

# The Centre Reporter.

VOL. LXXXVII.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1914.

NO. 11

## THE OLD BANK BARN.

One of the Indexes of Prosperity in Pennsylvania Rural Districts May Become Less Conspicuous in Future Years.

That time honored structure, the Pennsylvania bank barn, has been receiving the attention of the state dairy authorities who have undertaken to reform the ancient edifice along modern lines. Time was when it was considered the barn par excellence and when everybody who could afford it and had a hillside was copying it. It now appears to be a breeder of impurities in milk and a cultural medium of bovine tuberculosis.

The idea of the bank barn came from across the seas. It originated in central Europe. Long before it was known in America the German ancestors of a large part of the present population of Pennsylvania used it for storing their crops, protecting their domestic animals and housing themselves. For that matter, in many parts of Europe today combinations of house and barn are common enough, the front of the building opening level with the ground and the back buried in a convenient hillside.

In this country there are plenty of instances of houses and barns being built and maintained under one roof. In parts of New England, where the snow is formidable and the cold intense, such structures may also be found. They are less numerous than they used to be, but they have not altogether disappeared. They had their origin in the physical wants of the region in which they developed.

The great barn with its gigantic spread of roof; its ample bays, or mows; its "floor," or driveway, like a public hall, and its multiplied stabling for dumb animals, was and snug from the blasts of winter, has long been the index of prosperity of the Pennsylvania farmer. For that matter big barns and plenty of them have come to indicate in almost every northern state the financial condition of the agricultural population. The bigger the crops the bigger the bank account.

That the Pennsylvania bank barn is susceptible to improvement there can be little doubt. That it will be improved there can also be no doubt. The idea of light, air and other sanitary accessories is abroad in Pennsylvania as well as elsewhere. The modern notion is to stand bossy on a concrete or cork floor, line her and her co-laborers in milk production up in stanchions, give her a window to look out from, furnish her with a sanitary concrete or metallic feeding trough, provide her with an automatic water supply and equip her domicile with ventilating ducts. Such cow barns are becoming numerous in this state, as well as in the west. But in spite of all the modern notions, when the last bank barn has been pulled down the Pennsylvania rural landscape will have lost one of its most distinctive features: one of its most abiding indexes of prosperity and the progress of a day that saw big things done before it faded into all the yesterdays.

## The Free Lunch.

A few years ago there was a disposition to eliminate the free lunch feature of the public sales in Centre county, but this season a number of persons who held sales advertised that a free lunch would be served, and this will fix the continuance of the custom. The free lunch is a characteristic feature of Centre county sales not found in all sections. In many localities lunches are served by persons who follow the sales for that purpose, and find it a profitable business. The service varies, and is good or bad according to the general fitness of those who are in the business.

In Centre county the lunch is always furnished by the man who holds the sale. Of course, it is not a dollar meal, but the "poke" always contains substantial food, well prepared, and clean. The housewife is just as particular in the preparation of the food for the sale lunch "poke" as she is in the preparation of the Sunday dinner for her friends, and it is not unusual for all members of the family, the auctioneer and sale clerk, to depend entirely on the contents of the "poke" for the noon refreshment. Coffee! gloriously hot, and strong enough to carry a wedge on and is also served without stint, and if you want it you can have sugar and cream. There is no locality that has anything on the Centre county sale lunch poke, with its meats, bread, doughnuts, and cakes of various varieties. And no better coffee is served anywhere than can be dipped from the iron kettle hanging over the fire place in the back yard of the country home, or in the chimney corner in the "out kitchen."

## Methodist Conference.

The forty-sixth annual session of the Central Pennsylvania Methodist Episcopal Conference convened in Grace church, Harrisburg, yesterday (Wednesday.)



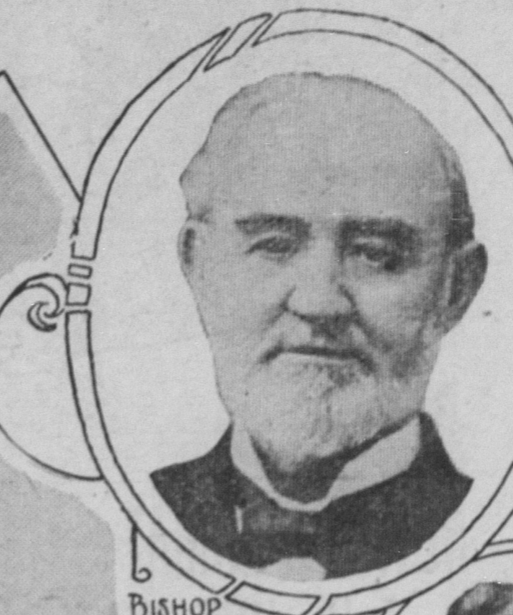
DR. JOHN D. FOX



DR. E. M. STEVENS



SCENE OF CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES



BISHOP EARL CRANSTON



REV. S. B. EVANS



DR. J. B. STEIN



DR. BEN. H. MOSSER

Grace Church on State street, the largest and finest Methodist Episcopal church in Harrisburg where the forty-sixth annual session of the Central Pennsylvania Conference started its work yesterday (Wednesday.) It will continue until March 23. The pastor, the Rev. Dr. John D. Fox; Bishop Earl Cranston, who will preside, and the five Superintendents of the conference districts who will assist at the sessions.

