

The Centre Reporter.

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NO. 4.

THE MUCH-GUARDED PRESIDENT.

Mr. Roosevelt's press agent has told us again and again of the President's irritation at the vigilance of the secret service men, from whom he is represented as escaping at every opportunity. One would suppose that the detectives were the Eumenides whom he is trying to get rid of, but in vain. This is a pleasing fiction, but discerning persons understand that the President would not be guarded if he did not wish it.

No President was ever so guarded as he. He does not go to ride without a secret service man behind him. John Wilkie's agents are behind every tree on the White House grounds, ready to jump upon any suspicious person, and in traveling the President is guarded like the Kaiser. Such things never happened before. More people have been bundled out of the White House or arrested on the grounds or in the vicinity of Sagamore Hill than had been so treated from the time of George Washington to the inauguration of Theodore Roosevelt.

It is true that Mr. McKinley was assassinated. But eight or ten secret service men were around him at the moment, and much good it did him. Garfield was also assassinated. But General Arthur was not led thereby to adopt the methods of Tsarskoje Selo. He was easier to reach in the White House than many a bank president is. He went to the railway station and traveled abroad without a retinue of sleuths. No women were knocked down and dragged out of the White House in his time because an under secretary's sub-deputy assistant decided that she shouldn't see the President. The "woman in blue" who kept the secret service men at Oyster Bay in a perfect fever all last summer would have seen Mr. Arthur or Mr. Cleveland or Mr. Harrison or Mr. McKinley, and nothing would have happened.

It is a curious thing that the man who insists on calling his official residence by its nickname of the White House, in order to show that he is one of the people, is guarded like a king, while his predecessors, who used the stately and statutory term Executive Mansion, went in and out and rode abroad like ordinary citizens.

THEY'RE A BAD SET.

From the Weekly Herald.
The late commissioners of Snyder county must dive down into their pockets and hand over to the county \$1250 for negligence in not properly expending the money for the so-called soldiers' monument, according to the county auditors. It is a matter of regret that the Republican auditors could not agree with their colleagues to make the amount \$3,000. The ignominious shaft is a standing ridicule on Snyder county and the three commissioners who built it and selected the site, to say nothing of the eight thousand dollars of the tax-payers' money squandered.

Somebody has conceived the idea that because the Curtin monument is to be dedicated this year, Bellefonte must have Curtin for mayor, and Gen. John I. Curtin has been suggested. Now, that is real cute, and whoever suggested the idea is entitled to a medal for his smartness. Bellefonte now has a Democratic mayor, and if a Republican can supplant him on a sentimental platform, wouldn't that be great? Are the Democrats of Bellefonte at home?

Judge Bouton's decision declaring the new road law unconstitutional on the ground that it is special legislation, because it permits the tax in one district to be worked out and in another obliges it to be paid in cash, will likely have the effect of changing the tactics of the advocates of local option. Local option would also delegate the law-making power to the voters, which the same judge declares clearly against the constitution.

Health Commissioner Dixon is sending personal letters to school teachers calling attention to the vaccination law and insisting that the law be enforced to the letter. It appears that Dixon is anxious to earn the money received in salary. He can give no other good reason for his endeavor to enforce the law in rural districts where smallpox has always been a stranger.

When Roosevelt undertook to make states out of territories, he found himself up against the real thing. Can any one explain why the President is so much in earnest about creating these new states? Would he like to admit the truth in the matter? Hardly!

Representative Sulzer, of New York, has introduced a bill to increase the President's salary to \$100,000 per year, and the Vice President's salary to \$25,000.

INCIDENTS OF 1876.

Local Items Taken from the Centre Reporter of Interest to 1905 Readers.

[Note: The spelling of proper names is the same as found in the files of the Reporter.]

JUNE 8—The cellar of Peter Rearlock, at Old Fort, was robbed of all the pies, cakes, bread, and so on. The dwelling house of William P. Shoop, in this place, was also robbed. Clothing, pictures from the family album, etc., were among the things missing. The thieves lunched in the kitchen before leaving.

