

The Centre Reporter.

VOL. LXXXIX.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 1916.

NO. 2

LETTERS FROM SUBSCRIBERS.

J. H. Jordan writes from McConells, Illinois, on Season's Crops, Etc.—Is Looking Forward to Trip East.

Dear Sir:—
A look at the label on my paper convinces me that a "6" would look better than a "5", and I herewith enclose money order in payment for that figure.

Now for a few lines in regard to what we are doing in the west. Farmers did not do as well this year as they did a year ago. Our corn had a bad summer to make a good crop—too wet and cold—besides, it got frosted to an extent in August and the remainder also in September, but oats and wheat were good. We had some corn shipped in from the central part of the state and it is very nice corn, selling for 73 cents a bushel in ear, shelled for 73 cents, so you see we still have something to fall back on. Everything is bringing pretty fair prices at the public sales; cows sell as high as \$60.00 to \$90.00 per head; horses are selling quite as high as last year; hogs are selling from \$6.00 to \$6.25 per hundred, live weight, so with these prices we are not having hard times yet. Plenty to eat and plenty to wear, and good long nights to sleep and rest. We have not had very much snow out here as yet. We are having very nice weather for this time of the year. The coldest we had yet was zero, one morning two weeks ago.

We are settled now in McConells, Illinois, and would be very glad to have some of our friends from the east come to see us in our new home at East McConells. We will try to treat them just as kindly as they treat us when we come east, but one thing we will not have for them and that is pound apples and deer meat, but sausage and saurkraut we have, and so on. We will try to feed them well if they come to see us in the west.

Two boys from Oak Hall, Centre county, came to our place three weeks ago last Thursday morning before I was out of bed and gave me a very pleasant surprise. They were Claude Whitehill and Wayne Hanna. Both are bright looking boys, and weren't here long until they commenced casting glances in the direction of our pretty school ma'am. They told me that in about a week they expected to go further west, to St. Paul, Minnesota, to work on a farm where they would get good wages. According to the old saw, what is Oak Hall's loss is Illinois's and Minnesota's gain, for it is a gain to get such boys out here in the west for they are excellent boys to have around—willing workers and good natured. William Royer came here last week from North Dakota and told me he was going back to old Centre county. He might have some attraction back east for all we know.

I am looking forward to the time in the near future when I can again go east and visit my friends of school days, and my relatives. I trust that my health may be spared until that time. At present I am recovering from a severe illness with grip that kept me housed up for three weeks, keeping me from looking after my business affairs.

With best wishes for all my friends,
I am,
Very truly,
J. H. JORDAN.
McConells, Illinois.

12 Below Zero in Minnesota.

Editor Reporter:

* * * We have had a very nice fall and winter up to the holidays, but in the last few days it is trying hard to produce real winter weather. It snowed and blowed and last night it cleared up and the thermometer dropped from 20 above to 12 below zero; some change, isn't it? We thought so at least.

We had pretty fair crops in 1915. My oats yielded fifty-three bushels per acre and hay about two tons, and I got fifty bushels of mixed clover seed, which netted me about \$200.00, besides selling six steers. We sold over \$100.00 worth out of our garden—just a farmer's garden—by raising six bushels of navy beans, at \$4.00 per bushel, and 600 heads of cabbage, selling over a ton of that, besides all the other vegetables, such as string beans, tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, parsnips and carrots, turnips, beets, berries, pop corn, sweet corn, and pie pumpkin; all fetched good prices.

Well, that is all wishing the Reporter a prosperous year, and just as always looking for the Reporter to get the news of my dear old birthplace. It will soon be twenty-nine years since I left old Centre county, but I still think of some of the pranks I used to play and the good old times I had.

JOHN H. MESSINGBER.
Sebek, Minn., Jan. 3, 1916.

Recalls Event of 44 Years Ago.

A write-up concerning the history of the Centre Reporter, supplemented with a photograph of its new quarters, which appeared in a recent issue of

the Publisher's Auxiliary, drew forth a reminiscence of early days from E. S. Garver, editor of the Worth County Times, of Grant City, Missouri, who when a youth learned his trade on this paper, later establishing himself in the newspaper business in the west, where he prospered. Mr. Garver's letter is so interesting that we publish it in full:

Grant City, Mo., Dec. 20, 1915.
Dear Friend Smith:

I was very much pleased to see a picture of the new Centre Reporter office in a recent issue of the Publisher's Auxiliary and entertained by reading the history of the paper from its inception down to the present ownership. Looking at the picture brought to my mind the memories of the long ago. It brought back to my mind the first line of type I set in my career as editor and publisher of a newspaper. That was in the autumn of 1872. I was in the office one day and Mr. Kurtz asked me if I wanted to learn to set type. At the time I was attending the Centre County Normal, conducted by Superintendent Magee. As I intended to teach school I told Mr. Kurtz that after normal closed I would come into his office and stay until school began. I remember the first type I set. I prided myself with ability to set type as well as the other printers in the office, knowing that my educational qualifications were perhaps better than theirs. I set about half of a galley and proudly took proof of it. Mr. Kurtz read it and marked the errors and placed it on my case for correction. That proof slip will always live in my memory. No face of a smallpox patient was ever more thoroughly marked than was my copy. It was corrected with pen and ink and I tried hard to make myself believe that a spider had fallen into an ink bottle and upon emerging from it had crawled all over my proof slip. When Mr. Kurtz assured me that my setting was no worse than that of other beginners I took heart and remained on the job. The event taught me a wholesome lesson which nearly all boys must learn before becoming equipped for the great battle of life. At that time I was very much smarter than I am now with all of life's stern experiences.

I almost forgot to say that when I worked on the Reporter the office was upstairs in Billy Wolf's warehouse. The contrast between the office building then and the new one marks the evolution of time.

E. S. GARVER.

Writes From Her Sick Room.

The following letter comes from Mrs. Anna E. Swartz of Lewisburg, well known to many of the readers of this paper, and who, her friends will be grieved to know, is suffering intensely from a chronic ailment:

Dear Readers and Many Friends:
Wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. I am always glad to read the letters written by so many of my old friends in different localities. They bring back memories of days gone by that I enjoy in my sick room, where I have been for the past six years unable to walk, and suffering so greatly that I am almost unable to endure it any longer. I hope to read many more letters from my friends in the future. The rest of my family are all well.

Yours respectfully,
MRS. ANNA E. SWARTZ.

Editor Reporter:

We are enjoying good health this winter so far. I am still employed by J. C. Packer. Sunbury had its first community Christmas tree this year; it was thirty-five feet high and was lighted in all colors. We had but very little snow so far this winter. We had a nummer's parade on New Year's day; it was a mile long. \$512.00 were given in prizes and there were some beautiful floats.

Wishing all my friends in Centre county a happy New Year.

WILLIAM F. LINGLE.
Sunbury, Pa., Jan. 4, 1916.

Gruber-Irwin.

Miss Helen Irwin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James J. Irwin, of Snow Shoe, was united in marriage to Howard D. Gruber, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. E. F. Ruch, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church in South Williamsport. Mr. Gruber is on the faculty of Lehigh university and after the first of February he and his wife will be at home in Bethlehem. The bride taught for several years in the public schools of State College and has a host of friends there. Mr. Gruber several years ago was on the faculty of the Penn State engineering school.

The Buffalo Flouring Mills, at Lewisburg, has been sold to W. D. Deitrich of Philadelphia, who is largely interested in milling plants in various sections.

Speaking of the Street Lights.

There is more or less agitation on the part of a few directly interested citizens to place street lights in the diamond and at the railroad station of one, two, three or four times the power of those located at other points along the same street, and the movement finds favor with some of the councilmen. If there is need for lights of a higher power at these points it is for the accommodation of the near-by business places, or for safety on account of the railroad crossing. In either case the taxing citizens have a right to expect that no favors be shown. If the diamond section thinks it must have more light than elsewhere in town, it is up to the business places near by to furnish and pay for it. If a light of greater power is needed at the railroad station, it is up to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company to furnish and pay for it.

We have no need in Centre Hall for daylight at night, but we do need moderate lighting at all points, and moderate lighting at all points can be met by a moderate tax, and a moderate tax can be paid without inconveniencing property owners. There is no more need of going to extremes in street lighting than there is to favor selected localities and individuals. Let us have a fair deal in all matters.

Hay Crop of 1915 Tons.

The Reporter's acres last year yielded considerable over one hundred and twenty-two tons of hay. There was baled within the past three weeks 114 tons, and about eight tons (marketed for \$136) was sold during hayings, making the total baled and sold 122 tons, and enough left to feed a small stock until the 1916 crop is out. The hay was harvested from fifty-one and one half acres, twenty-seven acres growing alfalfa.

While this is a fair yield, it is possible to increase it fully fifty per cent. A considerable portion of the acreage has been cut successively for six years, and some of it for more than twice that length of time.

Toll Gates Taken Off Roads.