## THE ORATORICAL CONTEST.

Will be Held in Bellefonte, Friday, March 27.—The Contestants.

The public speaking contest for the \$250 prize in gold, the gift of the First National Bank, of Bellefonte, will be held at Bellefonte, in the auditorium of the High School building, on Friday, March 27, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The public is invited to be present at that time to hear and encourage the young orators who have already won prizes in their respective district contests.

The names of the following young men will appear on the program: Henry Mingle, Haines; Forrest Miller, Harris; Russell Anman, Miles; Walter F. Rothwell, Walker; Orin Farrell, Phillipsburg; Richard Steel, Phillipsburg. The Bellefonte High School orchestra will furnish music for the occasion.

The chief promoter of this cause is Prof. R. U. Wasson, principal of the Haines Township High School. Prof. Wasson, like many others, realizes that public speaking is becoming a lost art in this section as well as in many other localities, and feels the necessity of stimulating the youths of the public schools to again acquire this accomplishment.

## James I. Thompson Home Burned.

The James I. Thompson home, just above Center Furnace and a mile east of State College, was totally consumed by fire on Thursday morning of last week. This place was built by Mr. Thompson about twelve or fifteen years ago, and was a three-story structure of large floor dimensions. The fire appears to have originated on the upper floor and was first observed about eight o'clock, but not until it had burned through the roof. Of course there were no fire-fighting appliances nearer than State College, and by the time assistance came from there, the large dwelling house was a mass of flames.

Considerable furniture was removed by members of the family and neighbors, but not nearly all of it. There was insurance in the sum of \$3000 on the building, and \$1000 on furniture, in the Centre Hall Insurance Company, D. F. Luse, secretary.

At the time of the fire Mrs. Thompson was absent from home. The youngest daughter, Miss Alice, was in bed sick, but was removed to a place of safety.

The origin of the fire is supposed to have been due to defective electric light wiring.

Voters who changed their residence from one voting district to another after March 18th, or will do so between this and the time of the primary election, which comes on Tuesday, May 19, will not be entitled to vote at the primary. A voter must have lived in the district sixty days before he becomes a qualified voter.

## SCHOLASTIC HONORS.

Rev. J. M. Runkle Completes Six Years' Course of Study in Less than Four Years, Receiving Ph. D. Degree.

Oskaloosa College, Oskaloosa, Iowa, last week conferred the degree of Doctor of Philosophy upon Rev. J. McOlellan Runkle, pastor of the Reformed church of the Incarnation, in Newport.

Rev. Mr. Runkle completed a six years' course of study in little less than four years. In notifying Rev. Mr. Runkle of the acceptance of his thesis, Dr. John Meisner, Registrar of the College said: "We never had any misgivings as to the merits of your thesis, for we naturally judged it from the character of your other work, all of which was of a very high order throughout. We wish that all students were as conscientious in their work as yours shows you to have been. We want to thank you for the splendid thought given us, and the exquisite style in which you executed your thesis."

Dr. Runkle is receiving the congratulations of his many friends upon the scholastic honor which he has just received. He has been actively engaged in the ministry for almost twenty-one years. He graduated at Franklin and Marshall college in 1890 and at the Theological Seminary at Lancaster in 1893. He served three years and four months at Mechanicsburg, during which time he was married. He then went to Nittany Valley, remaining for the same length of time. His next work was at Williamsport where he labored for eight years and four months. He was elected pastor of the church at this place on May 17, 1908, entering upon his pastorate on Sunday, July 5, continuing successfully since, with prospects of remaining indefinitely if he shall so choose.

## Attention, Farmers.

The farmers of Penns and Brush Valleys are requested to meet at Grange Hall, in the village of Spring Mills, at ten o'clock a. m., Saturday, April 4th, for the purpose of inquiring into the most profitable method of marketing the product of the dairy, and especially as to the advisability of forming a co-operative stock company to build and operate a milk order shipping plant with a creamery connected therewith.

JOHN NAVELY,  
WM. M. GROVE,  
A. N. FINKLE.

The Pennsylvania Railroad last year paid out \$5,143.40 on account of accidents to passengers who tripped over other passengers' grips placed in the aisles on passenger trains. That is one of the reasons why the company instructs its trainmen not to permit luggage to remain in the aisles of passenger coaches.

