

A COLUMN FOR THE FARMERS.

Interesting and instructive matter for the filler of the soil, issued by the State Department of Agriculture.

DON'TS IN BUYING HOGS AT PUBLIC SALES.

All through March and up until the middle of April the order of the day in rural districts is the public sale of farm implements and livestock. It is seldom that a tenant farmer moves from one premises to another or a farmer retires without holding a public sale. In many cases the men who hold these public sales gather up cattle and hogs during the winter with the view of putting them in better condition and selling them at a profit at the time of their sale. In this way stock which may come from premises where hog cholera has lately been prevalent, or other transmissible diseases have been present may readily spread disease.

Dr. C. J. Marshall, State Veterinarian of the Department of Agriculture, sounds a warning to all farmers who attend these sales to take proper precautions to see that the livestock, and especially the hogs, have not been lately taken from any premises where any livestock has recently died or where there has been any transmissible disease.

Dr. Marshall has laid down the following list of "Don'ts" which should be closely observed:

DON'T buy hogs and pigs without careful inquiry in the community. If you find that person desiring to sell hogs has recently lost one, two or more animals, don't purchase, but report the matter to the State Livestock Sanitary Board at Harrisburg.

DON'T buy exceedingly cheap hogs and pigs unless you know positively that owner has not recently lost animals, but has some other good reason for sacrificing animals.

DON'T buy hogs from several different people and put them all together on your own premises or allow them to come in contact with your own hogs and pigs. Keep each lot to itself until two or three weeks have passed and then put them in their permanent quarters only after being sure that none are showing any signs of sickness.

DON'T go near a premise where there are sick hogs and don't allow any one from a premise where there are sick hogs to visit your hog pen or hog lot.

DON'T go in or around hog pens at public sales or stockyards unless you want to purchase hogs. If animals are purchased keep them separate on your premises, as indicated above, until they prove to be free from disease. Your shoes, at least, should be washed with a disinfectant after attending a public sale or stockyard before you enter your own hog pen or hog lot.

DON'T take chances with a sick hog. Isolate any animal that shows any signs of being sick. If two or more animals develop the same symptoms call a qualified veterinarian. If your hogs are affected with hog cholera the sooner this fact is known the better chances you will have to save some of your animals. Hog cholera serum will not cure sick animals, but will protect well animals.

DON'T waste money on patent medicines, hog cholera cures, etc. For additional information write Dr. C. J. Marshall, State Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pa.

STATE-WIDE CORN AND APPLE SHOW.

Plans are now being made by the Department of Agriculture to hold a State-wide corn and apple show at Harrisburg next January in connection with the meeting of the State Board of Agriculture and the allied State associations organized for the promotion of agriculture.

It is proposed to ask the co-operation of the county fair associations by having them interest their exhibitors of corn and apple produce to reserve all of their premium exhibits to be placed in competition at the State show.

These plans were presented by Secretary of Agriculture Charles E. Patton to the meeting of the State Association of County Fairs at Harrisburg this week. In his discussion Secretary Patton outlined the plans of the Department of Agriculture to have every local fair prize winner place his exhibit at the State show in a class to be known as the County Fair Prize Winners Class. To enter this class the corn and apple growers throughout the State must first interest themselves in their local fairs and become prize winners at those places before they are eligible for the State show, and State premiums.

Special prizes will be awarded to the fair associations producing the most meritorious exhibits. Individual premiums will be given for the best exhibits of corn and apples.

In the case of fruit exhibits arrangements are being made for cold storage

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FIRE WARDENS MEET.

Efficiency in the Means of Forest Protection, the keynote of a Rhetoric Meeting in Bellefonte, last Friday.

A meeting of the forest fire warden of southern Centre county was held at the Garman House in Bellefonte, last Friday. The meeting was held in accordance with the new fire warden law passed by the last legislature under the direction of George H. Wirt, Chief Warden of the Department of Forestry. The chairman of the meeting, Clem. H. Gramley, of Rebersburg, read the paper, setting forth the purpose of the meeting—that they (the wardens) may know each other better and that there may be a general improvement in the efficiency of the forest fire organization of the Commonwealth. W. E. Montgomery, forester, of Pottery Mills, was chosen secretary. Hon. J. Linn Harris made a few remarks to the men relative to the provision of food for men fighting fire.

George H. Wirt, Chief Forest Fire Warden, gave a very interesting address to the men. He told of the inefficiency of the old law of 1907 and explained the new law. He gave an instance of a fact that when the new law came into effect he found that the state was depending upon wardens in some places who had been dead several years, and of several cases when the wardens had moved away without the authorities knowing it. Mr. Wirt said that the state does not want "dead ones" for wardens but "live ones."