An order was received last week from the State Highway department directing that the roadway controlled by the West Klehacquillas Turnpike company, in Millin county, be thrown open as a public highway. The rate signs from the toll houses along the line of pike were immediately removed, thus converting it into a free-for-all highway.

The toll road of the West Klehacquillas company extended from Reedville in the direction of Belleville, and the abolishing of the toll gates came only after a long and strenuous fight on the part of auto owners and others.

Issued New Book.

Col. Henry W. Shoemaker, president of the Altona Tribune company, favored this office with a volume of his latest literary effort, it being a biography of Captain Logan, an Indian Chief, who figured prominently in the early history of Blair county. Captain Logan, unlike the general run of the Redmen, was a man of broad principles and endured many persecutions at the hands of the white man, for whom he always held the highest esteem, without retaliating with the tomahawk and scalping knife.

Everyday Dangers in Trades.

A popular appeal for the prevention of occupational diseases has been instituted by Commissioner Jackson, of the Department of Labor and Industry, by the publication of a series of small pamphlets, prepared by the division of industrial hygiene and engineering, calling attention to the everyday dangers in various trades.

This series of small pamphlets is entitled "Timely Hints." The first folder of the series, for employers and employee, points out to the employer the economic value of safety in the factory, and to the employee the danger of dust, impure air and personal carelessness.

An appeal for the prevention of industrial accidents and diseases is voiced in the second pamphlet of the series. This folder declares that more than three persons are killed and 150 injured every day in the industries in Pennsylvania, and that 50 per cent. of these accidents are avoidable. A separate folder for elevator operators points out that 90 per cent. of accidents on elevators occur at landings, and are due to carelessness. Steam boiler firemen are warned that last year in the United States there were 467 boiler explosions, which killed 145 and injured 315 persons. This pamphlet calls attention to safeguards for prevention of boiler explosions.

Employees in mercantile establishments are encouraged to obtain plenty of fresh air, proper amount of rest, and to observe every precaution that would make escape possible in time of fire.

Lewistown spent \$5,000 in excess of its income last year.

COUNTY GRANGE MEETING.

Installation of Officers and Reports of the Managers of the County Grange Enterprises the Chief Features.

The Centre County Pomona Grange will hold a regular meeting in Grange Arcade, Hall of Progress Grange, No. 96, Centre Hall, Thursday, January 27. There will be two sessions—10 a. m. and 1 p. m., with one hour's intermission for luncheon.

The installation of officers will take place at the morning session. All the County Grange business enterprises will make their annual reports, which should be of interest to every member of the Order.

Mr. Thompson, representing the State-Centre Electric Company, will give a period immediately after the noon luncheon to tell how Grange Park can be lighted with electricity, and the advantages of his proposed plan.

The enthusiastic session of the State Grange held at State College ought to inspire members of the Order to give the County Grange their presence. It is urged that officers of subordinate Granges lay before their members the necessity of attending this session of the County Grange, and thus make it a record meeting.

Penns Valley Banks Reorganize.

The four banks in Penns Valley reorganized, but no changes were made in officers. The working forces of the several banks follow:

Penns Valley Banking Company—President, W. M. Allison; cashier, David K. Keller; assistant cashier, Charles D. Bartholomew; assistant, Carl Aumar.

Millheim Banking Company—President, D. D. Royer; vice president, A. E. Bartsch; cashier, E. Ward Gramley; assistants, D. L. Zorby, P. H. Musser.

Millheim National Bank—President, G. E. Frank; vice president, A. A. Frank; cashier, J. G. Eby; assistants, L. W. Stover, Randall Miller.

First National Bank, State College—President, W. L. Foster; first vice president, C. B. Foster; second vice president, A. F. Markle; cashier, David F. Kapp; assistant cashier, N. E. Robb.

F. O. E. Install Officers.

Centre Hall Castle, K. G. E., on Friday night installed officers for the current term. More than sixty members of the local lodge witnessed the impressive ceremonies which were in charge of Joseph Reifsnnyder, D. G. C., of Millheim, and who was assisted by the following team, all of Millheim: W. H. Breor, H. C. Haessinger, D. E. Keen, C. O. Colyer, B. O. Musser, F. C. Colyer, and Jess Wilson. The newly installed officers are:

Past Chief, J. W. Stump.
Noble Chief, W. F. Florsy.
Vice Chief, Samuel H. Gross.
High Priest, J. H. Puff.
Venerable Herald, C. E. Bradford.
Master of Record, D. M. Bradford.
Clerk of Exchequer, J. A. Martz.
Keeper of Exchequer, A. C. Ripka.
Sir Herald, E. M. Brown.
Worthy Bard, Thomas S. Foss.
Worthy Chamberlain, G. A. Crawford.
Eosign, B. E. Potter.
Esquire, Robert Glasgow.
First Guardsman, William Garia.
Second Guardsman, E. C. Lutz.

