



STATE GRANGE MEETING AT ALTOONA.

Hon. William T. Cressy, of Catawissa, familiarly known as "Farmer" Cressy, was elected master of the State Grange, over A. M. Cornell, of Bradford county, who was badly defeated two years ago by W. F. Hill, the retiring master.

Logically, "Farmer" Cressy was the choice as leader, because of his relentless push in the state assembly in favor of legislation that will help the farmer and because of his activity at all State Grange sessions. His election makes it certain that the Grange cannot be used politically by schemers of the Republican state machine.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

Master, W. T. Cressy, Catawissa; Overseer, H. F. Blair, Bellwood; Lecturer, E. P. Dorsett, Mansfield; Steward, Theodore M. Kline, Lake Ariel; Asst. Steward, J. P. Gifford, Harbor Creek; Chaplain, Rev. J. W. Johnston, Skippers Eddy; Treasurer, S. E. Nivins, Landenberg; Secretary, J. T. Allman, Thompsonstown; Gatekeeper, Alex. Strittmatter, Ebensburg; Ceres, Mrs. Anna Post, Dalton; Pomona, Mrs. Hannah McK. Lyons, Lincoln University; Flora, Mrs. Carrie Dale, State College; Lady Asst. Steward, Mrs. Mary O. Howden, Corriam; Executive Committee, L. B. Chandler, Toughkenamon; Finance Committee, S. B. Brown, Manns Choice.

When the State Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry formally opened its sessions in Altoona more than 1,200 delegates were present for enrollment. After the opening exercises, the public was admitted to the open session and a large audience listened with interest to the annual address of Worthy Master W. F. Hill, of Huntingdon, read by Secretary J. T. Allman.

Past Master Leonard Rhone, of Centre county, was warmly welcomed. He was worthy master of the State Grange for eighteen years, and after several years' absence from these meetings, was present and gave an excellent address on several lines of Grange work. He emphasized the necessity of the farmers standing together, especially for the securing of better legislation. There should be greater effort to secure the election of farmers to legislature and congress. The department of agriculture was established through the work of the Grange, whose duty it is to see that this and all other departments in which the farmer is interested are properly maintained. Forty-seven per cent. of the population is composed of farmers, who should therefore be represented by forty-seven per cent. of the legislature.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT.

The report of the Legislative committee in part is as follows:

We reaffirm the position we have taken heretofore in favor of the township road law passed by the last Legislature and vetoed by the Governor without giving the farmer a reason. That law required the state to pay 50 cents for every dollar cash tax raised by the township and repealed the \$1 per capita tax.

The state of New York pays 50 cents for every dollar raised by the townships, and taxes corporations and railroads for local purposes. It is evident that every citizen of the state is directly interested in the proper maintenance of the township roads, and we demand that the bill vetoed by the Governor be re-enacted by the next Legislature or the present law repealed.

We believe that the State Highway Department should be reorganized, to the end that the red tape should be done away with and the law made flexible to suit conditions in the several communities. Some method must be found to reduce the cost of building roads if the townships are expected to share in the expense.

The dictatorial powers assumed by the State Department are not consistent with sound business principles, where three parties share the expense. The contemplated state road from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh is, on the statement of a president of the National Automobile Association, only a part of a large plan for a boulevard from New York to Chicago.

We favor no expenditure of the state's money that is not equitably distributed among the counties of the state. And especially so when a \$4000 auto pays a miserable \$3 tax and the owner of a \$4000 horse pays \$90. A more equitable and practical proposition would be for the state to build and maintain at its own expense a network of roads connecting the county seats in the state, making an aggregate of 5000 miles of state road, at an approximate cost of \$40,000,000, in from eight to ten years, and that without issuing bonds.

We are unalterably opposed to involving the taxpayers in an interest-bearing bonded debt. The old bonded debt of the state in 1848 reached its maximum with \$12,000,000. This debt was created for the building of our public works. It has taken sixty-four years since then to extinguish it. The building of the public works created

endless scandal, and the building of the state Capitol has created a greater scandal and the state has not thus far shown its ability to bring to justice those who robbed the state of its money and its fair name.

We reaffirm our position on the question of parcels post, not as applying to free rural delivery where the great enemy of parcels post (namely the express companies) get their steal and the rural carriers make the delivery, but as applying to the whole postal system throughout the United States.