Under the new law 700 appointments as fire wardens have been made in the state and it is hoped to have 2500 before a year. There are fifteen million acres of forest land in the state and there were 1100 fires in 1915. 78 of these fires burned over 1000 acres each, and these 78 fires burned over 60 per cent of the total area burned. The loss in fires in this state is about fifty million dollars annually and often buildings and lives are sacrificed.

Mr. Wirt pointed out that most fires resulted from ignorance and that the cure for this was systematic education and that it was up to each warden to do his share. Mr. Wirt further stated that the railroads are fast awakening to the fire loss and the part that they play in this destruction and that they are willing in nearly every case to co-operate with the state or private individuals in order to reduce this loss.

He said that most of the timber used in this state is shipped in from other states and this was entirely due to the fact that there are only four million acres of really productive forest land in the state out of the fifteen million acreage. Mr. Wirt impressed very forcibly upon the men that the people and especially the wardens must wake up and that nothing must be left undone in order to reduce the loss from fire. The key notes of the address were, "Prevention instead of allowing fires to start"; "Education instead of ignorance"; "Efficiency instead of indolence."

Leonard G. Barnes, forester, of Centre Hall, then read a paper on the extinction of forest fires. This paper was especially interesting to the wardens as it dealt with the serious aspect of the very practical business of putting out a fire. In particular he asked the wardens to let everybody know that they are fire wardens and that it is every one's special duty to notify the nearest warden in case of fire on any forest land, private or state. He spoke of organization, preparedness and efficiency in the fire fighting crew and impressed each man's duty upon him.

The meeting was then thrown open to discussion by the wardens and many things were brought out in these discussions that were of intense interest to those present. The men all took a good hold and the meeting was of untold benefit to all. George B. Thompson, lumberman and fire warden of State College, told of the problems that he had to deal with along the railroads and how he met and is overcoming these difficulties. His illustrations were very apt and his problems were unique as to outcome but common to all the wardens. He told of some timberland burned over by the railroad and that the railroad company refused the owner damages as the timber was valueless. Mr. Thompson then told how he went on this same land and cut hundreds of dollars worth of pit poles for the mines. Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Eves and Mr. Bartley spoke of how they overcame some of their difficulties.

The meeting was well attended and much interest shown and untold good derived. Out of 22 wardens only 5 were prevented from coming owing to other business. There were in addition to the wardens a few visitors present. The following is a list of the fire wardens of southern Centre county:

J. C. Roseman,.....Centre Hall
L. G. Barnes, forester,.....Centre Hall
J. L. Reed,.....Pine Grove Mills
W. T. Wirt,.....Werrico, Md., Ed
L. P. Smith,.....Spring Mills, R. D.
Wm. H. Weaver,.....Spring Mills, R.

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TWO GOLDEN WEDDING CELEBRATIONS FOR BOALSBURG AND PLEASANT GAP COUPLES

Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Meyer, of Boalsburg, and Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim K. Keller, of Pleasant Gap, Reach 50 Years of Wedded Life and Celebrate Occasions in Fitting Style.

Scented with the fragrance of bridal roses, the John Henry Meyer home in Boalsburg was the happy scene of the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of the couple on Wednesday of last week. It was a joyous occasion and was participated in by twenty eight persons, which included all the children and grandchildren, except one, of the couple being honored. The exception was Miss Phoebe Gettig, who is a student in Hood College, Frederick, Maryland. Besides Mr. and Mrs. Meyer the guests were:

George E. Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Nevin W. Meyer and daughter Rosella, Mr. and Mrs. William Groh Mothersbaugh and son John Henry, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Weber, S. E. Weber, Miss Anna Weber, Rev. and Mrs. S. C. Stover, Miss Anna Lohr and Mrs. Edward Riley, of Boalsburg; Mrs. W. E. Gettig, Nellie, Kathryn and Wm. Henry Gettig, Altoona; W. C. Meyer and Miss Kathryn H. Weber, of State College; Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Weber, of Huntingdon; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Weber and granddaughter Mary Weber, of Centre Hall.

The Meyer home was appropriately decorated with flowers and gold and white crepe paper, and the figures "50" stood out boldly in gilt on a background of white. A golden cake was the wedding cake, and this was decked with fifty tiny flags made of gold and white ribbon. A pretty glass sugar bowl, given the bride while on her wedding trip, and a plate presented the same time by Mrs. Margaret Huber, of Reading, were a part of the cherished articles on the table. The plate, by the way, was at one time the property of Mrs. Meyer's grandmother, Mrs. Philippina Huber, while living in the homeland—Germany—more than one hundred years ago. As is the custom on such occasions, the dinner was a principal feature of the gathering, second only to the hearty well-wishing of the couple in whose honor the guests had assembled.

