index.

The great wall of China was recently measured by an American engineer. His measurements gave the height as 18 feet. Every few hundred yards there is a tower 25 feet high. For 1300 miles the wall goes over plains and mountains, every foot of the foundation being of solid granite, and the rest of the structure solid masonry.

The secret hisser in a community is the murderer of society; fendlike he gloats over his work—at the bottom is one whom many least suspect.—Dr. Brown.

In 37 of these United States a married mother has no right to her children. In 16 states a wife has no legal right to her own earnings outside of the home. In 8 states a woman has no right to her own property after marriage. In 7 states there is no law compelling a man to support his family.

Reduced Rates to Cincinnati.

For the Annual Convention of the Baptist Young People's Union of America, to be held at Cincinnati, July 12-15, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell excursion tickets from all stations on its line to Cincinnati at one fare for the round trip. Tickets to be sold and good going July 10 to 13, inclusive, and to return until July 17, inclusive; but if tickets be deposited with the Joint Agent at Cincinnati on or before July 14, and if fee of fifty cents be paid, the return limit will be extended to August 10, inclusive. June 21-23

Lawn Social.

The Reformed congregation of this place will hold a social on their church lawn Saturday evening, June 30th. Ice cream, cake, etc., will be served. Proceeds to be appropriated towards the purchase of hymnals for supplying their church pews. All are invited.

Children's Day.

Children's Day will be observed in the Methodist church next Sunday evening at 7.30 o'clock. A special program for the children will be rendered along with excellent music. All are invited to these services.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Cullings of More than Ordinary Interest from Everywhere.

Ballad of the Trailing Skirt.

I met a girl the other day,
A girl with golden tresses,
Who wore the most bewitching air
And daintiest of dresses.
I gazed at her with kindling eye
And admiration utter—
Until I saw her silken skirt
Was trailing in the gutter!

"What senseless style is this?" I tho't,
"What new sartorial passion?
And who on earth stands sponsor for
The idiotic fashion?"
I've asked a dozen maids or more,
A tailor and a cutter,
But no one knows why skirts are made
To drag along the gutter.

What lovely woman wills to do
She does without a reason.
To interfere is waste of time,
To criticize is treason.
Man's only province is to work
To earn his bread and butter—
And buy her all the skirts she wants
To trail along the gutter.

—Life.

Will go up: the price of hay.

All are wishing for a soaking rain.
Hay crop will be little and price big.
For good job work try the REPORTER.

Not much serious illness over the county.

Two fine thunder showers Tuesday afternoon.
"A good fellow": he who minds his own business.

Great thing: a clean conscience—how is yours?

A model woman: she who does not gossip or carry news.

John F. Derstine, Bellefonte, was granted a pension, \$8.

Will be a grand affair: Centre County Centennial, July 25-26.

There is to be a public sale of pigs in this town one of these days.

The grubworm is threatening the cornercrop in parts of Haines and Penn, as well as Miles.

P. A. Liestler who recently moved from here to Kansas, bought a 160 acre farm near Rosette, Ks.

On the farm of ex-sheriff Spangler and the McClellan farm, in the Loop, there are good fields of wheat.

There wasn't a single g. o. p'r, from this side, down to Hanna's g. o. p. show in Philadelphia, last week.

This section of our valley had its supply of strawberries entirely from home growers and fine berries at that.

Have had a number of showers this season but not one to thoroughly soak the ground or cause a rise of the creeks.

Mrs. Daniel Eisenhower, an aged Sugarvalley lady, dropped dead last Friday. Husband and children survive.

To kill cabbage worms, put a tablespoonful of ammonia into a gallon of water and sprinkle the plant with the mixture.

The DeMoss concert in the Un. Ev. church, Tuesday eve, 12. Don't miss a first class treat.

Wheat made another upward jump close to last week, reaching nigh to a dollar. The poor crop prospect is doing it.

Al. Dale, as per the Centre Democrat, will ask for the Republican nomination for assembly. The party owes him honors.

Alfred Durst has the new stable on his lot almost completed. He will get his new dwelling finished before the winter sets in.

All of the personal property of the Bellefonte Young Men's Christian Association will be sold at constable's sale next Saturday.

Edward Davis, a Centre county patient, escaped from the Danville Hospital for the Insane one day last week. No trace was found of him.

Miller Goodhart is doing some truck farming on a large scale on some lots near the town. He will find a market for his products in other parts of the state.

George W. Ocker last week unloaded a large car of fine oats and No. 2 shelled corn, which he received from the west, to supply the shortage of feed in this section.

A new dwelling house is being erected on the Bible farm east of Centre Hall, to take the place of the old dilapidated log house which was torn down to make way for the new.

Now is the time when the big guns of the big city pulpits start in on their three months' vacation, while the dominies of the country churches are kept at home to pound away at Satan during hottest of Sundays.

Well, don't say it's too warm—it's needed for making hay. Hay makes cream. Cream makes ice-cream. Ice cream makes festivals. Festivals make places for a fellow to take his best girl to. There now, quit grumbling, and be thankful for the good things that come in the lap of warm weather.