



WEST SUSQUEHANNA CLASSIS

Of the Reformed Church Met in Centre Hall—Brief Account of Work Done—Notes and Personal.

The West Susquehanna Classis of the Reformed church met in its fifty-fifth annual session in Trinity Reformed church, Centre Hall, the opening session being held on Wednesday evening of last week.

The altar services were conducted by Revs. W. D. Donat and John A. Ditzler. Rev. C. S. Stover, in the absence of the retiring president, Rev. F. W. Brown, preached an eloquent sermon from Titus 2-14. The choir rendered several excellent selections during the evening under the leadership of Prof. P. H. Meyer.

After the sermon Rev. W. D. Donat, stated clerk, formally opened classis with prayer, and then called the roll. The following pastors and elders were present:—

MINISTERS IN CLASSIS.

C. S. Stover, Rebersburg
Harvey L. Crow, Hubersburg
A. G. Stauffer, Rebersburg
K. O. Spessard, Millinburg
R. L. Gerhart, Lewisburg
A. M. Schmidt, Bellefonte
E. T. Roads, Lewistown
Vacant, Centre Hall
Irvin Ditzler, New Berlin
F. W. Brown, Beaver Springs
Vacant, Mt. Pleasant Mills
W. D. Donat, Aaronsburg
S. Sidney Kohler, Millinburg
W. C. Rittenhouse, Williamsport
W. A. McClellan, West Milton
Aron Noll, Montgomery
E. F. Faust, Howard
John A. Ditzler, Selinsgrove
William Harr, Lock Haven
J. H. Griesemer, Freeburg
Com. of Supply, State College

ELDERS.

Emmanuel Garbrick, Hubersburg
Charles A. Rogar, Millinburg
Charles W. Noll, Lewisburg
A. Luckenbach, Bellefonte
E. B. Kline, Lewistown
C. W. Olds, Beaver Springs
J. Willis Evans, Aaronsburg
C. W. Shirk, Buffalo Valley
George D. Miller, Lock Haven
Jeremiah Beaver, Selinsgrove
James Erdley, Freeburg
F. W. Kramann, Rebersburg
F. H. Maurer, New Berlin
H. F. Rittner, Ph. D., Centre Hall
E. M. Neidig, State College

The election of president was next in order. Rev. S. S. Kohler, of Millinburg, was unanimously elected to the office. He took his seat and closed the meeting until Thursday morning.

Thursday morning's session was opened by Rev. W. A. McClellan conducting the devotional exercises. After this the president asked for the calling of the roll. The organization was completed by electing Rev. John A. Ditzler as corresponding secretary. The president appointed the following committees:—

Religious Services—Revs. A. M. Schmidt, D. D., W. D. Donat, and Layman H. F. Bitner.
Minutes of Synod—Revs. W. A. McClellan, J. F. Griesemer, and Layman C. W. Shirk.

Minutes of Classis—Revs. E. F. Faust, John Ditzler, and Layman F. H. Maurer.

Overtures—Revs. C. S. Stover, Irvin S. Ditzler and Layman D. M. Neidig.
Benevolent Institutions—Revs. W. C. Rittenhouse, W. E. Harr, and Layman C. W. Oldt.

Missions—Revs. H. I. Crow, George H. Stauffer, and Layman James Erdley.
Examination and License—Revs. R. L. Gerhart, D. D., A. Noll, W. Clouser, and Layman Emmanuel Garbrick.

Finance—Revs. O. K. Spessard, Ph. D., H. I. Crow, and Layman H. F. Bitner.

State of Religion—Revs. F. W. Brown, R. L. Gerhart, D. D., and Layman A. Luckenbach.

The statistical reports were read by the different pastors and the constitutional questions were answered by the elders. The work in all the charges was found to be in an excellent condition.

St. Paul's Reformed church, at Selinsgrove, was selected as the place for holding the meeting of the Classis in 1912, the time to be the third Wednesday in May.

The vacancies on the permanent committees were filled by electing the following:—Living: Rev. F. W. Brown, H. I. Crow; Sunday School, Elder A. Luckenbach; Missions, Rev. S. S. Kohler; Young People's Societies, Revs. W. E. Harr and Irvin S. Ditzler. The treasurer, Elder Grenoble, made his report, revealing the fact that the majority of the charges had paid their apportionment in full.

The following charges were granted sustentation: White Deer, \$150; Freeport, \$75; Susquehanna, \$114.