Dr. Atlee removed a twenty-seven pound ovarian tumor from the abdomen of Miss Lizzie Heller, in the upper end of Nittany Valley.

A boy named Noll, of Pleasant Gap, was drowned while fishing near that place.

On the night of the third some one entered Emanuel Brown's confectionery shop, at Spring Bank, by sawing out a window, and stole quite a lot of candies, nuts, cigars, etc. S. K. Faust was also visited, and he was relieved of a rubber buggy blanket.

JUNE 15—During a thunder gust Monday, lightning struck an out-house, on the premises of Mr. Mersinger, in the Loop. About the same time the dwelling house of Franz Loug, at the Forks, was struck and set on fire, but the flames were extinguished.

JUNE 22—Mrs. George Odenkirk, while at Centre Hill on Monday, received a severe flesh wound in the arm by a bite from a horse.

Pearce Creek, on Sunday, was higher than at any time since the flood of 1865, according to the high-water mark of Peter Wilson, at Spring Mills.

S. M. Spangler, of Miles township, has eight Cotswold ewes which gave birth to seventeen lambs. One gave birth to triplets last year and this year. From each of last year's triplets he clipped three dollars' worth of wool and then sold the sheep for \$4.00 per head.

Henry Booser opened a saddle shop in Centre Hall.

JUNE 29—Jewett, the youngest son of Adam Bair, of Rebersburg, accidentally shot himself in the abdomen, and died in a few minutes. He was aged fifteen years. The pistol was the same one with which Howard Condo shot himself, but a little over a year ago.

JULY 13—During a thunder storm on the afternoon of the 13th, the barn door on the farm of John Lee, in the Loop, was blown from its hinges and struck one of Mr. Lee's sons, causing a fracture of the collar bone. The storm also upset a load of hay, and injured another son by throwing him against the fence.

Monday a little daughter of John Odenkirk, of the Old Fort, aged about ten years, fell in a bucket of boiling water, and to her fright fell to the floor. The front part of her body and limbs were badly scalded, making her sufferings intense.

A. C. Ripka and wife, of Centre Hill, have just returned from a visit to Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri and Kansas.

Jonathan Kreamer, of Millheim, now owns the stage line from Centre Hall to Laurelton.

JULY 20—Last Sunday the corner stone of the new Lutheran church, at Rebersburg, was laid.

William Palmer, son of James Palmer, of Potters Mills, aged about fifteen years, died Sunday from the effects of a fall from a walnut tree some six years previous. He injured his spine, which completely paralyzed the lower portion of his body.

Married—July 6, John Booser and Miss Mollie Dale, both of Centre Hall.

July 16, Charles Wright and Mary K. Gardner, both of Ferguson township. . . . June 29 James E. Holloway and Miss Sadie Bower, both of Aaronburg.

Enforcing Compulsory School Laws.

From the Millheim Journal.

That there are still some parents who do not comply with the school law was shown Saturday when the Penn township school board had a number of them before F. P. Musser, J. P., for violation of the law in neglecting and refusing to send their children to school. All kinds of excuses were brought in at the hearing and among them was, insufficient clothing for the children. There is no family in this neighborhood whose children are insufficiently clothed to attend school, but would be provided for by making their wants known to the school board, and if they do not furnish the clothing the overseers must after a legal complaint.

Democratic Caucus.

Committeeman D. J. Meyer has posted notices for the Democratic borough caucus to be held in the council room, Penna Valley Bank Building, Saturday evening, 7 o'clock, to place in nomination candidates for the various borough offices.

TELEPHONES ON THE FARM.

Five Branch Companies of The Patrons Rural Telephone Company Have Lines Under Construction—Forty-one Contracts for Telephones Already Signed with the Pennsylvania Telephone Company.

CENTRE COUNTY FARMERS are not lagging in the rear in the Procession of Progress. They lead the ranks. They are first to organize a telephone company that ultimately will connect every rural district with a common center, and place every farmer within speaking distance of his most remote neighbor.

There are established in various localities, outside of Centre county, farmer telephone lines, but they are without organization—each one stands alone, without power or force, unable to ever become more than a single farmer telephone line, composed of a half dozen farmers.