At the close of the dinner proper impromptu speeches were made by Rev. E. C. Stover and P. M. Weber, the latter being Mrs. Meyer's brother. After expressing their pleasure in being present on the memorable occasion, and their best wishes for Mr. and Mrs. Meyer and family, they emphasized the duty of service in order to make one's life worth living. For twenty-five years Mr. Weber has been connected with the Industrial Home, Huntingdon, and his efforts to lead boys to better things naturally suggested the theme to him. Miss Nellie Gettig sang a German sacred song. She was accompanied on the piano by Mrs. G. W. Mothersbaugh. "The Little Blackberry Girl" was the title of a poem recited by the bride of fifty years. Mrs. Meyer first recited this poem when in the primary grade of the Lebanon county school.

Many tokens of friendship found their way to the Meyer home, and among them were a number of gold pieces, as well as other money, gold pins, clock encased in gold, hand painted and gold decorated china, linen, Reformed church hymnal, friendship cushion with 188 names on it, etc.

Mr. Meyer is enjoying the best of health, and enjoys reading. He is very much interested and thoroughly believes in the Wilson ways, and would like to see him have a second term of the presidency. Mrs. Meyer is in good health in a general way, although she is suffering from an ailment in the throat, but not to an extent to interfere with the enjoyment of the family circle and companions.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Meyer were born in Lebanon and are of German descent. The parents of Mrs. Meyer were Jacob Weber and Catharine (Huber) Weber, who were married in 1844, December 22nd, and began housekeeping in Lebanon, having come to that locality from Germany. Mrs. Meyer (Phoebe Weber) was born February 24, 1846, and in 1855 moved with her parents to Boalsburg. It was under Dr. D. M. Wolf, in the Boalsburg academy, that she fitted herself for teaching school, and passed her first teacher's examination under Thomas Holahan, then county superintendent. She taught three terms in College township.

When but a small boy Mr. Meyer came with his parents, George and Anna Meyer, from Lebanon county to Centre county, locating in Brush Valley, near Spring Bank, where his grandparents, Michael and Elizabeth Meyer, had previously located. After a short period Mr. Meyer's parents purchased a farm about two miles west

of State College and moved there in the spring of 1855. While with his parents on the farm Mr. Meyer helped to haul some of the lime stone from which "Old Main" at Pennsylvania State College is constructed.

Mr. and Mrs. Meyer were married March 15, 1866, at six a. m., by Rev. W. H. Groh, then pastor of the Reformed church at Boalsburg. After the wedding breakfast, W. C. Meyer, brother of the groom, appeared with a carriage and then the wedding trip began. The first stop was made at the home of the elder Felix Burkholder, at Centre Hill, but not before an attempt was made to halt the party by blockading the road. Potters Mills and Millroy were reached, and at the latter place the train for Lewistown was boarded. Lewistown proved a resting place for the night. Two weeks were spent at Harrisburg, Hummelstown, Lebanon, Lancaster, and Reading.

The honeymoon being over, the couple began housekeeping on a farm adjoining the Meyer farm, near State College. From there they became Potter township residents for seven years, occupying the J. G. Meyer farm, west of Centre Hall, now owned by C. D. Bartholomew; a farm at Linden Hall was tilled for a year. Centennial year was spent in Boalsburg, and the year following a Locust Grove farm received their attention; for almost thirty years they lived near Boalsburg, and for nine years in that town, occupying their present home.

Mr. and Mrs. Meyer are held in the highest esteem by their acquaintances, and all of them will wish them repeated joyful anniversaries of their marriage.

THE KELLER CELEBRATION.

Surrounded by their six children, five grandchildren and a host of friends numbering upwards of sixty, Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim K. Keller were the happiest of all that big gathering at their home in Pleasant Gap, on last Thursday, when they celebrated the completion of fifty years of happy wedded life. The celebration was marked by a most singular circumstance—the coming together of three other couples who within a few years likewise enjoyed a similar event. Those to whom reference is made in regard to more than fifty years of marital happiness are Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Keller, of Phoenixville, who have passed their fifty-third anniversary; Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Miller, of Pleasant Gap, who count fifty-two years of wedded life, and Mr. and Mrs. Philip Dale, of near Oak Hill, who a year ago celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Ephraim K. Keller and Miss Margaret Nease were united in marriage in Bellefonte and shortly afterwards started farming near Pleasant Gap, which pursuit they followed up until ten years ago, retiring after two score of years of hard work on the farm. As a result of their toil they accumulated enough of this world's goods to assure them against want in their declining years. Mr. Keller has reached the three score and ten mark while Mr. Keller is two years his junior. They own their own home in Pleasant Gap and are happy and contented. The six children, all married, and away from home, are as follows: E. Paul, of Altoona; D. W., of Philadelphia; M. M., of near Linden Hall; Mrs. William Orr, Mrs. John Garbrick, Mrs. D. Smeltzer, of Bellefonte; Mrs. D. M. Kline, of Axemann; Mrs. Ralph Nell, of Pleasant Gap.