Thursday evening Rev. Dr. C. E. Shafer, General Superintendent of the Board of Home Missions, and Dr. W. F. Moore, Superintendent of Bethany Orphan's Home, delivered excellent addresses. Dr. Shafer brought a hopeful report from the Home Field, but also brought out the fact that the hindrance to the growth of the work was due to the lack of ministers. Dr. Moore gave a description of life at the Orphan's Home.

Friday morning was largely taken up with a discussion of the work of the Lewistown mission. This mission is now nine years old and has a membership of two hundred and seventy-five and worships in a beautiful edifice. The mission is burdened with a heavy debt and asked Classis to assume the \$400 mortgage. Classis decided to pay the interest during the coming year. The outlook for the mission is very encouraging.

The work at Avis was placed in charge of Revs. W. E. Harr, and W. C. Rittenhouse.

Classis overtook the Home Mission Board to enroll the congregation at State College as a mission and also pledged itself to pay \$1000 toward the building of a church.

GRADUATION EXERCISES

The fifth graduation exercises of the Centre Hall High School was held in Grange Arcadia, Tuesday evening, the spacious hall being filled with spectators. The stage was tastefully decorated with flowers, ferns, potted plants and class colors. The Christiane Smith orchestra furnished the music for the occasion, and prior to the opening of the exercises proper rendered several selections that greatly pleased the audience.

Prof. C. R. Neff, who for four years has been principal of the High School, an institution recognized by the state as properly organized and conducted to participate in the appropriation made for high school purposes, is one of the foremost instructors in Centre county, in point of education and ability to teach. His term expires with the present school year, but the writer undoubtedly reflects the wishes of the patrons of the school, and the intentions of the board of directors, when he says that Prof. Neff will again be re-elected.

Saturday morning the different standing committees reported. West Susquehanna Classis has sixty-six congregations, 6338 members; added during the year, 539 members; has sixty-three Sunday Schools with 956 officers and teachers, and 7556 scholars. \$8803 were raised for benevolence and \$3063 for congregational purposes during the year. The apportionment for the current classical year is \$6642.

Classis endorsed the plan of Board of Home Missions to celebrate its Golden Jubilee with a view of raising a Church Building Fund of \$500,000. It took strong action in favor of the Layman's Missionary Movement.

Elder John A. Grenoble, of Yeagerstown, was re-elected treasurer of Classis. Rev. W. D. Donat and Elder John A. Grenoble were elected members of the Board of Trustees.

PERSONALS AND NOTES.

The Eastern Synod meets in Philadelphia, during October, and is a representative body.

Rev. William Harr is pastor at Lock Haven. He is young in the ministry, but has gained the good graces of the people in his pastorate. His former charge was in Reading.

The members of Classis were highly pleased with their treatment in Centre Hall. The kindest expressions were made by note and in person to the editor in this direction. Centre Hall also received much favorable comment.

Rev. W. A. McClellan, of West Milton, is the only native of Pennsylvania in the classis, who is serving a pastorate outside of Centre county. He is recognized for his pastoral qualities, his genial disposition, and steadfastness of purpose.

The delegates to the General Synod to be held at Canton, Ohio, opening 15th instant, are clerical, A. M. Schmidt, E. T. Rhoads, K. O. Spessard; laymen, Dr. H. F. Bitner, Centre Hall; D. K. Miller, Lock Haven; Alfred Sasseman, Williamsport.

Preaching among his own people is the mission of Rev. Aaron Noll, who is located in that thriving manufacturing town—Montgomery—in Lycoming county, and he is doing good work as pastor of that mission church. He began his work as pastor of a mission church in Ohio, under the supervision of the Board of Home Missions, later he was pastor in Philadelphia, and then at McKeesport. He is a man of middle age, unassuming yet progressive.

Two young men new in this Classis are Rev. Irvin S. and Rev. John A. Ditzler, natives of York county. They are brothers and are serving adjoining parishes, the former at New Berlin and the latter at Selinsgrove. The latter is on his first charge and for the first time attended this Classis in the capacity of a member. He is the corresponding secretary of the Classis, and it was he who gave the Reporter the account of the proceedings of that body, except the notes under the head personal.

One of the older members of Classis, but not in age, is Dr. K. Otis Spessard. He was born in Maryland, but has been a resident of Pennsylvania for many years. He came to Millinburg from the southern section of the state, and ever since been connected with this Classis has stood in the forefront in every successful movement undertaken by the body. As a pastor he is one of the most successful to serve the Millinburg charge, and in the pulpit his texts are always expounded with a clearness easily grasped by his people. He goes to the bottom of his subjects.