Your committee cannot understand why it is that the United States department of agriculture year after year puts before the farmers such a misrepresentation as is found in the report of the product of the farm. The total value of corn is taken. Then when this corn is fed to cattle the total cattle are taken. Then large numbers of cattle are used in the production of milk and butter, and again the whole product is taken. The skim milk is fed to hogs and chickens, and again the whole product is counted. In this way the immense total of \$9,000,000,000 is announced as the income of the farmer. Hence it is clear that in many cases the same money value is counted several times and is thereby misleading and untrue. We believe a much greater good would ensue if they would publish and proclaim the fact that we pay more for our machinery here at home than do our foreign competitors for the same machinery abroad. Or to explain the just principle in political economy that where a producer has to sell his product on the world's market that he should be allowed to buy on the same market.

J. C. Sweeney, formerly of Altoona, now of Harrisburg, gave an interesting half hour's talk on rural telephones, which have done so much to connect the farmer with the outside world. Mr. Sweeney's connection with the rural telephone service under the plan of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania gave him exceptional qualifications to speak on this subject. "Washington the Farmer," was the subject of an address by Dr. Edwin E. Sparks, president of Pennsylvania State College.

OUR NEW DOCTOR OF LAWS.

In one interesting respect President Roosevelt's last message is a departure from his former lectures to Congress upon public morality and political economy. For the first time he has set himself up as a Doctor of Laws and has laid the basis of a Twentieth Century system of philosophical jurisprudence quite different from the musty pandects of Justinian, the Code Napoleon or the "outgrown" Constitution of the United States and the obsolescent decisions of the Supreme Court. For the enforcement of this system of jurisprudence the message says "we shall owe most to the Judges who hold to a Twentieth Century economic and social philosophy, and not to a long outgrown philosophy." The future Judges of the Federal Courts now know what is to be expected of them, as the present Judges are assumed to be too old to learn. What, indeed, to this philosophy of Twentieth Century jurisprudence are the Constitution of the United States and the edifice of precedents constructed by the Supreme Court?

It need scarcely be said that the occasion for the enunciation of this new judicial system, with the accompanying rebuke of "vicious Judges" who do not obey his will, is the adverse decision of the United States Circuit Court in Chicago upon the \$29,240,000 fine of the Standard Oil Company. For this he pours the vials of his wrath upon the "unwise" Judges who are incapable of comprehending the "Twentieth Century economic and social philosophy." In their simplicity and unwisdom the Judges of the Federal Courts have hitherto conceived that their province is to interpret the laws. But they know better now under the instructions of our learned Doctor of Jurisprudence. The system which he has briefly defined will be very apt to occupy the legal mind of the country for some time after its distinguished author has gone to chase lions, elephants and giraffes in the jungles of Africa. But it may be taken for granted that few jurists will follow him in his attempt to bring discredit upon the honored judicial institutions of the country.

Notice to Subscribers.

During the first issues of January bills will be mailed to all subscribers to the Reporter who are in arrears. The publisher prefers not to send bills until after the first of the year, as many subscriptions are paid about that time by a large number of patrons. These bills will be enclosed in the regular issue of the paper, such enclosures being permissible under the postoffice ruling.

TRIMMERS TO BE SENTENCED.

Friday of this week—Cases Will be Appealed—Huston Next on List for Trial.

President Judge George Kunkel will sentence to prison tomorrow (Friday) the four "trimmers," convicted in the first trial, of conspiracy to cheat and defraud the state in furnishing the new Capitol. He over-ruled the motion for arrest of judgment and a new trial.

The men who will be sentenced for their part in overcharging the state for \$9,000,000 trimmings for the \$4,000,000 building are:

John H. Sanderson, contractor, of Philadelphia.

James M. Shumaker, of Johnstown, superintendent of public grounds and buildings during the Pennypacker administration, when the steal was consummated.

William P. Snyder, of Spring City, auditor general from 1904 to 1907; member of Board of Public Grounds and Buildings during his term as auditor general and member of the Capitol Building Commission.

William L. Mathews, of Media, state treasurer from 1904 to 1906 and member of the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings during that period.

These four men were tried last winter. They were convicted February 13. Five were indicted in the conspiracy charge, the fifth being Joseph M. Huston, of Philadelphia, architect of the Capitol. Huston was granted a severance at the outset of the trial.

Sentencing the defendants does not mean that they shall go to jail at once, if at all. The maximum penalty which can be imposed upon each is two years' imprisonment and \$500 fine. Both fine and imprisonment must be imposed. The fact that the indictment contained two counts does not increase the penalty; both charged conspiracy, but one was statutory conspiracy and the other common-law conspiracy.