In Centre county conditions are different. The order of Patrons of Husbandry saw that the next convenience on the farm, after rural mail service, was the rural telephone. The Centre County Pomona Grange took up the matter six months ago, appointed a committee with Hon. Leonard Rhone as chairman, and three months later the order adopted a constitution and by laws forming The Patrons Rural Telephone Company, providing for Branch Companies, and contracted with the Pennsylvania Telephone Company to use its lines and exchanges. The Branch Companies build and control their own lines, yet the scheme permits the combining of their forces so that they are always prepared to combat any infringement of their rights, or attempt to squeeze, in the matter of rates, by the telephone company whose lines and exchanges they employ. Finally, when the opportune time comes, to establish a complete telephone system in Centre county, independent of any other company. In union there is strength. A single farmer telephone line, no matter how prominent the patrons on it, is a weakling; combine these lines, organize them, and they become a power.

Today there are regularly organized five Branch Telephone Companies. The work was accomplished with not a little difficulty. The idea was new. Farmers do not consider the building of telephone pole lines, the payment of a rental, etc., a novelty, consequently it required persuasion to sign the first application blank. Had it been possible for E. M. Gann, the representative of the Pennsylvania Telephone Company, to begin at the other end, the building of farmer telephone lines would be an easy proposition; could he have installed a telephone in the farmer's private house on trial, it would require legal action on the part of the company to remove it. But to place a telephone in the farmer's home, first requires the building of a telephone pole line; stringing of wires; payment for material and labor. The outlay first, then the telephone.

In these days a reasonable proposition is not a bogaboo to the farmer. The telephone proposition presented by the Centre County Pomona Grange and the Pennsylvania Telephone Company was a reasonable proposition, and Mr. Gann, the latter's representative, presented and pushed his claims with such caution and discreetness that the result today is, as stated above—five Branch Companies organized and that many lines under construction. Besides these there are a half dozen or more similar companies well under way.

The five Branch Companies thus far organized have a total of forty-one telephone subscribers, but it is assured that each company, before the instruments are installed, will add from two to five patrons.

To build the lines now under way it will require over four tons of No. 12 BB extra galvanized wire, (which grade of wire is especially recommended for telephone use) to cover the twenty-five miles of line; about nine hundred telephone poles, eighteen hundred brackets and insulators.

THE BRANCH COMPANIES.

Appended are the names of the patrons composing the various Branch Companies, also the route over which the lines extend, and their length.

BRANCH COMPANY NO. 1 will follow the pole line of Branch Company No. 2 from Bellefonte to Hoy's school house, thence south to William E. Crust, thence south by Peru station to Harry E. Zimmerman, thence west to S. W. Zettle, John S. Dale, Willard Dale, George Dale, at Dale Summit. This latter point is six miles southwest of Bellefonte. The pole line of this company is three miles in length, and, as stated above, Branch Company No. 1 uses the pole line of Branch Company No. 2 for three and one-half miles.

It will not be out of the way to say a few words about the Dales in this connection. George Dale, who for a number of years has been master of the Centre County Grange, will have the use of a telephone in his home for the first time after having been the head of a farmer's home for the past fifty years. Mr. Dale and his sons, John S. and Willard, have done much to bring about the present conditions whereby it is possible for every farmer to be within speaking distance of his neighbors within Centre county.

BRANCH COMPANY NO. 2 runs from Bellefonte to the Hoy school house. The first patron on this line is Charles Wetzel, on the Forge Hill road, next comes Frank Beezer, F. W. Musser, J. H. Fishburn, S. H. Hoy on the Kauffman farm, J. W. Grove at the Hoy school house, thence across the pike to John P. Ishler and W. J. Ishler, the latter on the Hayes farm, making the line 3½ miles in length.

BRANCH COMPANY NO. 3 leads from Bellefonte to Pleasant Gap, the company deeming it profitable to pay pin rental on Bell poles rather than to construct a pole line of their own. This line is five miles in length, and the patrons are: Wm. J. Dale, Luther K. Dale, Albert Smeltzer, E. E. Swartz, J. C. Barnes, J. T. Zeigler, W. W. Kerstetter, W. S. White, John Griffith.