Following installation refreshments were served. The Centre Hall Castle, since its organization in 1906, has enjoyed a steady growth and is in excellent condition financially.

Dr. Bierly Composes New National Hymn.

The Freeport (Illinois) Bulletin makes mention of a new national hymn, written by Dr. Alfred Bierly, well known here, in this wise: "A new national hymn, entitled 'Homeland of the Free,' has been published. Both words and music are from the pen of Dr. Alfred Bierly of Chicago, well known as a composer and publisher of music.

As can be seen from studying it, the new song is fluent in style, heroic in character, and is in such a range that it is within reach of all singers. The melody is pleasing, and the skillful modulations and occasional use of the minor modes gives plenty of richness and variety to the harmonic structure.

Mr. Bierly's composition has all of the qualities that a song of this kind should have, and deserves to be widely known and used.

Dr. Spangler Killed.

Dr. J. G. Spangler, of Mapletown, was struck by a fast eastbound passenger train on the Pennsylvania Railroad at that place and instantly killed.

He was on his way to visit a patient prior to starting on a business trip to Bedford county and on account of the rumbling of two freight trains failed to hear the approach of the train that struck him.

He was widely known as a physician, active in Republican politics and served on the board of pension examiners. His acquaintance through Penns Valley is due to his connection with the Millheim water plant, which was financed largely if not wholly by him.

DEATHS.

Miss Belle McCool, aged sixty years, died Tuesday last week, at the homestead of the late General John P. Taylor, two miles west of Reedsville. The cause of death was a hemorrhage of the lungs. She was ill only a day.

Miss McCool was a faithful and efficient housekeeper of General Taylor for twenty-four years and since his death two years ago she resided with Williamson Taylor, a nephew of the General. She is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Davidson and Mrs. Davidson, widow of the late Lewis H. Davidson, and Miss Mary McCool, all residing in Millroy.

The deceased was a member of the Methodist church and her funeral services were held the following Thursday at the home of Mrs. Lewis H. Davidson, Millroy. Interment was made in Church Hill cemetery, at Reedsville.

Miss McCool was the daughter of the late James McCool and was born at Oak Hall, her father at that time having been employed in the woolen factory. She was a cousin of James McCool of Potter township.

Mrs. Arabella Stover, wife of Elias Stover, died at her home in Smithtown, on Thursday afternoon, following an extended illness, having been confined to bed for the past thirteen weeks. A complication of diseases was the cause of her death.

Funeral services were held on Monday morning in the Reformed church at Aaronsburg, interment being made at that place. The services were in charge of Rev. R. E. Jones of Centre Hall.

Mrs. Stover was born in Clinton county fifty-eight years ago, but for a long time was a resident of near Millheim. Besides her husband she is survived by these children: J. W. Stover, Lewisburg; Mrs. Harry Miller, Clyde W. Stover, Centre Hall; Mrs. P. D. Orndorf, Mrs. A. B. Kerr, Coburn; Harry A. Stover, at home. Also two brothers and one sister; namely, Christ Aaron, William Astor, Lock Haven, and Mrs. Henry Bentz, State College.

Mrs. Annetta Elizabeth, wife of Joseph G. Wise, a mail collector at the Altoona post office, died at 4:20 Friday morning at the Altoona hospital, of peritonitis, following an operation on Wednesday. She was admitted to the institution on Tuesday from her home at 510 Twenty-second avenue. She was born on January 30, 1894, near Potters Mills, being the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Parker. She was married on Thanksgiving day, 1915. She is survived by her parents, her husband and four sisters and two brothers, who reside in this county. Services were held at the home Saturday morning, after which the body was shipped to Centre Hall, and from here was taken to Sprucetown for interment.

Mrs. Matilda J. Cotherman died at the Little hospital, in Freeport, Illinois, last week.

She was born in Centre county, Nov. 13, 1843, and went to Green county, W. Va., fifty years ago, where she was united in marriage to R. E. Cotherman, who preceded his wife to the grave last March. Mrs. Cotherman's maiden name was Miss Matilda J. Winklebleck. There was one child born to this union.

The Boro Council Reorganized.

The Centre Hall borough council, on Friday evening, met to reorganize and have sworn in William J. Smith, the dairyman, the only new member of the body. Daniel Daur was again re-elected president, and W. Frank Bradford, secretary. The president appointed the usual committees for the current year.

