



SCENES AT THE HOGESTOWN LIVE STOCK SHOW AND PORTRAIT OF THE FOUNDER, VANCE CRISWELL M'CORMICK.



GROUP OF STATE LEGISLATORS VIEWING CATTLE JUDGING AT HOGESTOWN STOCK SHOW



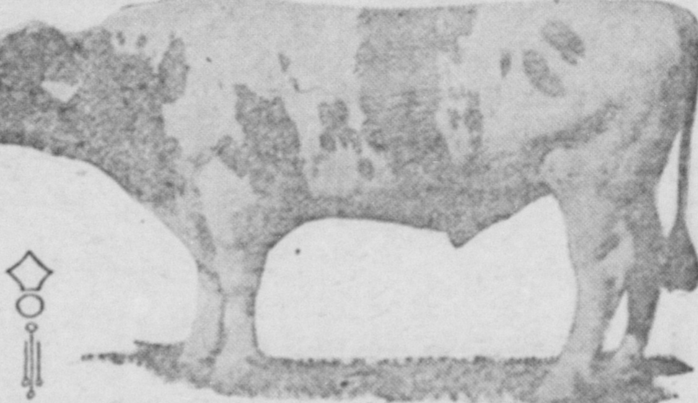
VANCE C. M'CORMICK



MR. M'CORMICK AND FARMER FRIENDS VIEWING THE JUDGING OF CATTLE FROM THE FENCE SURROUNDING THE JUDGING RING



FARMER BOYS JUDGING COWS AT HOGESTOWN STOCK SHOW JUNE 1913



HOLSTEIN BULL FIRST PRIZE WINNER AT HOGESTOWN STOCK SHOW JUNE 1913

VANCE C. M'CORMICK, PROGRESSIVE FARMER

Activities of Democratic Candidate For Governor in Promoting Improved Methods of Agriculture.

Vance Criswell McCormick, a leader in the movement which resulted in the reorganization and regeneration of the Democratic party in Pennsylvania, and now a candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor of the state, is a farmer from taste education and inheritance, as well as a newspaper publisher, a business man and banker.

He is, as was said by Mr. Berry in his speech at Blossburg, on Thursday, March 19, a son of the soil, of the rich fertile lands of the Cumberland Valley, where his ancestors, emigrants from Europe, settled when it was a wilderness, cleared it of its forests and made it, like the Promised Land of old, to flow with milk and honey.

There is not in the state of Pennsylvania a farmer more progressive and enterprising than he, nor one who has done more to advance the interests of the farmers of the state and to improve farm methods and the breeds of farm stock of all kinds.

Owing to the death of his father when he was still a very young man, Mr. McCormick at once took his place among men of large responsibilities, much older than himself. A part of these responsibilities consisted in the management of extensive agricultural interests in the Cumberland Valley, where his forefathers settled two centuries ago. He at once showed his enterprise and interest in farming by liberal expenditures for the improvement of farm stock, especially heavy work horses.

He imported at large expense splendid specimens of brood Percherons, and gave the service of these animals

to the neighboring farmers at a merely nominal charge, so that by crossing with their grade mares, pronounced improvement was observable within a few years.

To further interest the farmers in the improvement of their stock and to stimulate enterprise and friendly competition, Mr. McCormick in the spring of 1905 established in a beautiful piece of woods belonging to his family near Hogestown, Cumberland county, a one-day open-air show of horses and cattle, including mules, sheep and hogs.

The first show was held on Thursday, June 15, 1905, and was very creditable. The farmers for miles around entered their best animals, numbering in all something like one hundred horses and nearly as many cows and bulls and a few sheep and hogs.

To make the competition exclusively educational the prizes offered had no intrinsic value. They were blue, red and yellow rosettes—blue for the first prize, red for the second and yellow for the third.

Every sort of catch-penny device was rigidly excluded from the grounds. A small admission fee has been charged to all except exhibitors and their families, rather to keep out objectionable visitors than for revenue, but though when the weather was favorable the shows were attended by thousands, the gate money has never come anywhere near paying the cost of the shows, the difference being made up by subscription.

The show was designed primarily for farmers living in the eastern part of Cumberland county, and no entries except for registered stock were accepted from any other place. The first show was so successful that it was determined to hold one every year, and this has been done from that time to this. The shows are always held in June, generally in the first or second week, before hay time, so that the farmers can attend without neglecting their work at home.

In order that the judging might be of such a character that the justice of it should be beyond question, the management has every year brought to the grounds in Big Head woods the most accomplished experts in cattle and horses and other live stock to be found in the eastern states. They came from Cornell university, from the University of Pennsylvania, from the Pennsylvania State college, from Delaware College Experiment Station, from the

famous Shadeland stock farm and from the veterinary department of the Pennsylvania state government.

