



## THE NEW SCHOOL CODE.

### The New Law as It Effects Rural Districts Changed but Slightly from That Recommended by the Commission. A Brief Summary of the Law as Applied in Rural Districts.

The new school code as passed by the legislature is practically as prepared by the commission so far as it applies to rural districts and boroughs of less than three thousand population.

#### PROVISIONS OF THE CODE.

The provisions of the code as effective in the smaller boroughs and townships of the second class, which districts make up the fourth class division under the new law, are given below:

School boards will be composed of five members, elected at large, one each year for five years. The present school directors serve (with the new members to be elected) until their terms of office expire.

The one dollar occupation tax remains as heretofore, and may be collected through employers.

The plans for new school buildings must be submitted to the State Board of Education. Doors must all open outward, and present buildings must be made to conform to this law before the opening of the next school year.

School buildings and grounds may, with the consent of the board of school directors, be used for social, recreation and other proper purposes.

Text books cannot be changed oftener than once in five years.

A uniform course of study will be adopted in all schools.

The state superintendent will interpret the school law, which will stand until reversed by the courts. He may enforce his interpretations by withholding a part or all appropriations.

Counties having more than one hundred and fifty teachers under the supervision of the county superintendent may have an assistant superintendent; 300 to 400 teachers, two superintendents; 500 to 800 teachers, three assistants, etc. The minimum salary of these officers is \$1200 paid by the state.

Any school district may employ a supervising principal.

No teacher may teach more than five years on the lowest grade of certificate.

Permanent State certificates will be granted by committees appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction for each county or city, upon examination in all of the common branches and a number of the higher ones.

No teacher's certificate can be granted without a physician's health certificate, and no teacher less than 15 years of age can teach in the public schools of the Commonwealth.

#### THE COMPULSORY FEATURES

Compulsory school attendance is required of all children between the ages of 8 and 16, except that children between 14 and 16 who can read and write the English language intelligently, and who have regular employment, may be excused from school. Penalties are provided for violation of the compulsory features of the law.

#### CLOSE GUARD ON HEALTH.

Mr. Dixon, the State Commissioner of Health, arranged with the Commission that his county medical inspectors in every county in the State would, without expense to the districts, act as medical inspectors of all schools whose Boards of Directors did not appoint their own medical inspectors. These medical inspectors are required to examine all pupils for physical defects, especially in sight and hearing. No teachers, pupils or janitors having tuberculosis of the lungs are permitted to be in the public schools.

The enforcement of the compulsory vaccination law is put into the hands of the medical inspectors and not into those of the teachers. An examination of vaccination marks on the child's arm is provided, where there is no satisfactory certificate of vaccination. If parents will not permit their children to be vaccinated the medical inspector will exclude them from the school, and they cannot return without certificates of vaccination or "immunity."

With the exception of Saturdays, Sundays, the Fourth of July and Christmas, school boards may determine whether or not holidays are observed.

Townships or boroughs which do not maintain high schools of their own must pay the tuition of pupils in neighboring high schools, and such pupils may at public expense complete the four-year high school course in larger high schools.

The appropriation is based on the number of school teachers and school children.

Teachers who do not attend county institute may be fined \$2.00 for each day they are absent.

A State Board of Education is provided for. The board will consist of

seven members, of whom the Superintendent of Public Instruction is to be one. The other six are appointed by the Governor annually for terms of six years, and three of them must be successful educators of high standing connected with the public school system of the State. The others presumably will be professional or business men interested in the public schools. They serve without pay.

#### Good Rules in Butler County.

Radical reform in funeral customs are being enforced by the Ministerial Association of Mars and Valencia, thriving towns in the southern part of Butler county. The rules are as follows:

That bodies of deceased persons are entitled to a decent, respectable, Christian putting away and nothing more.

That Sabbath funerals, interfering as they do with proper Sabbath observance, should be avoided as far as possible.

That one minister at a funeral is sufficient, more than this tending to needless ostentation.

That church funerals should be discouraged, being unsanitary and ministering only to show and display.