BRANCH COMPANY NO. 4 runs southeast from Bellefonte along the Zion road. The patrons are W. C. Smeltzer, A. D. Smeltzer, J. W. Garbrick, Frank Wion, Thomas M. Weaver, L. E. Jodon, G. Perry Gentzel, Epley Gentzel.

BRANCH COMPANY NO. 5 runs on the pole line of Branch Company No. 4 to Nigh Bank, thence to a point one mile east of Zion, six miles from Bellefonte. The patrons are: T. S. Wells, Joseph Royer, John Cole, Squire Grove, Howard Struble, H. A. Kauffman, F. M. Sharer, Amos Kauffman, G. M. Yarnell.

REGISTRARS OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Who They Are, and a Brief Statement of the Facts, Certificates of Deaths and Births Contain.

An act passed by the Legislature established a new department under the State board of health known as the central bureau of vital statistics, the object of which is to secure a correct return of every birth and death occurring in the State, as well as the cause of death, where the body is buried, etc. For the purpose of collecting these statistics local registrars have been appointed in every county in the State who will receive twenty-five cents for each birth and death returned and fifty cents for each disinterment permit. The registrars appointed for Centre county are as follows:

S. A. Bell, Bellefonte; for Bellefonte borough, Benner, Spring, Walker and Marion townships.

Dr. J. R. G. Allison, Centre Hall; for Centre Hall borough and Potter township.

W. H. Holter, Howard; for Howard borough, Howard, Curtin and Liberty townships.

Alfred G. Rager, Milesburg; for Milesburg borough and Boggs township.

P. H. Musser, Millheim; for Millheim borough, Gregg, Penn, Haines and Miles townships.

Thomas G. McCausland, Phillipsburg; for Phillipsburg borough and Rush township.

John Hoffman, South Phillipsburg; for South Phillipsburg.

Irving L. Foster, State College; for State College borough, Ferguson, Harris and College townships.

B. W. Shipley, of Unionville; for Unionville borough, Taylor, Worth, Huston, Halfmoon, Patton and Union townships.

W. A. Sickle, Snow Shoe; for Burnside and Snow Shoe townships.

Certificates of death shall contain the following items: Place of death, name, sex, race, conjugal condition, date of birth, age, place of birth, name and birthplace of father and mother, occupation, signature and address of informant, date of death, statement of medical attendance on decedent, including the time last seen alive, cause of death, signature and address of physician or official making the medical certificate, place and date of burial, signature and address of undertaker.

The medical certificates will be of particular interest. Under this law doctors will not be able to completely bury errors. The medical certificate must state the cause of death, so as to show the course of disease or sequence of causes resulting in death, giving the primary and immediate causes, and also the contributory causes, if any, and the duration of each. Indefinite and unsatisfactory terms, indicating only symptoms of disease or conditions resulting from disease, will not be held sufficient for issuing a burial or removal permit; and any certificate containing only such terms as defined by the State Registrar shall be returned to the physician for correction and definition. Causes of death, which may be the result of either disease or violence, shall be carefully defined; and, if from violence, its nature shall be stated, and whether (probably) accidental, suicidal, or homicidal.

Points certificates of births shall embody: Place of birth, full name of child and if child is not yet named the name shall be supplied later by a supplemental report, sex, whether twin, triplet or other plural birth, whether legitimate or illegitimate, name, residence, race, age, birthplace and occupation of father and mother, number of child of this mother and number of children of this mother now living.

When there is no attending physician or midwife, then the father or mother of the child or owner of the premises or householder shall notify the local registrar of the births within ten days.

Sunday's Temperature 67.

Sunday was a most delightful day. The sun was bright all day, the sky being almost cloudless during the entire day. The highest temperature at Centre Hall was sixty-seven.

In other parts of the United States, the eastern section, the temperature ranged from seventy degrees in middle Florida to thirty degrees in Boston. The centre of the mid-winter hot wave was in Ohio and Illinois.