Soon the farmers were invited to add to their exhibits poultry, eggs, dairy products and fancy stock. At these shows have been exhibited splendid specimens of registered heavy draft animals, of various breeds of road horses, medium and light draft horses and the choicest breeds of cattle, including Gurnseys, Jerseys, Holsteins, Ayrshires and Durhams and of Herefords especially valued as beefs; likewise pens of the most approved breeds of sheep and swine and all kinds of farm live stock.

Those farmers who had not done so before soon came to appreciate the fact that it cost no more to keep a good cow or a good horse than a poor one, and now throughout the eastern part of the Cumberland Valley there are many splendid herds of registered and grade Gurnseys, Holsteins and Jerseys, where ten years ago there were very few, and the improvement that has resulted has been pronounced nothing less than marvelous by the experts who have attended these shows from year to year.

The interest of Mr. McCormick has never flagged. He has never permitted anything to interfere with his attendance. Five years ago the shows had grown to such proportions that it was found impossible—even with a corps of eight or ten judges—to do all the judging in one day. Since then the shows have been held during two days. The shows have been held without regard to the weather, and the Cumberland Valley farmers have shown such an interest in them that a steady downpour of rain, a whole day long, has never kept them away.

In the illustration accompanying this article is shown a group of boys, ranging in age from fifteen to twenty-one years, judging cows immediately after they had had an illustrated lecture on the way to do it by Professor Harry Hayward, of Delaware college, at the show last June. Such instructions have been given every year recently in the judging of cows by Professor Hayward, by Professor Wing, of Cornell, and Professors VanNorman and Cocheil, formerly of Pennsylvania State college, and in judging horses by Dr. Carl W. Gay, of the University of Pennsylvania, director of the horse breeding division of the state live stock sanitary board, and other experts.

Another very valuable educational agency employed at the exhibitions consists of lectures by experts on horses, cattle, sheep, hogs and poultry during the noon interval, when the judging of stock and other exhibits is suspended for dinner. These lectures are given on a raised platform and a live animal is used to illustrate the points made by the lecturers. These lectures emphasize the good and the bad points of the animals. A lecture on butter-making always accompanies the judging of the butter exhibits.

In arranging and in conducting these annual spring live stock shows the founder has had the enthusiastic, intelligent and energetic support and cooperation of his neighbors, the farmers of Cumberland county, who have composed the general committee and other sub-committees.

Mr. McCormick has also effectively shown his appreciation of the interests of Pennsylvania and his intelligent desire to improve them, by his service as a member of the executive committee of the board of trustees of Pennsylvania State college. He has been always an enthusiastic advocate of its enlargement, especially the school of agriculture, so as to meet the ever-increasing demands upon its facilities by the young men of the state who want to go there to learn scientific methods of agriculture. He has also worked persistently in behalf of liberal appropriations to carry on the extension work of the school of agriculture, whereby practical instruction in farming and household economics is carried to every agricultural county in the state, to thousands of farmers and farmer boys and girls who could not possibly go to State college.

This has been done by demonstration trains run by the great railroad companies, accompanied by instructors from the School of Agriculture; by instruction at all the normal schools in the state during certain periods of the year; by lectures and demonstrations at county fairs; by correspondence and in other practical ways, whereby knowledge of improved methods of fertilizing and seeding and of all the details of farm work, including butter making, have been received by tens of thousands of those especially interested, resulting in marked improvement along these lines.

CANDIDATE VISIT CENTRE COUNTY.

Informal Reception Held at Bellefonte and State College—Palmer Spoke at Latter Place.

A. Mitchell Palmer, Vance C. McCormick, William H. Berry, and W. T. Cressy visited Centre county last Thursday. At Bellefonte Mr. McCormick was warmly greeted by many of his political friends, and also by numerous Republicans, and others of various political shades. The candidate for governor made a good impression on all who met him, and there is little doubt but that his various tours through the state will add much to his popularity.

At State College Mr. McCormick was joined by Mr. Palmer and Mr. Cressy, Mr. Berry also going with the former to the College town. In speaking of the reception given these Democrats, the State College Times, Republican in politics, makes these statements:

Vance C. McCormick of Harrisburg, the Democratic candidate for the gubernatorial nomination, and his party, visited State College Thursday afternoon, arriving here at 2:30. They were given a cordial reception at the home of President Sparks, whose guests they were until Friday afternoon.