Guests from Centre Hall, Boalsburg, Bellefonte, Altoona, Philadelphia, Phoenixville, and State College, were present. At eleven o'clock all assembled about the festive board and appetites were satisfied with the choicest articles of food, served in excellent style.

The happy couple were the recipients of many beautiful tokens of esteem, including two gold-headed canes, a gold-headed umbrella, a number of gold coins, besides a great many other valuable gifts.

Mr. and Mrs. Keller are enjoying the best of health and their many friends trust that they may live to enjoy many more anniversaries.

How many bushels of corn must you raise on your land in order to pay six per cent on the money you have invested? Experts have answered this question as follows: A yield of 36 bushels to an acre on \$50 land; 42 bushels per acre on \$100 ground; 54 bushels per acre on \$200 ground; 60 bushels per acre on \$250 ground and 72 bushels per acre on land valued at \$375.

SMULTON YOUTH MEETS DEATH IN A SAW MILL.

Boyd Gramley, Aged 19 Years, Was Whirled Around Line Shaft and Battered to Death—Was Insured Under Workmen's Compensation Act.

Whirled around a line shaft until his body was battered into a pulp, Boyd Gramley, nineteen-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Clair Gramley, of Smulton, met almost instant death Thursday afternoon of last week in the saw mill operated by Jacob Winkleblech, on the James Corman lumber tract, about three miles east of Rebersburg.

Young Gramley had been working in the woods for some time and a few days ago was placed in the mill to operate an edger, besides doing the odd jobs about a saw mill. On the day of the fatal accident he was sent below the floor of the mill to replace a belt which had left the pulley operating the big circular saw. The power had been turned off but under the great momentum the line shaft kept running at a high rate of speed. The only person who suspected any harm having befallen the young man was Edward Gulswite, the engineer, who desiring to know if young Gramley had replaced the belt peered through a hole in the floor and was horrified to see that the young man was minus the greater part of his clothing. What had taken place was then clear to Mr. Gulswite and as he gave a more scrutinizing look he heard the young man take his last breath. Summoning a mill laborer the two went below the floor and tenderly lifted the young man and carried him above and delivered him to his home. Life was extinct when a physician arrived, who after making a careful examination of the body discovered these injuries: Both arms broken and one pulled out of the socket; both jaws broken; head crushed, and bruises over the entire body. All the clothing from the waist down was torn off while the upper part of the body remained clothed.

The space through which the young man's body was forced to pass with each revolution was only ten inches wide. A plank lay on the ground below the shafting at this distance while the space between the floor and line shaft was much greater. It is supposed that in endeavoring to replace the belt on the pulley a part of the unfortunate youth's clothing was caught by the shafting and he was drawn to his death. Whatever cries he might have made could not have been heard owing to the running of other machinery in the mill.

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning by Rev. E. L. Kessler of the Evangelical Association church and burial made at Rebersburg. Deceased is survived by his parents and three sisters and one brother, as follows: Miss Fairy, of New Jersey; Misses Iva and Mildred, and Henry, at home.

The young man was insured by his employer under the recent Workmen's Compensation Act and this is the first case in that part of the county to come under that law. An adjuster from the Workmen's Compensation Bureau on Tuesday morning granted the parents of the deceased insurance at the rate of \$1.60 a week for a period of 300 weeks, besides paying all funeral expenses.

Cows Sold High at This Sale.

One of the best farm sales in the valley, at least as far as the sale of cows was concerned, was that held by Charles S. Barter, at Penn Hall, Wednesday of last week. Mr. Barterges had all Guernsey stock, registered and grade animals, and the following prices were paid for the several cows: \$220.00, \$135.00, \$100.50, \$100.00, \$98.00. A grade Guernsey calf brought \$40.00. While there was big demand for the milk producers, horses were hard to dispose of, the highest figure paid being \$188 for a fine six-year-old beast. The sale totaled over \$2500. Mr. Barterges, as was stated previously, will clerk in the Fisher store, at Penn Hall, after April 1st.