The only question up for discussion was the locating of the street lights, for which the Stat-Centre Electric Company began planning the erection of poles and fixtures. It was decided that lights should be placed at each of the streets and alleys on Pennsylvania Avenue and Church Streets. The power of the lights to be used was not touched upon.

The council is now composed of the following members: Daniel Daur, J. E. Weter, William B. Meyer, W. Frank Bradford, F. V. Goodhart, John D. Lucas and William J. Smith. The retiring member is John A. Martz.

Branch Telephone Co. Reorganized.

The Pipe Stump Rural Telephone Company, a branch of the Patrons Rural Telephone Company, last week reorganized by electing the following officers: President, W. E. Tate; vice president, J. A. Heckman; secretary, J. T. Potter; treasurer, W. S. Brooks; agent, Guy Brooks.

James C. Goodhart advertised a stock sale during the month of March.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lutz Wednesday last week.

Sunday night about an inch of snow and sleet fell, covering the dark spots on the old brown earth.

E. C. Brungart, the Regal automobile agent, is attending the big auto show in Philadelphia, this week.

Esquire Carson and Walter Garrity of Potters Mills were Reporter callers on Monday. Mr. Garrity is not a frequent visitor here, but is always a welcome one.

Misses Mary Wagter and Ruth Roeker, of Tusseyville, spent Saturday and Sunday with the former's sister, Mrs. F. J. McClellan, and family, in this place.

Mrs. T. W. Simkins was called to Philadelphia last week owing to the illness of her sister, Miss Elizabeth Schuyler, and also of her daughter, Miss Velma Simkins.

Mr. C. M. Hood, who for nine years has been editor of the State College Times, has gone to Ottawa, Canada, to accept a position with the Canadian government in the bureau of printing and engraving.

The "wet" places in Penns Valley lie pretty closely in a bunch—Centre Hall, Old Fort, Spring Mills. It will be up to those to whom a "wet" spot is a necessity to adjust their itinerary so that they hit the spots at the right time.

D. Geiss Wagner, who contemplated quitting the farm in the spring by making sale, has been disappointed in his tenant reconsidering the matter of moving onto the place, consequently Mr. Wagner will continue farming for another year, at least.

That popular malady, grip, crippled the Reporter's working force last week to the extent of indisposing both compositor, Misses Nina Slick and Laura Mitterling, for several days. Miss Elsie Slick came to the rescue, however, with her help at the case.

W. Harrison Walker, Esq., of Bellefonte, was recently appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the Masonic bodies of the twenty-first district, comprising Centre, Clearfield and part of Jefferson counties. Mr. Walker succeeds Wilson I. Fleming who held the post for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Rankle and son John on Thursday returned from Shamokin where they were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Rankle. On their return home they stopped with Mr. A. J. Smoyer, in Jersey Shore, a cousin of Mrs. Rankle's.

William E. Cramer was arrested by the state fire marshal, accused of having set on fire a barn belonging to J. C. Hunter, near Bellwood. Cramer, who lived at Bellwood, was a "bakeman" in the Altoona yards, and attributed the loss of his job to a report made by Mr. Hunter.

Henry Rupp, who for the past few years has been employed on a fruit farm in Gage, New York, is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Heckman, below town, where he lived for a number of years. Henry has decided that Penns Valley is the best place yet, and consequently will remain here if he can find employment.

The Centre Hall school board met in its regular monthly meeting on Thursday night. H. F. Bitner, secretary, reported the receipt of \$24.96 from the county commissioner, which represented the share for the borough school district from the balance of dog tax money over the amount paid out for sheep losses. This was the first money received from this source in a number of years.

C. L. A. Cass, employed by Hosterman and Stover in Millheim for a period of five years, has located at McKeesport. He was a member of the school board, and stood high in the estimation of the people of Millheim. His place on the school board is being filled by H. T. Frank, and Joseph Reifsnnyder was appointed an auditor by Judge Orvis to fill the place made vacant on the board of auditors by Mr. Frank having been elected school director.

The large barn belonging to J. Alvin Grove of Lewisburg, and located on the road leading from Lewisburg to Buffalo Road, was totally destroyed by fire, causing a loss of over \$10,000 to the owner, who stocked the farm. There was about \$4000 insurance. Besides the large barn there was consumed large quantities of grain, twenty-two head of cattle, nine horses, twenty-two hogs, and a lot of chickens. The fire was caused, it is supposed, either by an incendiary hand or by tramps who roosted in the barn. The farm was tenanted by Elmer Farley.