They visited the public schools during the afternoon, and addressed the students in the high school, giving them a resume of his experience at college and imparting some wholesome advice, urging them to aspire to the highest type of American manhood and womanhood, looking not only to their material welfare but to the country's good.

At four o'clock Mr. McCormick and Mr. Cressy attended a convocation of the board of trustees, and at 6:30 a monster mass meeting at the Auditorium, where men of varied political allegiance gathered to extend a hearty greeting and to listen to words of counsel. Besides the nominees for governor and lieutenant governor on the platform was A. Mitchell Palmer, Democratic candidate for the United States senatorship. The latter made a stirring address for cleaner politics, urging the young men, who represent every part of the state, to study well the issue before the people of the commonwealth. His address was clear cut and left no doubt in the minds of his hearers that he was sincere in what he said.

Immediately at the close of the meeting in the Auditorium the guests were driven to the Nittany Inn where an informal reception was held. This was attended by several thousand citizens, who came from surrounding towns to pay their respects to the candidates.

In the party were A. Mitchell Palmer, Vance C. McCormick, William T. Cressy, William H. Berry.

A conference of party leaders was held that night and continued the following morning in which the situation was thoroughly reviewed. Democracy in this immediate section of the county is at fever heat and there is every indication that Palmer, McCormick and Cressy will receive the solid support of the younger element in the factional fight waged by county seat interests.

Trout Fishing to be Good.

Predictions that there would be good trout fishing in Pennsylvania this spring were made by N. R. Buller, state commissioner of fisheries, recently.

"Considering the condition of the streams and the severe winter through which we have passed, the reports I have received about the trout are excellent, and I think that there will be good fishing," said he. "This condition is general throughout the state. I have received dozens of reports, and so far as I can make out, the fish have not been harmed."

The commissioner said that since the trout season closed last July 31 more than a million brook and brown trout have been "planted" in the trout streams of the state, the work having gone on as long as weather permitted, and having been resumed recently. These trout are all at least a year old, and are from four to seven inches long, and, therefore, able to take care of themselves, says Buller. They were selected from the best trout at Correy and Bellefonte. The shipments have all been consigned to men recommended for their interest in planting of the fish, and reports on the condition of the fish and of the manner in which they survived the winter have been received. According to the commissioner, many fishing associations took charge of the work, and have furnished reports at regular intervals on the condition of fish and streams.

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TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

Two extra coaches were necessary to carry Penn State students home on their Easter vacation, Saturday.

The Old Fort hotel was granted its liquor license Friday afternoon by Judge Orvis. The Garman House is still held over.

County superintendent of schools, D. O. Eppers, circulated among school directors in Potter township the latter part of last week.

Hon. Leonard Rhone assisted in the dedication of the new Grange Hall of the Bald Eagle Grange, at Bald Eagle, Blair county, Saturday.

Forest Ocker of Millinburg was a business visitor in Centre Hall Friday. He was a bookkeeper for the firm of Wolf and Crawford in Centre Hall many years ago.

Next Wednesday the trout season opens, and the average disciple of Izaak Walton is already getting his tackle in the best of order to prevent the "big one" from getting away this time.

A cow, the property of W. A. Longer of Weikert, was pronounced by Dr. F. P. Baker to be afflicted with rabies, and was ordered killed by the veterinary. The animal had been bitten by a dog.

Howard Straw and William Stonebraker, aged eleven and twelve years, respectively, and living at Blue Ball, mistook laurel for teaberry leaves, and as a result the former is dead and the latter in a precarious condition.

Farm land in Millheim boro is passing along at fair rates. A recent sale of nine acres one hundred and eleven perches was made by Ralph Haines to the E. L. Auman Milling Company, the price being \$1200.

The last two Fridays of this month—17th and 24th—have been designated by Governor Tener as spring arbor days. A tree planted on either one or both of these days will be an act that will develop into good for many.

Rev. D. C. Caris, who for a year has lived on a farm near Madisonburg, has accepted a charge at Birdsboro, and this week will ship his household goods to that place, and later take his family there. Rev. Caris is connected with the Evangelical church.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. White at Axe Mann, was the scene of a grand social gathering of over one hundred friends and neighbors, a short time ago, the occasion being the twenty-second birthday anniversary of a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Curtis White.

Miss Miriam Meyer, who is a student in a Rochester, New York, institution, is at her home in Reedsville for her Easter vacation. She is taking a course in domestic science, which, by the way, embraces a much broader field than is usually credited to it by those unacquainted with the work.

Harry E. Bible, an administrator of the estate of the late Jonas Bible, deceased, was at his home from Tuesday until Saturday of last week, assisting in the arrangements for the public sale of the decedent's property. He was well pleased with the way stock sold, and especially one team of horses which brought \$440. Mr. Bible has charge of the men's furnishing department in Gable's store, Altoona.