None of the defendants will ever go to jail unless the court of last resort decides against them. Should the Supreme Court sustain this opinion, they will go to the Supreme Court, if they can. In the event of the Superior Court sustaining Judge Kunkel's opinion, the case, being a misdemeanor, cannot be taken to the Supreme Court unless that tribunal should grant an allocatus—in other words, give its permission that the appeal be brought before it. Appeal to the Supreme Court from the Superior Court is not a matter of right in this case.

The third of the Capitol cases to be tried may be announced this week. It will be one of the conspiracy cases involving Architect Huston and the four men who were denied new trials, but the commonwealth has not designated which one will be called. Counsel for the defendants have been notified that on December 23 court will be asked to fix a date for the next trial. The third or fourth Monday of January will probably be set.

Senator John S. Fisher, of Indiana, will settle up the accounts and wind up the affairs of the Capitol Investigating Commission created during the last session to probe the state house scandal. The commission has from \$5000 to \$7000 left out of its appropriation of \$100,000 for expenses.

FREEING TOLL ROADS.

Some of the counties throughout the state are not at all pleased with the movement to free all toll roads at the expense of the state, and there is good reason for it. Take Centre county, for instance. A number of pikes within its boundaries have been freed of toll gates, and the expense was born by the county. Other counties have the same opportunities to do away with the toll roads. It is simply a matter of dollars and cents.

If the state concludes to go into the business of freeing pikes from toll gates, it should also agree to reimburse counties that have freed their roads in the past at their own expense. That, at least, would be fair to all.

WHO GOT THE MONEY?

Rather than answer the question—who got the money—propounded by the New York World, President Roosevelt may be willing to go to the woods for other reasons than hunting tigers.

If the President knows what he is talking about it would be an easy matter to answer the World's question, but it looks as though Mr. Roosevelt, like Pennypacker in the Pennsylvania Capitol building, knows it all until the witnesses are heard.

Walker's Expense Account.

In giving the expense accounts of the various candidates at the fall election, W. Harrison Walker was credited with having expended \$5670.14. This was an error; the sum was but \$557.14—the cipher made all the difference. Had Mr. Walker been able to contribute as liberally as Candidate Barclay, the result might have been different.

AUBURN HALL TRAPS GIRL'S FAMILY.

Burglar's Attention Leads to Disclosures as to Stolen Goods Receivers.

Jack Wilson, serving a sentence in the penitentiary for counterfeiting, lavished his attentions upon 17-year-old Leah Beckley, of Northumberland, so successfully that he caused that girl, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Beckley, and her brother Paul, to be remanded to jail, after pleading guilty in the Northumberland County Court on the charge of receiving stolen goods.

Upon his discharge from jail six months ago, after serving a term for burglary, Wilson looked about for a convenient method to make spurious coin, and secrete the goods which he expected to steal. He was attracted by the beauty of Leah Beckley, and began feigning serious court to the girl, ten years his junior, with the gratifying result that he was admitted to the Beckley house as a boarder. Soon store robberies in Sunbury and Northumberland became almost nightly occurrences. Leah then became conspicuous by the fine silks she wore, and Wilson proved an enviable sutor by squandering 10-cent pieces.

Their prodigality, coupled with the discovery in a burglarized Sunbury store of a tuft of auburn hair, the hue of Leah's locks, caused suspicion. A raid of the Beckley home revealed dresses for casting 10-cent pieces and over \$1000 worth of merchandise, which storekeepers identified as property taken from them.

Real Estate Deals.

Several real estate deals were consummated in and about Spring Mills last week. I. J. Zuber purchased the Fetterolf home from Samuel Wise, the sum paid for same being \$1800. Mr. Zuber purchased the property with the view of occupying it himself some time in the future, probably next spring. In the event he leaves the farm, his son-in-law, Cleveland Engard, will succeed him.

Messrs. Samuel Wise and W. E. Hagen, the latter a son-in-law of the former, purchased the Harvey B. Haugh farm, below Penns Cave. The sum paid for same is quoted as having been \$2500. The purchasers intend moving there in the spring.

Mr. Haugh, as had been previously mentioned in these columns, purchased a farm near Livonia.

McClintic-Bennison.

A wedding announcement that occasioned considerable surprise among the many friends of the bride in this county was that of Harry McClintic, formerly of Ridgway, Elk county, but now of Atlantic City, and Miss Emma Mae Bennison, daughter of Capt. and Mrs. S. H. Bennison, of Howard. The wedding took place at Atlantic City on Wednesday, November 25th. They are now at home at 122 South Belmont avenue, Atlantic City. The bride is an accomplished young woman and is very well known in Bellefonte, Howard and Nittany Valley, and the young couple have the hearty congratulations and best wishes of all their friends.