Tickets for the minstrel show can be had at the drug store where the chart is now open.

## CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

Bishop Swengle Declares Pennsylvania will be Dry Within Five Years.

The conference in session at Berwick, on the day it adjourned, selected Carlisle for the next place of meeting for the Central Pennsylvania United Evangelical Conference.

Bishop Swengle declared Pennsylvania would be dry within five years. The National Prohibition Amendment was unanimously favored.

Officers of the conference K. L. C. E. society were elected as follows: President, Rev. C. W. M'zner; vice president, Rev. J. W. Walz; secretary, Rev. S. E. Eartman; treasurer, Rev. M. W. Stahl.

C. A. Shaffer, Rev. W. E. Detwiler and A. Stapleton were elected trustees of Albright college. The conference voted on a number of recommendations as to changes in the church discipline to be made to the general conference among which the following: To increase number of stewards; to lengthen the terms of pastors; and providing for extension of the pastorate upon certain conditions. All were defeated by overwhelming majorities.

The appointments announced just before adjournment follow:

## CENTER DISTRICT

Henry A. Benfer, Presiding Elder  
Altoona, D. F. Young  
Bellwood, I. E. D. Stover  
Bellefonte, E. Fulcomer  
Burnham, C. D. Moore  
Centre Hall, F. H. Foss  
Centerville, F. F. Mayer  
Howard, M. J. Snyder  
Junonia, W. E. Peffy  
Lewisport, first church, J. C. Reeser; Trinity, George Joseph  
Liverpool, R. S. Danbert  
Millheim, W. H. Brown  
Mexico, N. J. Dubs  
Millmont, Ralph Smith  
Middleburg, S. A. Snyder  
McClure, C. S. Mosser  
Mifflin, W. H. Lilley  
Newport, M. W. Stahl  
Nittany, D. A. Eitel  
Port Trevorton, B. F. Keller  
Rebersburg, J. F. Bringham  
Spring Mills, J. M. Price  
Winfield, G. S. Albright  
Rummels Wharf, To be filled  
Members of quarterly conference—Bishop U. F. Swengel, Lewisport; E. L. Kessler, Millheim; J. D. Lester, Mexico.

## LEWISBURG DISTRICT

John D. Shortess, Presiding Elder  
Berwick, Memorial, W. B. Cox; North, N. Young; West, W. C. Hoch  
Blomberg, W. J. D'oe  
Buffalo Circuit, J. Womelsdorf  
Columbia Circuit, W. K. Shultz  
Danville, C. E. Allison  
Dunshoro, R. S. Starr  
Espy, J. Shamburgh  
Lewisburg, E. C. Crumbling  
Lopes, W. H. Rhoads  
Milton, I. E. Spangler  
Milton Circuit, A. C. Paulhamus  
Mifflinburg, H. R. Wilkes  
New Berlin, J. H. Bieker  
Nuremberg, H. C. Guthrie  
Nescopeck, W. J. Campbell  
Northumberland, L. C. Shearer  
Ransom, W. E. Smith  
Scranton, J. F. Fower  
Sonestown, J. R. Schectery  
Sugar Valley, H. C. Kieffel  
Unityville, A. L. Reeser  
Wapwallpen, M. T. Crouch  
West Nanticoke, J. F. Rohrbach  
Members of quarterly conference—Dr. A. E. Gobbe, New Berlin; J. F. Shultz and W. I. Shamburgh, Milton; J. D. Stover, Sugar Valley; S. Smith, Mifflinburg; I. M. Hines, W. P. Thomas and J. M. Price, Lewisburg; L. L. Harris, Unityville; W. C. Bierly, West Berwick; J. H. Herit, Sonestown.

## WILLIAMSPORT DISTRICT

J. W. Thompson, Presiding Elder  
Williamsport—First church, C. J. Rademacher

## YORK DISTRICT

Crayleyville, W. H. Wharburton  
Dallasport, J. R. Sochriet  
East Prospect, C. F. Garrett  
Eck Lion, S. P. Remer  
York, Christ, L. E. Crumbling  
Zion, H. W. Buck

## CARLISLE DISTRICT

Carlisle, M. A. Kennelly  
Hagerstown Circuit, H. A. Sook  
Lemoyne, E. D. Keen  
Lewisberry, M. E. Bartholomew  
Marysville, W. E. Detwiler  
Mount Holly, L. N. Bair

## Lawrence County Dry.

Judge William E. Porter refused all applicants for liquor licenses in Lawrence county, and as a result that county will be "dry" for the fourth successive year.

Judge Porter has been on the bench nine years. The first five years he granted liquor licenses, but after a visit to New Castle by the Rev. William A. Sunday in the fall of 1910, Judge Porter has refused to grant any licenses.

