

# NEWS OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HANGS HERSELF FROM BED.

**Wife Prepares Family Breakfast, Then Kills Herself.**

Reading.—Mrs. Amanda McGowan, wife of former Assemblyman Howard G. McGowan, president of the Berks County Farmers' Institute, ended her life by hanging herself to the headboard of a bed at her home at Geigertown, this county. She had been ill for a year or more, but Sunday was well enough to accompany her husband on a drive.

She arose early and prepared breakfast for her husband and son, Preston, aged 14 years. Mr. McGowan went away on business and returned about 10 o'clock. Calling to his wife he received no response and upon investigation found her body.

She had fastened one end of a rope to the headboard and the other end she made into a loop and thrust her head through it. There were still some signs of life when she was found and a physician was summoned, but the woman died before he arrived.

She was 44 years of age and a daughter of Harmon Geiger, of Geigertown.

## RISKS LIFE FOR FRIEND.

**Altoona Youth Loses Arm in Heroic Attempt at Rescue.**

Altoona.—John Hull, aged 4, risked his life and gave one arm to save his friend and playmate, Clare Delozier, of the same age, from death at a carpet cleaning establishment conducted by his father.

The boys were playing in the plant while it was in operation, and young Delozier was caught in a rope and thrown into the "racker." Hull, in trying to rescue him, was caught in some belting, whisked to the shafting, whirled around several times and tossed to the floor, his left hand and forearm so badly mangled that it had to be amputated and his right arm fractured in several places, the broken bones protruding from the flesh. Delozier escaped injury.

## OPEN EYES OF JUSTICE.

**Figure Back of Judge's Bench No Longer Blindfolded.**

Danville.—In repainting the court room of the Montour County court house the question arose as to whether or not the large figure of Justice behind the Judges' bench should appear as in the past, blindfolded, or with her eyes open.

The question was submitted to Judge C. C. Evans, who decided that in the future "Justice" should preside over the Montour County courts with the time-honored bandage removed from her eyes.

## ROMANCE OF BOER WAR.

**Soldier Weds in Pittsburgh English Girl Who Nursed Him.**

Pittsburg.—A romance begun during the Boer War was happily concluded here by the arrival of Miss Louise Holden, of Liverpool, Eng. The young woman was met by Thomas McKee, and an hour later they were married.

McKee was wounded during the Boer War and was nursed by Miss Holden.

## Graduate Nurses at Reading.

Reading.—The annual commencement exercises of the graduating class of nurses of St. Joseph's Hospital Training School for Nurses took place here, and unlike former years was private. There were three graduates, namely, Miss Mary C. Keating, of Hecklersville; Miss Nellie M. Purcell, of Pottsville, and Miss Ida K. Deeds, of Shillington.

## Acquit Man Accused of Murder.

Pottsville.—H. A. Conners, a telegraph operator, who was on trial for the murder of Superintendent Cyrus Smith, of the Wilbert Coal Company, was acquitted after the jury deliberated only half an hour. It was shown that Smith assaulted Conners and the shooting was done in self-defense.

## Carries Message of Bursted Dam.

Pottsville.—Miles of country land were covered by the bursting of the Blackwood Dam at Swatara Creek. The dam contained 5,000,000 gallons of water, and scores of persons escaped drowning by the warning spread by an unknown boy on muleback. Heavy rains caused the disaster.

## Fire Destroys Lone Woman's Home.

Lewistown.—Fire originating from a defective flue destroyed the residence of Matilda Firth, with its contents. The building was located on the Lillyville Road, nine miles east of here. The loss was \$1600. The owner is the widow of a Civil War veteran and, so far as is known, has no means of support except a small pension.

## Sutton's Bondsman Makes Good.

Berwick.—To relieve the overdrawn condition of the borough treasury that resulted from Tax Collector Sutton's disappearance worth \$15,000, one of his bondsmen made a payment of \$6,000 to give immediate relief. The School Board had no money to pay teachers salaries or other bills that had been accumulating, and the borough and poor accounts were also overdrawn.

## MODERN RIP VAN WINKLE.

**Coal Miner Learns After Ten Years His Bank Has Failed.**

Altoona.—A modern edition of Rip Van Winkle was discovered here when W. A. Porter, auditor to distribute funds among the creditors of the banking firm of Gardner, Morrow & Co., of Hollidaysburg, sat to make another distribution. Patrick Morrisey, a coal miner, living on the top of the Allegheny Mountains, who had \$3,050 on deposit, never knew the bank had failed until ten years afterwards, when he came to draw a little money out, and found a clothing store where the bank had been. He was dumbfounded when told it was defunct. His claim will be opposed.