That a funeral is properly conducted by reading a passage of Scripture, followed by prayer. In case a discourse or oration is desired, no mention should be made of the dead, except, perhaps, the reading of a brief biography prepared by friends and handed to the officiating minister.

That flowers, while being a beautiful means of showing respect to the living, are quite out of place on the casket of the dead.

That the promenade "viewing the remains," being but a relic of barbarism, tending only to morbid curiosity, opposed to all rules of sanitation and hygiene, as well as good form and taste, should be prohibited.

That rigid adherence to state and local sanitary laws should be observed, especially in cases of contagious and infectious diseases.

#### Officers Installed.

The officers of Boalsburg Lodge No. 894, I. O. O. F., were installed by G. T. Graham, district deputy grand master, State College. The deputy was accompanied by thirteen members of State College lodge, who assisted in the installation. The officers are: Noble grand, J. C. Close; vice grand, Rev. A. A. Black; financial secretary, W. H. Stover; recording secretary, D. E. Snyder; warden, H. Hoosterman; conductor, C. Mothersbaugh; right supporter to noble grand, Homer Barr; left, A. Gingrich; chaplain, C. Cori; right supporter to vice grand, C. P. Wieland; left, D. W. Meyers; scene supporters, John Reitz and H. S. Harrow, inside guardian, John Durner; outside, J. Rishel.

#### Doings in Presbytery.

The regular spring meeting of the Huntingdon Presbytery was held at Mt. Union last week. Rev. R. M. Campbell, of Pennsylvania Furnace, was elected moderator. A resolution was adopted ordering that a memorial service for the late Dr. William Laurie and elder James Harris, both of Bellefonte, be given a place on the docket of the October meeting of Presbytery. Permission was given the Bellefonte church to change the call to Rev. J. Allison Platts, making his salary \$2,500 a year.

#### Keith's Theatre.

A very attractive bill is the one at Keith's Theatre, Philadelphia, this week, and it is headed by Valerie Bergere in a one-act play, "The Morning After," in which the life of an actress is contrasted with that of a social favorite. Raymond and Caverly have new material in tongue-twisting dialect. "Joyland" is presented by Clara Belle Jerome, assisted by eight singers and dancers. It is full of little surprises and catchy musical themes. A mystery act is offered by Marselles, under the caption, "A Puzzle in Black and White." Maybelle Adams, violinist, returns with new productions; the Four Harveys have a new Euro-pean wire act. "The Fakir and the Prima Donna" is a comedy creation offered by Roy Barnes and Bessie Crawford.

The subject of a state road through Centre Hall should not be lost sight of. The proposition offered boroughs by states is too good a one to be ignored. The authorities should look into the matter at once, before the allotted funds for the county are expended in other sections.

#### Joint Consistory Meeting.

The Joint Consistory of the Centre Hall Reformed church met in Trinity Reformed church, Centre Hall, on Easter Monday afternoon. The meeting was opened with devotional exercises by the president, Rev. Daniel Gress.

The four congregations were well represented by members of the different consistories. W. Gross Mingle was elected secretary, and W. B. Mingle was re-elected treasurer. Prof. C. R. Neff was elected as elder primarius to represent the charge on the floor of Classis which meets in Bellefonte on May 19. Robert Smith, of Spring Mills, was elected elder secundus. The elder primarius also represents the charge at the Eastern Synod which meets at Easton on October 20.

The committee on parsonage repairs are, W. Gross Mingle, W. F. Rockey, Clarence Musser and Robert Smith. The treasurer's report showed the benevolence of the charge to be good. The apportionment is paid in full for the present classical year, and all the benevolent obligations have been met. The pastor's report showed that much work had been done. A number of additions were made to the membership during the past year, but a greater number of losses through death and dismission. The elders' report from the different congregations showed the religious and moral estate to be good; the pastoral duties faithfully performed and the temporal contract between pastor and people fulfilled.

A substantial advance in salary was made to the pastor.

Meeting was closed with devotional exercises.