Jeremiah Beaver, of Winfield, was a caller at this office. He was one of the lay delegates to the Reformed classis, accompanying Rev. A. Ditzler. He is a farmer by occupation, one of his most valued products being boys, having a family of six sons. One of the sons is in the regular army, and is now in Texas, and just passed the examination putting him in line for the second lieutenantcy. Another son is in the navy, having been in the service for two years. Mr. Beaver is a loyal churchman, and on a number of occasions has represented his charge at synod and classis.

In point of service in Classis, Dr. R. Legton Gerhart is the oldest member. For the second time he is serving his present charge at Lewisburg, previously having served charges in Bedford county and in Bellefonte. He is a graduate of Franklin & Marshall College, and aside from his pulpit and pastoral work is a valuable man in the Reformed church, being editor of Sunday school literature. The papers the average Sunday school worker is most familiar with are "The Way," largely devoted to missions, and "Leaves of Light." Dr. Gerhart is the son of the late Dr. E. V. Gerhart, at one time president of Franklin and Marshall, and was retained there as an instructor until his death.

One of the most progressive ministers in the Classis is Rev. E. T. Rhoads, pastor at Lewistown. Nine years ago, after graduating from Franklin and Marshall College and later from the Seminary, he went to

of the Centre Hall High School held Tuesday evening—Five Graduates.

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Centre Hall Wins First Game.

Saturday afternoon, on Grange Park, the first base ball game of the season was played between Centre Hall and State College High School, the home team winning by the score of 6 to 4. The game throughout was an interesting one, the closeness of the score keeping up the excitement among the "fans." Smith, pitcher for the locals, had no trouble in mowing down the opposing batsmen via the strike-out route, making no less than nineteen of them dent the air in their desperate efforts to connect with the leather pellet. Only two safe hits were made off his delivery—one of the scratch order and the other a solid single to center field. Centre Hall connected safely seven times, the batting honors being carried off by third baseman Paul Bradford, who secured three hits, two of which were good for an extra base.

A return game will be played with the same team at State College in the near future.

Excise Bill Given Up.

It is quite authoritatively reported from Harrisburg that the proposed excise board bill, the purpose of which was to take the granting of liquor licenses out of the hands of the courts, is not to make its appearance out of committee. This is because of the universal condemnation of the proposed measure, the better class of liquor men themselves being opposed to the proposition. The bill, as finally amended, provided for an excise board of three members in each county, which board should have practically complete control of the granting of licenses. The proposition is so iniquitous, so far as the creation of a powerful auxiliary to political interests is concerned, as well as adding to the expenses of the state, that it was widely condemned, while its arbitrary spirit concerning the matter of remonstrating was a direct usurpation of the people's right of petition. Good enough is the news from Harrisburg that this bill is not to be heard from again.

THE PROGRAM.

Music
Oration—"A Time of Progress" Calvin J. Smith
Music
Oration—"The Man in Overalls" J. LeRoy Puff
Music
Essay—"An Age of Thought" Nina C. Snyder
Music
Oration—"Wm. Jennings Bryan, the Cosmopolitan Citizen" Robert C. Meyer
Music
Essay—"What Spare Moments Will Accomplish" Nellie C. Smith
Music—Barytone Solo

(Continued on inside page.)

Prof. Rossman Made Superintendent.

For several years Prof. John G. Rossman, of Spring Mills, has been connected with the Stuttgart Training School, at Stuttgart, Arkansas, and a few days ago was elected superintendent of the Stuttgart public schools. He is a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, and has been successful in the profession of teaching wherever he has been located. In speaking of the action of the school board, the "Daily Arkansawyer," published at Stuttgart, makes this reference to Prof. Rossman.

Prof. John G. Rossman, now an instructor in the Stuttgart Training School, was elected superintendent of the Stuttgart public schools at a board meeting last night.

Prof. Rossman, who will succeed Prof. Murphy as superintendent, needs no introduction. He is well educated, tactful and agreeable, a possessor of every faculty that a successful school man should have. In his associations with local people he has gained the confidence and esteem of all and will start in next year as the head of the schools with the well wishes of all for his success. The Arkansawyer extends its congratulations.

Locals.

Mrs. Charles Beirly, of Rebersburg, who for some time had been in very delicate health, is improving.

Miss Ella Z. Decker, of Spring Mills, was a caller on Friday. For some months she will be in Duquesne, where she will be employed as a seamstress.

Rev. E. E. C. Wharmann, recently elected pastor of the East Water Street Lutheran church, Lock Haven, has taken charge of the pastorate. He was formerly located at Numidia.