## DANCING ENDS IN DIVORCE.

**Husband Objected to Having Other Men Hug His Wife.**

Scranton.—Grace C. Markell, of Scranton, obtained a divorce here. She declared her husband would not let her dance, and in her testimony said: "We have gone to dances and had music at home, and if the gentlemen would ask me to dance my husband would order me not to do so in such a way as to attract attention. His reason for it was not my desire to dance, but he did not like to have the men hug me. He stated that in so loud a voice that all the guests heard it."

## STATE ITEMS.

Captain Pharon Sheldy and First Lieutenant Warren Parro, of Company G, Fourth Regiment, N. G. P., at Pine Grove, were re-elected unanimously for another period of five years.

The Emmaus High School graduates have secured Rev. Dr. Madison C. Peters to deliver the address at their annual commencement, May 29.

Samuel Reber, of Upper Tulpehocken Township, has been appointed by the Berks County Court as one of the supervisors to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Adam Snyder.

Charles W. Miller, John A. Schwyger, Dr. N. Z. Dunkelberger, Arthur Bonner, Jacob F. Zimmerman and Charles A. Stein will apply for a charter for an intended corporation to be called the Farmers' Bank, of Kutztown. The capital will be \$50,000, divided into 500 shares of \$100 each.

The Carpenter Steel Works, at Riverside, are working overtime, and have the busiest season they have had for the last two years.

William Baker, of Earlyville, caught a carp weighing nineteen pounds and measuring 32 inches in length.

Isaac Heydt, of Shanesville, celebrated his 84th birthday anniversary. He has been postmaster for a half century.

Mrs. Anna Mary Snyder, of Yoe, scratched her finger a few days ago with a brass pin. Blood poisoning set in and her arm is now twice its normal size, while her life is in danger.

George Weaver, after being absent from York in Edgeley, North Dakota, for twenty-five years, has returned to his home to remain permanently.

Caught by a premature explosion of a blast before he could escape to a place of safety at Maple Hill Colliery, Edward McCoag, of St. Nicholas, was killed.

The American Steel and Wire Company, at Pittsburg, a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, it is reported, has cut the price on wire nails 10 cents per hundred.

George W. Custer, a retail jeweler of Du Bois, died after an illness of several months. He was 41 years of age.

Lloyd E. Stewart, aged 6, of Altoona, was operating a home-made merry-go-round three weeks ago, when his left hand was caught between the pivot and the board. Lockjaw developed and the boy died.

Daniel Shoemaker, one of the five men named as a member of Harrisburg's first Board of Health, has declined to serve. The positions on the board were eagerly sought.

The Firemen's Relief Association of Allentown, has elected these officers for the ensuing year: C. H. Cohn, president; G. G. Blumer, vice president; Aaron J. Henry, secretary; Frank S. Glick, treasurer; directors, M. H. Bernhard and H. F. Weinhelmer, for three years; J. P. Lentz, for one year, and J. H. Bernecker, for two years.

At the annual meeting of the Berkshire Country Club, held at Reading, the following officers were elected: President, Frank C. Smink; vice president, William Seyfert; secretary, George W. Delaney; treasurer, F. W. Nicollis.

## SUGGESTION SHOWING SIMPLE DEVICE FOR REMOVING LADIES' HATS IN CHURCH



—Cartoon by Triggs, in the New York Press.

## PRICES OF WHEAT AND GARDEN PRODUCE AT THE HIGHEST NOTCH

**Flour So Dear Bakers Are Keeping Loaves at Usual Size by a Heavy Charge of Air.**

## IS THERE A VEGETABLE TRUST?

**No Such Sums Paid in a Decade for Potatoes, Lettuce, Asparagus, Etc., Yet Retailers Say the Profit is Not Theirs—Wholesalers Deny There is a Combination**

Chicago.—James A. Patten was victorious again, when he was able to sell more of his May wheat at the record price of \$1.38. The deal for a time worked out very well for Mr. Patten, but the real burden is being borne by the people, who are working hard for their loaves of bread and are getting less and less for their money every day on account of the high price of flour, consequent upon the advance in the price of wheat.

Bakers admit that bread is more expensive than it has been for a long time, although the increase is carefully concealed from the buying public. The retail price of bread is still five cents a loaf, but if housewives were to take the trouble to weigh the loaves which they purchase they would soon discover that they are rapidly diminishing in weight, although the size may remain the same.

Corrupt loaves can be manufactured by a heavy charge of atmosphere, but that counts for little when it comes to assuaging the pangs of hunger. Bakers are not taking at all kindly to the game of boosting the staff of life now being played on the Board of Trade.