Enjoyed Steading Party.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Neff, west of Earlstown, royally entertained a select load of young people from Tusseyville at their home last Thursday evening. Splendid refreshments were served. The following were present: Grace Neff, Mary Neff, Mary Tate, Esther Blitzer, Rebecca Cox, Ruth Maritz, Mary Wagner, May McClellan, Bessie McClellan, Mary Kline, Roxie Kline, Bertha Miller, Grace Horner, Dora Klinefelter, Ruth Rockey, Edna Neff, Vera Runkle, Harry, John and Homer Neff, Elmer Nell, Merritte Tate, Chester Grove, Samuel Grove, Earl Grove, Fred Raymond, Elmer Dashem, Edgar Miller, George Rimmey, William Rockey, James Foust, Jonas Foust, Clayton Maritz, Edgar Rimmey, Robert Neff, Samuel Blitzer, Fred Righler.

A pretty line of Ester post cards may be seen at this office.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

John Condo last week moved from the Tate farm, west of Centre Hall, to Spring Mills.

Mrs. G. O. Benner and grandson, Linden Miller, spent Sunday at the home of the former's parents at Marthas.

Misses Tillie Keller and Elsie Moore attended a St. Patrick's Day party at the home of Mrs. J. A. Kreamer, at State College, Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Dinges and daughter, Adaline, spent Sunday with Mrs. Dinges' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Musser, at Spring Mills.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Keefer and little daughter, of Youngwood, were arrivals at the home of Mrs. Keefer's parents, 'Equire and Mrs. Cyrus Brungart, on Saturday.

The climax to a week of the roughest weather of the winter season was reached Friday night when mercury dropped to four degrees below the zero mark. It was a record for the middle of March.

F. V. Goodhart, following the sale of his horse team, purchased the Ford car owned by Prof. W. O. Heckman and is converting the same into a delivery truck. Prof. Heckman immediately placed an order for a new Ford touring car.

Among the large sales in the county this month was that held by Isaac M. Orndorff, near Woodward, Thursday week ago. While the weather kept many from attending, the bidders were there, and consequently a sale footing up to \$4,466.25 was held. A Holstein cow commanded \$210, while a bull was sold for \$200.

The last week of the March sales in this section will include the following: Today (Thursday) William Grossman, near Tusseyville; Saturday, March 25th, J. C. Goodhart, at Centre Hill; on the same day, Mrs. S. J. Wagner, administatrix, will sell personal property of Mrs. Mary A. Durst, deceased, at Boalsburg; Monday, March 27th, P. A. Auman, in Georges Valley; also Henry Reitz, at Reitz's Gap, near Boalsburg; Friday, March 31st, Newton C. Yarnell and son, near Linden Hall.

About a week ago the Michigan deer, which were expected to be shipped into this county for some time, arrived on the cars at Coburn and were at once released into the state game preserve, east of Coburn, by W. C. Kerster, the game protector in the eastern end of the county.

The contingent included five young bucks, all hardy and fine specimens, and will undoubtedly prove to be the means of supplying the mountains of Centre county with a larger specimen of deer.

Harry J. Mueller, who a few years ago had charge of the Greens Valley State forest, which now is in charge of Forester Leonard Barnes, has been asked to resign his position as city forester in Harrisburg. Mr. Mueller was called from this place to accept his Harrisburg job. It appears that he and the Park Commissioner of the capital city had some dispute as to which held the higher authority. Notwithstanding the fact that his resignation was to have taken effect March 15th, Mueller continues on the job and is awaiting the action of the city council.

The past winter was notable for the great mortality among Centre county residents and especially among the older folks. Not in years has the grim reaper been so active in cutting down the youth, middle aged and old. But while noting this sadder fact it is true that in no section of the county has the death list been so low as in Centre Hall borough. The last death of one of its residents occurred in November, so it can be said that the entire winter season passed without a death being charged against it. The uniform good health which has existed is indeed a great blessing.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel C. Keller, of Phoenixville, were arrivals in town last Thursday, the purpose of the trip being to be present at the golden wedding celebration of Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Keller, at Pleasant Gap. Mr. Keller, despite his seventy-five years, is hale and hearty and does a good share of the work on his 150-acre farm near Phoenixville. Dairying is the chief occupation on the place, but of course, it must be understood that Mr. and Mrs. Keller are not doing the strenuous labor connected with the dairy work, that being handled by their son, Roland Keller. After a few days visit among old friends and relatives here, Mr. and Mrs. Keller left on Saturday for Millin county to visit a sister of Mrs. Keller, at Siglierville, and from there departed for their home beginning of the week.