#### Juniors Lose First Game.

When the Centre Hall junior base ball team journeyed to Ax Mann last Saturday it was with the intention of playing the junior team of that place. Instead, half of the team was composed of players from Bellefonte, who represent that town when playing against stronger teams than juniors. It was for this reason that they had the big end of the 9 to 4 score. Smith pitched a good game against the burlies, and up until the eighth inning the score stood 4 to 4. In that inning Ax Mann (?) scored five runs, several of which they were not entitled to.

The local team outbatted the big fellows two to one, but some one nearly always fell short when a chance was presented to bring men on bases home.

Several good catches in the outfield by Baird and Meyer, and the two-base hit by Bradford were features.

#### LOCALS

Prof. C. F. Shaw, an instructor in agronomy at Pennsylvania State College, was in Centre Hall over Sunday.

The McCoy-Linn Iron company put their furnace at Milesburg in blast and started up the ore mines at Gatesburg, which have been shut down for several months.

Plumber Joseph Runkle was in town Monday taking measurements of the dwelling house of Deputy Sheriff Strohm preparatory to installing bathroom fixtures, heat, etc.

Mrs. B. E. Bieber, Saturday afternoon went to Watson town where she will spend several weeks with her mother, Mrs. Laura Vincent, and sister, Miss Rebe Vincent.

High winds prevailed during much of the first half of April. Monday forenoon there was a fierce wind blowing, and in the afternoon a thunder shower passed over the valley, but little rain fell in this locality.

Capt. Geo. M. Boal, in another column advertises letters testamentary on the estate of George Swabb, late of Harris township, deceased. Friday Messrs. D. K. Geis and John C. Rossman appraised the personal property of the estate.

The state railroad commission issued a recommendation that a station be built by the Pennsylvania Railroad company at Swengel, in Union county, on the Lewisburg and Tyrone route. This recommendation is made as the result of a complaint by W. L. Burd & Company.

Railroad Agent W. S. Musser has been transferred from Northumberland to Columbia, Lancaster county. Mr. Musser was formerly agent at Spring Mills. From there he was transferred to Lykens, and later to Northumberland. There were numerous other changes among agents in Mr. Musser's district.

Several weeks ago mention was made of an accident that befell William J. Meyer, of Wolfs Store, which resulted in a severely injured hip. The mishap was occasioned by an overhanging limb which brushed him from a load of hay. The unfortunate man did not recover as speedily as was desired, and he was consequently taken to the Bellefonte hospital for further treatment.

## WORK OF LEGISLATURE BRIEFLY REVIEWED.

Passes Appropriation Bills to the Tune of \$65,000,000, About \$22,000,000 Above Estimated Available Revenue. With the Exception of One, the Shortest Session in Thirty-five Years.

After being in session since the first week in January, the Legislature concluded its task of disposing of bills and at noon Thursday of last week finally adjourned. The closing night of the session was attended with the usual riot of fun, members parading about the hall, singing songs and tearing up and throwing away their bill files to denote that all work was at an end.

Thursday's sessions of the Senate and House were devoted to the customary presentation of gifts to the respective presiding officers, clerks and attaches.

The Legislature of 1909 goes down in history as the shortest session held in the last thirty-five years, with the single exception of that of 1905, when the session was adjourned on April 13. All told, 2005 bills were introduced, of which over 1300 originated in the House. Upward of 670 bills passed both House and Senate.

Sixty bills have been signed by the Governor, out of 554 received by him at the close of the session. About 100 bills were disposed of in the closing days of the session. Thus far the Governor has vetoed four bills including that increasing the salary of Philadelphia magistrates from \$3000 to \$4000.

WHAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED.

The story of what the Legislature of 1909 accomplished is one of few important and unimportant bills passed and many unimportant measures defeated on the floor, lost in committee or left in the wreck of those destroyed in the final rush by the action of the political leaders in their anxiety to jam through favored legislation.

In the way of appropriations upward of \$65,000,000 was allotted to State, semi-private and private institutions, hospitals and charities, including an item of \$2,000,000 for the treatment of tuberculosis under the supervision of the State Department of Health. This is an increase of \$1,000,000 over the amount allowed two years ago, and for State care and treatment of tuberculosis.

GOVERNOR MUST CUT MILLIONS.