New York City.—While the Patten bulls in wheat in Chicago rushed prices up to war quotations, something of the kind happened in the local market for vegetables and fruits. In Washington Market, for instance, dealers were getting \$7 and \$7.25 a barrel for Bermuda potatoes, as against \$5.50 a year ago. Asparagus sold at \$5 a dozen bunches, as against \$3.25 a year ago, and lettuce brought twenty-five cents for three heads about as big as a man's hand. A year ago dealers were glad to get ten cents for three heads. Cucumbers sold for six to ten cents each.

Apples are almost as scarce as wheat. Seven dollars a barrel is the nominal quotation, but only the big dealers have any to sell, and the best are being sent to London. The New York State crop was badly damaged by the dry spell last summer, and when it was sought to put the apples in cold storage they wouldn't keep. Colorado apples were similarly affected. Thousands of barrels, dealers say, rotted and had to be thrown away. The vegetable market has been stiffened lately by three severe frosts in Virginia, which killed all growing stuff, and the farmers have had to replant.

The keeper of a small fruit and vegetable stand in Washington Market said that, while it would be denied, he was sure there was a trust which controlled wholesale prices and had put them up to the present high level.

"The United Fruit Dealers' Association is doing this," he said, "and it tells us prices are going still higher. Every dealer in this place pays the same price. There is no escape. The bulk of the vegetable stuff we sell at this season comes from Charleston, S. C., Bermuda and Florida, both by rail and steamship. Some stuff also comes from California. There seems always a scarcity, though now, after the Easter demand has subsided, prices ought to go down. The Virginia frost will be

used now as an excuse for the high prices. We are making no money at all."

Several other dealers said they didn't know whether there was a trust or not, but they were aware that prices for all garden stuff hadn't been so high in a decade. One result of the high prices had been to force some of the small dealers out of business. Quite a number of stalls in Washington Market have "For Rent" signs on them.

A member of the firm of John Nix & Co., who are said to be largest wholesale dealers in fruits and vegetables in New York City, and who have buyers in California, Florida, Bermuda, the Carolinas, England and elsewhere, was asked about the charges that there was a fruit and vegetable trust.

"Never heard of it," he said, "and there is no such trust. If any man or set of men tried to corner the market he or they would fail. There are too many sources of supply. It is true prices are high, but the demand is here, and the law of supply and demand rules."

# RURAL TOPICS

## FOWLS IN CONFINEMENT.

A Farmer reader wishes to know if pure bred fowls can be raised in confinement?

It has been repeatedly demonstrated by experienced breeders that either mongrels or fancy fowls can be successfully grown in confinement. However fowls in confinement can not be neglected, they must receive special attention. If birds in confinement are not provided with every requirement pertaining to the wants of fowls they will certainly become unhealthy and die, for the want of attention.

The main things to look after may be mentioned briefly. Supply them with every sort of foodstuff that they would get on free range; arrange to keep them busy. An ideal fowl is like the ideal human being, likely to get into bad habits, such as feather pulling, egg eating and many other evils. Hundreds of fine specimens are produced every year that never saw a free range.

The writer scored a fine Single Comb Brown Leghorn cock in one of Kentucky's leading shows that the owner said never saw the bare earth in his life. He was a typical specimen indeed, which convinces us that fowls of any breed or color can be successfully grown in confinement. The greatest objection is that they cost more to produce, but possibly they are worth more if they have had proper attention. In a majority of instances where fowls are kept in close confinement they receive more attention than those kept on range; hence, are finer specimens in many respects. If you are not situated to grow fowls on range and can grow them in confinement do not hesitate to do so, as you will find them very profitable as well as a great source of pleasure. Study the requirements necessary for confined fowls and you will have success in growing most any standard variety.—J. C. Clipp, in the Indiana Farmer.

## HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

Chrysanthemums of the "pompon" type, of which each plant produces from forty to one hundred blooms, an inch or two across, are many of them sufficiently hardy to be left out all winter in central and Southern latitudes. The blooms often remain in good condition until long after Thanksgiving.

These plants are the most capable of resisting frost of any garden herbs. Their peculiar merit is in blooming long after successive frosts have denuded the landscape. Their vivid colors are so unlike anything else at that season that they are indispensable in the carefully made garden.

The flowers are not ruined until their petals have been wet and frozen stiff. The plants are necessarily used for mass effects as great size is not to be expected. Masses of red and masses of brown side by side make a striking combination. Crimson and pink varieties should be kept by themselves because their colors are variable and they make a violent contrast with the yellow.