Mrs. John Felding, of near Linden Hall, who had been dangerously ill for several weeks, is somewhat improved, but she continues very weak, and is yet confined to bed a part of the time.

Baby No. 10 came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren S. Kries, in Johnstown. The newcomer is a brother of Miss Ruth Kries, who was at the home of her grandparents in Centre Hall during the past eight months, but has now returned home.

M. Ward Fleming, a member of the Centre county bar, will devote all his time to the practice of law, and has associated himself with W. D. Crosby, of Philadelphia. Mr. Fleming is a son of W. I. Fleming, and of late was instructor in the Harrisburg High School.

The Pine Stump branch of the Patrons Rural Telephone Company is extending its service, and has contracts with five persons to become telephone users on their line. The parties are these: Henry Houser, George Felding, P. A. Leaster, John D. Moore and Daniel Callihan.

Dr. J. K. Hosterman, of Ford City, arrived in Centre Hall on Monday afternoon, and this (Thursday) morning again returned home. He came here to witness the graduation exercises of the Centre Hall High School, his niece, Miss Nellie Smith, and nephew, Calvin Smith, being members of the graduating class.

Bellefonte has had a number of cases of scarlet fever, and two or more deaths. It is thought there will be no further spread of the disease, because of the strict quarantine regulations being put into operation. The disease has also broken out in several other sections of the county, and its spread in these latter districts is due to the lack of reporting the disease to the health authorities.

This item is from the Millheim Journal: Andrew, the four-year-old son of Harold G. Stover, of Penn township, was attacked by a ram and severely injured. He was found by his brother, Filbert, lying in a pool of blood, bleeding from his nose and mouth. When taken to the house and examined the child's body was found to be bruised all over and his nose broken. The ram was killed by Mr. Stover.

[EDITOR'S NOTE—Reference to members of Classis with parishes in Centre county was omitted because of the fact that the Reporter readers have a personal acquaintance with these ministers.]

New Law.

There will be no real estate tax dodging in Centre county after a new law has gone into effect, and which has been received at the recorder's office in the Court House at Bellefonte. It provides for the keeping of a separate book in the matter of deeds, wherein the grantor, the grantee on the sale of any property, the consideration, the location, the acreage, or if in boroughs, the lot or lots designated, shall all be noted in this record. An extra fifteen cents shall be charged for one description, and ten cents for each additional description of property in the deed. On the first Monday in each month this record must be turned over to the county commissioners and from them shall go to the assessors before they begin their triennial assessments. In this way the assessors will have full and intelligent knowledge of all change in real property made in the period elapsing between the present and prior assessment.

Commencement of Bucknell University.

At the sixty-first annual commencement of Bucknell University, which will occur June 18-21, the Baccalaureate sermon will be delivered by President Harris; the Education Society sermon by A. Lincoln Moore, D. D., of Franklin; the address before the alumni by John Hamptone, D. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y.; the poem by Prof. William E. Martin, L. H. D., and the annual address by President George E. Horr, L. L. D., of Massachusetts.

Here is Your Chance.

Just think of it; a little intelligent work on your part may win for you a free trip to the post-season base ball games for world's championship, traveling in style, with good company.

No money required—just gather coupons from your friends and neighbors.

For other details see the mornings "Post."

Pine Grove Mills.

Miss Edie Danley visited relatives at State College last Saturday.

Mrs. Mabelle Myers spent Saturday and Sunday at State College.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Myers drove to Bellefonte last Monday.

Dr. Woods and wife were Bellefonte visitors on Wednesday.

Miss Gertrude Kelschline visited friends in Bellefonte on Wednesday.

Mrs. Clara Smith was a business visitor in Bellefonte last Wednesday.

U. L. Dale transacted business in Tyrone last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Roop, of State College, spent Sunday with friends in this place.

Mrs. Benton Heberling, of State College, visited with friends in this place on Sunday.

Mrs. J. W. Everts visited her daughter, Mrs. Peters, of Oak Hall, last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Krebs visited relatives and friends in Altoona and Bellwood last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Woods and little daughter Virginia, are visiting at the home of Dr. G. H. Woods.

Edward Martz left for Philadelphia last Monday where he expects to spend the summer.

Miss Mandella Smith left on Wednesday for Cleveland, Ohio, where she expects to spend several months with her sister, Mrs. P. R. Martz.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed Randolph and little daughter Gladys, drove to McAlevys Fort on Sunday where they visited Mrs. Randolph's sister, Miss Ella Livingstone.

Aaronsburg.