With but about \$43,000,000 conceded to be available in revenue for the next two years, the responsibility of slashing appropriations to the extent of \$22,000,000 is forced upon Governor Stuart. Not a single revenue raising bill was passed.

Of the hundreds of bills considered the State school code attracted the most attention and encountered the most opposition of any measure on the calendars. Of interest throughout the State was the passage by the Legislature and approved by Governor Stuart of the Sprout resolution creating a commission to investigate and report to the Legislature of 1911 legislation to abolish toll roads in Pennsylvania.

THE IMPORTANT BILLS.

Aside from the school code the record of the Legislature, in the matter of bills of general interest follows:— Governor Stuart's State highway from Philadelphia to Pittsburg to cost \$5,000,000.

Increasing salaries of Supreme, Superior and other court Judges \$350,000 annually.

Capitol Park extension, to cost \$2,000,000.

Jones dirt road bill for townships, appropriating \$1,000,000.

Sherm bill, regulating child labor.

Murphy pure food bill; also bills prohibiting adulteration of liquors, soft drinks, lard, milk and ice cream.

Townsend automobile bill, establishing speed limit of twenty-four miles in open country and twelve miles in congested territory.

Constitutional amendment abolishing February elections.

Constitutional amendment empowering Philadelphia to borrow money for the construction of subways and for the reclamation of land for wharves and harbor improvements.

Constitutional amendment abolishing poll tax.

Constitutional amendment for consolidation of Allegheny county courts.

Constitutional amendment empowering Legislature at will to increase number of courts and Judges of courts.

Creating State Board of Osteopathy Examiners.

Creating State Board of registration of nurses.

Murphy bill allowing the connection of steam railroad and street railway tracks.

Shields bill empowering street railway companies to carry all kinds of freight.

Thompson bill making medical examinations in Pennsylvania uniform with those in Ohio, New York, New Jersey and other States.

Creating office of executive controller of accounts.

Making it a misdemeanor for State officials to pay out money not specifically appropriated.

Vare bill directing Recorder of Deeds to refuse for record mortgages unless certificate is attached giving residence or mortgagees.

Hullings' bill to pay National Guardsmen for attendance at drills.

JURORS TO FIX PENALTY.

McNichol bill, empowering juries to determine death or life imprisonment sentence in first degree murder verdicts.

Sherm bill, admitting lawyers practicing in Supreme Court to practice in all other courts.

Directing that the Quay statue be erected in rotunda of Capitol building.

Making October 12 legal holiday, known as Columbus Day.

Giving primary election officers the same salary as general election officers.

Creating three additional Judges for Allegheny county; one each for Erie, Cambria and Luzerne counties.

Tustin parole, probation and indeterminate sentence bills.

Tustin anti-white-slave bills.

Campbell anti-cocaine bill.

For development and improvement of Marcus Hook quarantine station, appropriating \$54,000.

Campbell bill, readjusting the State Pharmaceutical Board.

CHANGE IN INAUGURATION.

Vare resolution, calling on Congress to change the date of the inauguration of the President.

Empowering municipalities to acquire land for sites for armories to be erected by the State for the National Guard.

Commission to investigate and recommend legislation to abolish toll roads.

Commission to codify election laws.

Commission to investigate corporations and recommend revenue increasing measures.

Commission to codify fish and game laws.

Commission to invite President Taft to dedication of Pennsylvania monument at Petersburg.

Commission to investigate management of Germantown and other township poor boards in Philadelphia.

BILLS WHICH FAILED.

Local option.

Reyburn soldiers' pension bill.

Herbst single board medical bill.

Increasing State constabulary from four to six companies.

Dunsmore 2 cent railroad fare bill.

Dunsmore 2-cent railroad fare bill.

Extending civil service system to State offices.

Empowering State Railroad Commission to regulate stock issues.

Creating five additional Judges for Philadelphia.

Constitutional amendment for consolidation of Philadelphia courts.

Granting eminent domain to electric power companies.

McClain bills for return to counties for personal property tax and license fees which now go to the State.

Commission to codify tax laws.

Jones bill taxing gas companies.