400 Teachers Fail to Spell 13 Words.

In the western part of the state, at a county institute, an instructor sprung a spelling bee on almost four hundred teachers. The whole bunch were unable to spell all these twelve words correctly: auxiliary, beefsteak, super-seede, picknick, seize, cylinder, Tennessee, desiccated, proceed, sieve, siege, succotash. Fifty missed on "auxiliary," fifty more could not spell "beefsteak."

Why not advertise in the Reporter.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

The grain fields are in fine condition. The wheat plants look green and healthy.

Grier E. Garber, of Perry county, and Miss Gertrude Detwiler, of Beavertown, were married recently.

The first ice of the season was housed Friday, when D. A. Booser began cutting on the Jacobs pond, above town.

Miss Gertrude Mann, of Reedsville, and Jerome M. Thompson, of Wilkesbarre, were married Thursday of last week.

Foxes are very plentiful in the lower end of Penna Valley. Earnest Stover and son Ray, of Aaronburg, recently killed three red ones.

The barn on the farm of Judge J. H. McKinney, near Lock Haven, was destroyed by fire. The live stock was rescued. The loss was about \$1,000.

The Baker House, Lewisburg, was sold to J. F. Krause, of Clearfield. Mr. Baker has been conducting the Baker House for twenty-three years, but now will retire.

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Keller, Roland Keller and Mr. and Mr. Hoover Dalby, Saturday morning started for their new home in the vicinity of Phoenixville.

Mrs. L. E. Bricker, of Boalsburg, has taken up her home with her sister, Mrs. M. M. Frink, in Altoona. Her son Howard is also in that city, and is employed in the Boecking drug store.

No one visiting Bellefonte will be accused of saying that the soldiers' monument is well located, but if the people of the county seat are satisfied, no one else has any particular objection.

"I don't want to be without the Reporter. . . . We have had a very mild winter so far, but today it is real cold, and the ground is covered with an inch of snow," writes Isaac Spicher, of Elwood, Illinois.

The late Marshall Field, Chicago's richest man, during the early sixties, traveled through northern Illinois selling dry goods from a wagon. He made his one hundred and fifty odd millions in the mercantile business.

The cut-off saw on the mill of Horace Robinson, one-half mile west of Lonebergers, on Nittany Mountain, burnt one day last week. Luckily the pieces of the saw landed safely in various parts of the mill without striking any of the mill hands.

Potter township school directors who attended the directors' association were: Adam Heckman, W. R. Neff, D. K. Keller, John A. Heckman. The representatives from Centre Hall were: John G. Dauberman, G. W. Bushman, S. W. Smith.

The McNitt-Huyett & Company saw mill, east of Centre Hall, is in full blast. A number of teams are constantly hauling the product to the Centre Hall station for shipment. Most of the timber is hard wood and is sawed for bridge and car stuff.

William B. Smith, of the Smith Printing company, Reedsville, recently had an operation performed for an internal trouble, at the German hospital, Philadelphia. It has not been long since Mr. Smith was operated on for appendicitis at the same institution.

In order to conduct their business to their best interests, Yeager & Davis, the Bellefonte shoe dealers, have signified their intention to keep open their place of business until eight o'clock. They will give their clerks the privilege of leaving the store any time after six o'clock.

Hog feeding has been unusually profitable this winter. First, the grain is plentiful and not above the average price; second, the weather has not been severe, and third, the price for the finished product is high, ranging from 6½ to 7 cents, and over. Shoats are selling at fabulous prices at public sales.

D. M. Rhinesmith, farmer on the James Mitchell farm, Lawrence township, Clearfield county, threshed seventy-three bushels of rye from two acres of ground this season, which is an unusually good crop. Mr. Rhinesmith learned farming at Earlstown, south of Centre Hall, on the farm now owned by J. I. Lytle. Early training sticks to a man.

The selection of candidates for school directors (to succeed Messrs. Booser and Smith, who are not candidates for re-election) in the borough, this year, more than ever should be done with a view of securing men of good, healthy educational sentiment, besides they should possess a tendency toward economy, but not at the expense of good schools. During the next three years it will be necessary to expend considerable money on the school building for roof and general repairs. These improvements and repairs are not a matter of selection, but a case of necessity.