The culture of hardy chrysanthemums is simple. They need little care and can be planted in any situation so that the soil is rich. They are best propagated from cuttings which should be made at any time from October to May. The cuttings should be obtained from any florist, and should be inserted singly in pots or sandy soil and as soon as they are rooted, they should be put in separate pots or set outdoors in their permanent location.—Indianapolis News.

## POTATO SCAB.

Are you bothered with scabby potatoes? Many are, year after year, and there is no need of it. Treating the seed by soaking two hours in a solution made by adding one pound of formalin to thirty gallons of water will give the desired results. The use of manure, while it naturally encourages the growth and development of potato scab, does not, as sometimes stated, cause a crop to be scabby. Rotation of crops, not planting potatoes on same ground on which scabby potatoes have been raised the previous year, will aid materially in keeping the crop free from disease, especially if the seed planted is thoroughly treated by the formalin method. Careful potato growers employ this treatment yearly.—Farmers' Guide.

## SPRAYING SUCCESSFUL.

All of the fruit trees on the station grounds were sprayed with scalecide, one part to fifteen parts of water, in the fall of 1906. When examined on March 29 very few living scales could be found. Mr. Ives also sprayed nearly all of his orchard of several hundred trees with scalecide. The results were satisfactory. At Mr. Plant's orchard about seven hundred trees besides those recorded in the tables were sprayed with scalecide by the owners, and the scale was kept well in check by the treatment.—Prof. W. E. Britton, American Cultivator.

## HONEST PACKING.

One man puts up fruit in packages and if his name is on the package it will sell for more than any other package that looks as well without a name. One will say that his name is what sells the package. That is true; he has protected his goods as long with that name that the patrons know the quality they are buying when they see his name. His goods are honest and they are honestly packed.—Farmers' Home Journal.

## PLATES ARE TO BE SUBSTITUTED FOR COLLECTION BAGS AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH, DOVER.

Plates are to be substituted for collection bags at St. Mary's Church, Dover, mainly on the expressed ground that so many buttons have been found in the latter.

## A MEDALLION OF M. LAVERAN HAS BEEN PLACED IN THE MILITARY HOSPITAL OF CONSTANTINE, ALGERIA, WHERE HE DISCOVERED THE PARASITE OF MALARIA IN 1880.

A medallion of M. Laveran has been placed in the military hospital of Constantine, Algeria, where he discovered the parasite of malaria in 1880.

## VALUATIONS OF \$1000 PER ACRE FOR NOVA SCOTIA APPLE ORCHARDS SUGGEST A WAY TO PUT WORTH INTO LOW PRICED LANDS IN OTHER PLACES.

Valuations of \$1000 per acre for Nova Scotia apple orchards suggest a way to put worth into low priced lands in other places.

## Foot rot of sheep is best treated by use of application of solution of blue vitrol.

An application of 1000 pounds of lime per acre was practically as efficient in case of oats as an application of 2,000 pounds, in a test made at the New Jersey station. In the case of clover the large application gave the better results.

## RUSTY CANS.

The Wisconsin station has recently been conducting some interesting experiments in determining the number of bacteria secured from cans that are rusty and dented, and from clean, bright cans, and their results and conclusions are given below:

1. A better grade of utensils should be used in the handling of milk and its products. The iron or steel plate should be heavier and more thickly coated with tin.

2. No milk should be accepted at a factory which has been kept in iron exposed pails or cans.

3. The factory or creamery should be an example of neatness and cleanliness, with all utensils in first-class condition.

4. Co-operation among the proprietors of creameries, cheese factories, and city milk supplies, will tend to bring about cleanliness among patrons, and the use of better utensils.

5. Milk should be bought on its merits, by some satisfactory arrangement following well founded sanitary and hygienic rules by which the production of milk and superior quality is encouraged, and milk of low grade either rejected or gradually improved.—Weekly Witness.

## AMONG THE ORCHARDISTS.

In setting fruit trees I always plant in the spring, digging large holes, and dumping a wheelbarrow of good loam into each hole before setting the tree. Then I fill in around the tree with good soil, free from stones or rubbish, and take extra care to have the soil firmly fixed over and around the roots. A board about as long as the trunk of the tree is driven into the ground on the south side of the tree to protect the bark from the sun during the first summer. Lack of this precaution has ruined hundreds of young trees, which were grown so closely in the nursery rows that the bark had become tender.—C. W. Bemis.

The young fruit trees do not need watering, as a rule, in this region. It is better to put on a mulch of four inches of coarse manure, which will retain the moisture, and supply more steady conditions than water applied to the surface.—A. S. Loomis, in the American Cultivator.

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