Dunsmore bill increasing corporation tax from five to ten mills.

Taxing corporations for local purposes.

Keene bill taxing capital stock of manufacturing companies.

Creasy anti-trust bills.

Creasy bill taxing express companies.

## TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

### HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Oats and barley sowing is on the program with the farmers this week. The Beaver athletic field at Pennsylvania State College will be dedicated May 7th.

The rain last week freshened the grass and grain, and now the fields are beginning to look green.

Deputy Sheriff Strohm was in Centre Hall all of Monday, overseeing the work being done at his dwelling house.

The Harry Witten Clothing Company opened business in the Dinges store room, Centre Hall, Monday morning.

William H. Smith, of near Madisonburg, and William H. Smith, of Spring Mills, were in Centre Hall on business Monday morning.

Harry Swabb, by the will of his sister, Mrs. Catharine Durst, deceased, was made executor of her estate, and in this issue advertises letters testamentary on her estate.

Millheim is to have a new industry. A company has been formed at that place to manufacture the upright adjustable clothes rack, for which C. H. Stover, of Aaronsburg is general agent.

In this issue appear two articles on the front page that should be read by every Reporter subscriber. They refer to the work of the Legislature and a brief summary of the school code as it applies to rural districts.

A number of deaths have occurred in and about Centre Hall within the last few weeks: John H. Spicher, Mrs. Catharine Durst, Mrs. Jane Harper, Mrs. Sarah Derstine, all of whom lived to a good old age.

F. H. Thomas, superintendent of the Bellefonte Central Railroad, just received notice that at the last meeting of the directors he was made Vice President and General Manager, and that the office of superintendent was abolished.

The puppy, with a tan spot over his left eye and ear, that put up at the Reporter office for a week, was the property of Archey W. Zettle, of near Spring Mills. He is a hunting dog, and Mr. Zettle was mighty glad to discover his whereabouts.

A young horse died for Sidney Poorman, tenant on the James A. Keller farm, east of Centre Hall, Friday of last week. When good horse flesh is worth twenty cents a pound, it is buying money pretty fast when it is dragged to the woods in lots of half ton and over.

A sixteen-year-old fisherman in the person of Ward Yarnell, will no doubt carry the blue ribbon during the present trout season, he having caught a trout in the Greens Valley dam, about four miles from Hecla, measuring twenty-two and one-half inches in length, and weighing four and one-half pounds.

Mr. and Mrs. Jared Kremer, of Rebersburg, formerly residents of Centre Hall, were in town several days beginning of this week. Mr. Kremer is now living retired, and he and Mrs. Kremer spent a part of their time with their daughters living at Harrisburg and Wayne, the latter being Mrs. Solly, wife of Rev. David A. Solly.

The Syracuse riding right and left plow is a new style plow being introduced by the Weber Brothers. There are two separate plows—one made to turn the furrow to the right and the other to the left—thus avoiding all "backing-ups" and "dead furrows". Two or three horses can be used. It throws a uniform furrow in width and depth, and can be handled with ease on smooth or rough ground.

Friday afternoon of last week several children playing at the rear of the barn on the R. B. Hartman estate, in Millheim, started a fire on a manure pile nearby. The flames had already gained some headway and the framework of the barn was burning when the fire was discovered by Jonathan Harter, whose barn adjoins. A few buckets of water quenched the fire. The reasonable discovery of the fire no doubt prevented a serious conflagration.

Among the Reporter's callers Thursday of last week was Charles F. Hagen, of Farmers Mills, one of the Hagen carpenters who just completed remodeling the S. G. Rote residence, at Penns Creek Mills. The Hagens have a large amount of work laid out for this spring and summer, some of the more important contracts being these: The erection of two dwelling houses, one-half mile west of State College, for Daniel and Martin Dreiblebs; the Frank & Sons' store building and barn, in Millheim, and a dwelling house for L. L. Smith, in Centre Hall. The Hagen force consists of Messrs. John F., Harvey D., William and Charles F. Hagen, Scott Stover, Frank Walte, Domer Emerick, Harry Confer and Amos Dunkle.