LOCALS.

Ladies' \$1.75 warm shoes, 98c at Yeagers.

Charley Stump has some notion of going south sometime next spring.

Headquarters for Christmas post cards, C. P. Long's.

John Gowland has been reappointed postmaster at Philipsburg.

Rockers suitable for Christmas presents, \$1.39 at C. P. Long's.

Among the Bellefonte hospital patients this week was Mrs. James Swab, of Linden Hall, who went to that institution Tuesday.

George W. Sweeney, mention of whose illness was made last week, is improving slightly, although he is yet unable to help himself. He is suffering from a paralytic stroke which effected his arms and limbs.

James Corl, present clerk for the county commissioners, after the first of the year will take up the sale of the Royal visible typewriter which he will follow at least until something better suited to his taste turns up.

Miss Sadie C. Bower, housekeeper for Jacob Sprow, on Nittany Mountain, Thursday of last week returned from Coburn where she had been visiting at her old home for a week. Mr. Sprow says housekeeping, without a woman on the premises, has little attraction for him, and consequently was very glad to have Miss Bower return.

The latter part of last week on going to the stable in the morning Frank Walker, west of Centre Hall, found his driving horse lying in the stable, and when examined it was discovered that one of his hind legs, at a point above the knee, was broken. No cause can be assigned for it. The animal, of course, was killed to put it out of misery.

Use Red Cross Stamps.



The opportunity afforded the reader to buy Red Cross Christmas stamps at this office will doubtless be appreciated by many who are interested in the cause that these little messengers represent—combating the white plague. These stamps sell for a penny apiece, the money thus realized being sent to the American National Red Cross Society to aid in the warfare against consumption. There is a fine sentiment attaching to the use of these stamps in connection with the Christmas giving—a sentiment not only mindful of one's duty toward his afflicted fellows, but one expressing appreciation of the privilege thus created to aid in the crusade for our land's emancipation from the scourge of tuberculosis. Seal your Christmas packages with Red Cross stamps.

Snow Shoe K. R. Engineer Killed.

Thursday morning of last week a wreck on the Snow Shoe railroad caused the death of the engineer, Alonzo Bachman, of Tyrone. The engine and two cars were thrown down an embankment. The engineer was caught in his seat by the tender and was badly used up. At the Bellefonte Hospital it was discovered that his injuries consisted of a fracture of the left leg below the knee, a fracture of the left thigh, badly lacerated scalp, nose torn off, and scalded over the entire body. Death ensued at one o'clock, several hours after arrival in the hospital.

The engineer was conscious to the end, and asked the surgeons not to amputate his limbs and to notify his wife of his condition.

He had been promoted from brakeman to engineer only about two months ago. His age was twenty-seven years. The body was shipped to Tyrone for interment.

The fireman was thrown some thirty feet, but escaped injury, as did also all the brakemen.

X-Ray Reveals Needle.

By the use of the X-ray a needle was located in the hand of Mrs. George A. Young, of Bellefonte, formerly of Centre Hall, and removed with little difficulty. Mrs. Young, while performing household duties, ran a needle into the palm of her hand and broke it off, about the half of it remaining in the hand. She suffered considerable pain, and as the days went by the pain grew worse, and finally she went to the office of Dr. Locke where the needle was located and removed as above indicated. From appearances, the needle, during the few days it was in the hand, had gone fully one-half inch deeper into the flesh.

Teacher's Institute.

County Superintendent D. O. Etters has practically completed arrangements for the sixty-second annual teacher's institute which will be held in the court house the week beginning December 28th. As instructors he has secured Dr. Henry R. Stanford, of New York; Dr. Urie N. Roark, of Richmond, Ky.; Prof. Harland E. Hall, of Mansfield, Ohio; Dr. Edwin Erle Sparks, president of Pennsylvania State College, and Dr. F. A. Ott. The principal lecture of the week will be delivered by Hon. Thomas A. Gore, the blind Senator from Oklahoma. It will be on Thursday evening, December 31st, and the subject, "Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis."

Keith's Theatre.

The bill at Keith's Theatre, Philadelphia, this week, is full of novelty. Robert Hilliard is playing a welcome return in an act of dramatic intensity, entitled "No. 973." Lily Lena, England's dainty comedienne, is again putting in her appearance after a tour of the country. She is entertaining with some of her charmingly original songs. A special feature is Joe Hart's "Bathing Girls," who furnish much music and fun. Niblo's talking birds are especially interesting for the children, as are Borani and Nevaro, in "Weary Waggles, the Dandy Dude Tramp." The Jostettis and Liliputian Wonder Troupe perform some daring feats. The Long Acre Quartette are new bidders for fame as vocal wonders.