Today (Thursday) Clayton E. Homan will leave Centre Hall for Toledo, Ohio, where he expects to secure work with the Willys-Overland Co., manufacturers of the Overland automobile, the concern with which his brother, Charles Homan, is identified as purchasing agent. Mr. Homan is a young man of good qualities and no doubt will rise rapidly to a position of as great responsibility as that held by his brother.

William H. Johnstonbaugh of near State College, one of the best known farmers and lumbermen in this section of the county, according to a statement in the Gazette, closed a deal for the purchase of the lower George B. Thompson farm, adjoining the farm he owns and occupies three miles north of State College. The farm contains 225 acres and is one of the best in that locality. With the acquisition of this farm Mr. Johnstonbaugh and his sons now possess a tract of 800 acres in that section.

S. Paul Dinges, on Friday, was operated on in Meadville for appendicitis by a Williamsport specialist. Telegrams a d letters received by his sister, Mrs. John C. Rossman, Centre Hall, announce that his condition is very favorable. Mr. Dinges is the head of the Underwriters' Association, in Meadville, and had been ailing for six months, from what was thought to be stomach trouble. A few weeks ago his condition became such that the disease was properly diagnosed, and the operation followed.

MILLHEIM HORSE SALE.

Thirty Animals Pass Into New Hands at an Average Price of \$220.50.

The horse sale conducted by F. O. Hosterman, owner, at Millheim on Friday of last week, was largely attended, and the bidding on nearly all the animals was spirited. The lot consisted of drafters, chunks, and driving horses, all presenting a fine appearance. Among the lot were two suckling mare colts, high grade Percherons, which were sold prior to the sale. The names of the purchasers are appended:

- H. G. Gilmore, 4
- H. E. Brungard, 2
- John Heckman
- N. F. Kresmer, 2
- P. F. Confer, 2
- W. F. Mouser
- Robert Finkle
- H. G. Stover
- A. M. Womelsdorf
- Simon Zimmerman
- S. W. Smith, 2
- W. R. Ruhl
- J. A. Witter
- A. M. Blabel, 2
- N. Zimmerman
- R. B. Taylor
- Harry Weaver, 2
- J. H. Cronse
- U. G. Auman
- Adam Wolf
- H. E. Miller

Mr. Hosterman contemplates holding another sale about the middle of the month.

Venango County Dry.

Judge George S. Criswell refused licenses to twenty saloons and three wholesale houses in Venango county last week, and as a result the county is dry. Judge Criswell has been granting these licenses for the past eighteen years, and in refusing them this year made the broad statement that they were not necessary. Venango county has two cities that take their stand with other cities in the state that are dry—Oil City, with a population of 17,000, and Franklin, with a population of 10,000.

Mill County Youth Killed.

Fern Glick, a youth of sixteen years, was battered to death in the Hatfield Sand Works near McVeytown, Millin county, when his clothing caught in the shafting as he was endeavoring to gain some knowledge as to the workings of the tiers of set screws. His body was whirled about the shaft, striking the overhead timbers with every revolution.

Republican Candidates.

There is no dearth of candidates on the Republican side of the political fence. Among others whose names are officially announced as being willing to hold office, or at least be willing to test their claims at the November election are these:

- CONGRESS.
- Charles H. Rowlands, Phillipsburg.
- SENATOR.
- Calvin C. Hoover, DuBois
- A. A. Dale, Bellefonte
- ASSEMBLY.
- C. L. Gramley, Hebersburg.

The Washington party "willingness" are also coming to the front, and this will make the contest in November all the more interesting, and all the more certain of Democratic success in the legislative, senatorial and congressional districts. The Washington candidates are these: for congress, Guy B. Mayo, of McKean county; for State Senator, Fred Mculthrop, of Clearfield; for Assembly, Herbert A. Auman, of Phillipsburg.

From Minnesota.

FEBEKA, Minn., March 29, 1914.

Editor Reporter;

Enclosed find \$1.50 for one year's subscription to the Reporter. I certainly enjoy getting the paper from home. At times it brings me sad news with the good. I read many letters from people I once knew well. I left home twenty-seven years ago on Washington's birthday, and it is only natural that many changes should take place in that time.

We have snow on the ground at present, but it is melting rapidly, and I see the clover is in good growing condition.

Yours truly,

J. H. MERSINGER.

Miss Ella Decker, who had been in Chicago for several years, has now located in Los Angeles, California, where she will remain for the present. Miss Decker, when a resident of Centre county, lived near Potters Mills.