## Clayton Wagner Farm Sold.

Last week mention was made that Clayton Wagner had sold his farm to Mr. Knarr, but this was an error, the item having found its way to the front page after it was known no sale had been made owing to Mr. Knarr not fulfilling his portion of the contract. This farm was since sold to Harry C. Shirk of Centre Hall, who is always open for a bargain in a deal of this kind. The price paid has not been given out, but it is doubt is very little less than \$5000 for the eighty-five acres.

Charles E. Flink has leased the farm from Mr. Shirk, and will tenant it.

## Commencement Orator.

The orator at the commencement exercises of the Gregg Township High School, Tuesday, April 7th, will be Dr. H. M. Klein, head of the department of history, Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster. Prof. Jones, the principal, is making every effort to make these exercises one of general interest to all interested in school work.

Two new residents in Centre Hall will be Irvin Zettle and Kryder Frank, both of whom will come here from Spring Mills. Mr. Zettle is a member of the firm of Zettle Brothers, proprietors of the Centre Hall Planing Mill, and will move into a new dwelling house he erected. Mr. Frank will be employed by the Zettle Brothers, and will occupy the house carpenter John D. Lucas will vacate when he moves into the new house he is building.

## TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

Robins.  
Mercury dropped to within two degrees of the zero mark Wednesday night of last week.

Mrs. H. J. Lambert of State College was in Centre Hall for a few days last week, the guest of Mrs. I. A. Sweetwood.

In falling from a box Mrs. Samuel Gettig of Madisonburg broke her left arm at the wrist. She was hanging clothing on a line when the accident happened.

Rev. H. A. Stauffer was called to become pastor of the Middleburg Lutheran church. He was formerly pastor of the Second Lutheran church, Chambersburg.

William F. Fetterolf of near Centre Hall on Monday marketed a fat bull that brought in a pretty return. The animal weighed almost seventeen hundred pounds.

Shoats put up at public sales are selling at fabulous prices. A fifty-pound shoat is worth enough money to make the average farmer feel like tipping his hat to it.

The moon got into the earth's shadow Wednesday night of last week and for a time was obliterated. The sky was clear, and this phenomenon of nature made an interesting spectacle to those who observed it.

At the sessions of the Central Pennsylvania United Evangelical conference at Berwick, H. D. Krape of Aaronsburg was elected as one of the lay delegates of Centre district to the general conference to be held in Barrington, Illinois, in October.

The Millheim Journal of last week contained this notice: Saturday afternoon a number of lady friends were delightfully entertained by Mrs. Marcellus Sankey and Miss Edith Sankey, at their home south of Millheim. Refreshments were served and a jolly afternoon was spent by all present.

Upsetting in a sleigh or a sled last week was about as easy as rolling off a log. Numerous upsets of sleds loaded with hay were reported, and the light sleigh had a hard time to keep on its pins. The drifted country roads made driving a hard matter, and the numerous chuck-holes in the road almost invariably meant a spill.

James P. Grove will offer his home east of Spring Mills at public sale on Saturday, March 28th, at one o'clock, and at the same time he will sell a lot of personal property. Mr. Grove will break up housekeeping, as it is the intention of his daughter, who was his chief housekeeper, to go to State College. See adv. and posters for further information.

In the transfers of real estate you will notice a real estate deal between James E. Frohm and D. A. Bozzer. As agent for Jacob Frohm, James Frohm sold to Mr. Bozzer the lot in Centre Hall on which he (Frohm) is building a new house, and then Mr. Bozzer sold it to Mr. Frohm, with the agent omitted. The transaction was to gain title.

A horse driven by Walter Bierly of Smulltown dropped dead before it could be unhitched. The owner and Veterinary Surgeon M. P. Fiedler were driving the horse through Millheim narrows, when the animal suddenly stopped. Dr. Fiedler at once discovered that something serious was ailing the animal, but before it could be unhitched it dropped to the ground and died.

Lewisburg is putting forth its best efforts for the entertainment of the Odd Fellows on the 24th of next month, which date marks the ninety-fifth anniversary of the founding of the order in the United States. The contract has been let for the decoration of the streets, and the fraternity from all parts of the state will no doubt experience one of the grandest occasions in the history of the order.

On Saturday the Reporter was favored with a call from two High School teachers, Prof. R. U. Wasson and Prof. H. A. Dodson, the latter principal of the local High School. Prof. Wasson is doing very satisfactory work as principal of the Haines Township High School at Aaronsburg, and his activities in interesting young men in the oratorical contest throughout the country put him in touch with many persons who have a deep interest in school work. His plans for a contest among the youths are about to be consummated, and is no doubt the first of a series of such contests Centre county will see. Prof. Wasson's greatest interest lies in making the country school a success, and with that view in mind he will have the support of many school directors for the office of county superintendent of schools, to which position he is aspiring.