Col. Coburn's Will.

The will of the late Col. James P. Coburn was probated last week. In it the testator bequeaths three thousand dollars outright to Mrs. Evelyn Rogers and the balance of his estate to his wife, Mrs. Coburn, during her life, and at her death everything to go to his nephew, Dr. Coburn Rogers. H. C. Quigley, Esq., and Dr. Coburn Rogers were named as executors. The estate is estimated at from \$35,000 to \$45,000.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Ladies' storm rubbers, 48c at Yeagers.

Richard Brooks purchased a new sleigh from D. A. Booser. Of course, it is the latest pattern.

A Christmas service will be rendered by the members of the Lutheran Sunday School Sunday evening.

For the past two weeks John Bohn, who lives just beyond the southern boundary of the borough, has been ill from typhoid fever.

Mrs. Andrew Gregg, of Scranton, came to Centre Hall on account of the illness of her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Sweeney.

A fire, caused by an overheated stovepipe, occurred at the residence of Harry Musser, Struble station. The strenuous efforts of a bucket brigade saved the building.

Mrs. John F. Emerick, of Farmers Mills, is now at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Meyer, in Centre Hall, and will remain there for the present in the capacity of housekeeper.

This from the Mifflinburg telegraph: William R. From visited his daughter Miss Maud, a trained nurse at the Williamsport Hospital, and his son Harry, station agent at Bitumen, latter part of last week.

From the Henry Duck farm, near Millheim, Harvey Mark will move to the Charles A. Krape farm, east of Centre Hall, and succeed Oscar C. Homan as tenant there. The Krape farm is a highly productive one.

Dr. George F. Harris, vice president of the First National Bank, in Bellefonte, is the acting president since the death of the president, Col. Coburn. The directors hold their annual meeting in January, at which time a president will be elected.

J. L. Crust, who for some time past had been stationed at Fort Totten, Long Island, N. Y., as a corporal in the Sea Coast Defence, Navy Artillery, arrived in Bellefonte last week for a visit at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Crust, of Buffalo Run.

Mrs. Margaret Bailey, of State College, was among those who attended the funeral of Emanuel Fye. Mrs. Bailey had intended moving to Centre Hall by the first of April, but she has changed her mind, and will continue her residence at State College for at least a year longer.

Dr. George P. Bible came to Centre Hall Wednesday morning of last week from Boalsburg, where the evening previous he delivered a lecture. Dr. Bible just returned from a southern trip, and is now about to go through the western states on a lecturing tour. As an entertainer and lecturer he has been meeting with great success.

George W. Earhart, of Linden Hall, will become a half owner in the farm stock of W. Frank Bradford and Chas. W. Slack, and will succeed Mr. Slack as tenant on the Old Fort farm, owned by Mr. Bradford, after the first of April. During the ownership of that farm by the Odenkirks, Mr. Earhart, then at home with his father, lived where he expects to move to in the spring.

Lieutenant S. D. Gettig of Company B, Fifth Regiment National Guards, of Bellefonte, sent his resignation to Colonel H. S. Taylor. For twenty years Mr. Gettig had been a member of the National Guard, and has been held in the highest esteem by all the members of the company. He was at Homestead and went to the front during the Spanish-American war. His resignation is due to some differences between himself and Col. Taylor.

Messrs. John F. Royer, of Madisonburg, and Harry E. Royer, of Flat Rock, Ohio, were brief callers at the Reporter office Friday afternoon. Mr. Royer is making his first visit to the east since leaving here about eight years ago. He is engaged in farming for Thomas Wolf, formerly of Wolf's Chapel, near Aaronsburg, and is very well pleased with his Ohio home. The crops with him were very good during the past season, but the grain went into the winter looking not any too promising. Mr. Royer will remain here until the close of the year.

In a local reference to Rev. John A. Bright, of Campus, Kansas, an error was made in calling sons brothers. Rev. Bright is located at Campus, Kansas, but at present he is with his son, Rev. George S. Bright, at Strasburg, Ohio, and will remain there for at least a month more. Before coming to Ohio he was the guest of another son, Rev. W. Luther Bright, at Fairfield, Iowa. Both sons are serving Lutheran charges. Rev. Bright is well known to many of the Reporter readers, most of whom no doubt discovered the error. In closing his letter, Rev. Bright speaks of the Reporter as "exceptionally good and new."