Mrs. Bertha Lane and children, of Tyrone, visited the former's mother, Mrs. Sara Letzell.

Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Mingle attended the funeral of Mrs. Mingle's cousin, at Rebersburg, on Monday.

The funeral of Mrs. Charlotte Burd Beam, last Saturday, was largely attended by the deceased's many friends.

The funeral of the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Weaver was held Monday afternoon.

Arthur Weaver and family, of Mackeyville, attended the funeral of their little niece on Monday.

Mrs. Myra Nevil and children, of Altoona, attended the funeral of Mrs. Beam.

Warren Winkleblech and family spent the Sabbath at the home of John Detwiler, near Centre Hall.

Mrs. Charles Grenoble and baby, of Yeagerstown, and Thomas Meyer and family, of Coburn, spent the Sabbath at the home of George Weaver.

Rev. Benfer, presiding elder of the United Evangelical church, preached an excellent sermon in that church at this place Sunday afternoon, after which the holy communion was celebrated.

Court opens next week for a two weeks session.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

The borough schools closed the beginning of this week.

Hon. A. L. Martin was reappointed as deputy secretary of agriculture by Governor Tener.

Mrs. H. B. Herring, of Altoona, was in Centre Hall from Friday until Tuesday, the guest of her brothers and sisters.

Boyd Spicher, the rural mail carrier over route two from Bellefonte, will make his deliveries with a Ford runabout.

A storm, the early part of last week, unroofed a portion of the Oak Hall flouring mills of which Clayton Eiters is the owner and operator.

Prof. D. O. Eiters, of State College, county superintendent, is one of the examiners chosen by the state superintendent for the Lock Haven normal school.

Station Agent W. Frank Bradford is building an addition to his dwelling house in Centre Hall. He will also install a hot water heating plant, and equip a bath room with new fixtures.

To take a six weeks' course in music, Miss Cora Luse, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Luse, went to Freeburg, last week. She is a pupil in Miss Moyer's school, whose advertisement appears frequently in this paper.

The next reunion of the Fifth Regiment, P. V. I., veterans of the Spanish-American War, will be held in Bellefonte April 27, 1912. Col. H. S. Taylor was made president of the association at a reunion held at Clearfield.

The beginning of May was unusually cold, the first few nights the temperature falling to and below the freezing point. Just now the weather man is sending more sun-shine and warming up the soil, and this makes the farmer think of planting corn.

John Luse, who had been seriously ill for some weeks, is able to walk about with the aid of crutches. His sickness began with grip, and later something akin to rheumatism developed. At present his feet are badly swollen, but he is not suffering pain in them.

The water-soaked logs in the bottom of Moshannon creek are to be removed, partly because the timber is valuable, and partly because their removal will lessen the overflow of the creek in the vicinity of Phillipsburg. A special boat, with hoisting machinery, will be used to fish the logs from the bed of the creek.

Miss Grace Runkle McClellan, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. W. A. McClellan, of West Milton, is one of the members of the graduating class in the Milton High School, the exercises incident to which will be held on the 25th. The Milton school ranks above the average high school, because of the thoroughness of its work.

Over one thousand trees were planted at Rhonemede by Hon. Leonard Rhone, this spring. There are now growing over five thousand trees planted within the past few years. In this way Mr. Rhone expects to keep up the supply of timber and fire wood needed on the farm. A very large percentage of the forest trees planted the past few seasons have made good growths.

The Keystone Gazette installed a junior linotype, a Mergenthaler type, in its office, and last week much of the matter that appeared in the paper was machine-set. The machine is a wonderful piece of mechanism, and from scrap metal a "line of type" is cast, the machine being limited only to the speed of the operator. The Gazette, with this new equipment, will be able to issue a more newsy paper than ever, and at the same time be better in appearance from a typographical standpoint.

Squire Milford Pletcher, also a school teacher and at one time an aspirant to become county superintendent, witnessed the re-election of Superintendent Eiters with no little interest. The new school code calls for an assistant to the superintendent, and Mr. Pletcher has his eye focused on that job. Prof. H. C. Rothrock, of Boalsburg, at one time, before he became so thoroughly infested with the prothonotary microbes, also thought to be next to Prof. Eiters would be nice, provided a subordinate would be needed. The way the matter now stands, the nomination for prothonotary is to be his, and Mr. Pletcher is to be the officer under the school code, assuming that feature of the bill is retained upon passage of the bill. Of course, there is no politics in school affairs, and thus such an arrangement will be looked upon as taking care of the brethren early in the season to avoid a rush.

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