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NO. 2

PARSONS, THE LECTURER.

The Next Number on the Lecture Course to Appear Wednesday of Next Week.

Dr. Philip A. Parsons comes to Centre Hall under the auspices of the local lecture course, on Wednesday evening of next week—January 17th. The Eastern Lyceum Bureau, which furnishes Dr. Parsons to the lecture course patrons, says that he has a message for the people, which he delivers in an entertaining and instructive manner. His natural optimism and keen sense of humor enable him to illustrate with stories from a rich fund of experience gained by years of study and travel. These stories make his hearers laugh often. They also make them think. His clear presentation of the menacing problems of our time is accompanied by helpful suggestions which inspire his hearers to take a larger part in their solution.

The Parsons lectures are divided into the following classes: Popular, educational and religious. While it is not known from which of these Dr. Parsons will choose his message for Wednesday night, it is certain that any one will be worth more than the nominal admission price. The sort of lectures that Dr. Parsons has in stock are the kind that will make you leave the hall determined to strive a little harder to make your home town a better place in which to live by reason of your being a better individual.

Dr. Parsons welcomes a forum or questionnaire following his lectures and is at his best during these periods.

Remember—

That to-night (Thursday), January 11th, is the time set for the home talent plays in Grange hall by the young people of the Methodist church. They will present two plays; the first, "A perplexing situation," is a comedy in two acts showing how many ludicrous situations can arise from the fact that women can keep silent for a specified time, especially where a wager is concerned. The second play is a very humorous burlesque for ladies, entitled, "Cornelia Pickle, Plaintiff," and is bound to keep the audience in laughter from start to finish. The following is the cast of characters:

Lucretia Bosenem, the judge.
Mrs. Samantha Sharp, lawyer for plaintiff.

Miss Mary Talker, lawyer for defendant.
Elizabeth Scribe, clerk of the court.

Miss Cornelia Pickle, plaintiff.
Mrs. Helen Dashing, defendant.
Katie O'Brien and Mrs. Sellem, witnesses for plaintiff.

Mrs. Houseman, witness for defendant.
Mrs. Oldstyle, Miss Neroy, Mrs. Slow, Miss Ailing, Mrs. Fiashy, Mrs. Homebody, Jurors.

The program will be interspersed with music and specialties which are sure to please. Tickets 15 and 25 cents; reserved seats 30 cents.

"Junata Memories"—New Shoemaker Book
"Junata Memories" is the latest work of Col. Henry W. Shoemaker, and is another interesting volume of Pennsylvania folk lore—the eighth in succession. The handsome illustrated volume contains a large number of legends from old residents, farmers, trappers, lumbermen, hunters, old soldiers—from all, in fact who might in any way contribute to the earlier records and misty traditions of one of the most beautiful and romantic regions of the new world.

These tales have their origin in and are chiefly concerned with the picturesque southern valleys of the Junata country. The twenty-six stories, says Mr. Shoemaker, are reproduced as heard from the lips of the venerable people who first told them. They have not been enlarged upon, nor changed in order to attain dramatic effectiveness. Even when the ending is abrupt or involved in mystery, or without essential relation to the main theme, the original narrative remains untouched.

Every home library containing the string of Shoemaker's interesting books is incomplete without the addition of "Junata Memories" which may be had by writing to the publishers, John J. McVey, 1229 Arch street, Philadelphia, for \$1.50.

Fifty-three Mondays in 1917.

Fifty-three Mondays will appear in the new year instead of the usual fifty-two. To Monday falls the lot of being the odd day on the 1917 calendar. In addition to coming the most often in the new year, Monday has the honor of being a legal holiday on three occasions. New Year's day fell on Monday and February 12, the birthday of Lincoln, falls on the second day of the week, while labor day, in September, always comes on the first Monday in that month.

The W. C. T. U. will meet at the home of Mrs. E. F. Bitner, Saturday evening.

Farming on Bigger Scale.

John A. Hosterman is farming on a considerably larger scale in South Dakota than he did six years ago when in Penna Valley as tenant on the W. H. Meyer farm, near Centre Hill. Although he keeps twenty-four head of horse and colts, the plowing is done mostly with a tractor, hauling eight plows in fields the size of which would be termed here a large farm, assuming that one hundred and sixty acres comprises such a farm, and there are five such fields on the farm now in question. During the season of 1915 the wheat yield was 5600 bushels, and last year over 3400, the handsome price obtained for the latter crop making up the difference in bushels. The 1916 corn crop was over 9000 bushels ear corn.

Mr. Hosterman believes in general farming and consequently has numerous sources of revenue, the thirty-one milch cows making pin money for the women folk, and when this is not large enough they draw from the product of five hundred chickens, flocks of ducks and geese. After selling a car load of fat steers, in October, there remain on the farm seventy-six head of horn cattle, more than fifty hogs, and a big flock of sheep.

Land values about Menno, in South Dakota, where Mr. Hosterman lives, have increased about ten dollars each year during the six years he has been in that state, which brings much of the land up to and above \$150 per acre.

From this point we speak of South Dakota as being "in the west," while in Mr. Hosterman's section the west is regarded as being far beyond Dakota. The opportunities farther west are so attractive that many land owners are selling their farms and investing in cheaper lands; tenants, too, are seeking the lower cash rentals nearer the setting sun. Mr. Hosterman has such a good opinion of his adopted state that he just went westward less than one hundred and fifty miles to invest. He finds land values at that point increasing so rapidly that offers are becoming harder to refuse every month. He thinks he will continue on the Menno farm and let the increase in price of farm lands farther west be his share in profits rather than go to farm it himself.

Mr. and Mrs. Hosterman are in the east now, and are finishing out a two months' stay with their friends. While in Centre Hall they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mitterling.

Farmers Letting Wheat Go at \$1.85.

The local grain merchants induced many farmers to let go of their wheat within the past week, \$1.85 per bushel being the impelling force. On Saturday and Monday strings of wagons loaded with the tagged grain waited their turn to unload on the cars. A few farmers, having a vision of \$2.00 wheat, are keeping their granaries intact.

Find 7 Gas and Coal in Centre Co.

Several months ago Pittsburg prospectors came to Centre county and started to drill for oil and gas on the lands of Christ Sharer at Martha Furnace. A few days ago, after going to a depth of over 2200 feet, the men suddenly left.

Now it is rumored that they struck a good lead of both oil and gas and, in addition went through a nine-foot vein of anthracite coal. There is considerable excitement in that locality and land owners are on the lookout for men.

DRESS.

Little Talks on Health and Hygiene, by Samuel G. Dixon, M. D., LL. D., D. Sc., Commissioner of Health.

Unquestionably Eve was the first human being to concern herself with the matter of costume.

Today, some evidence to the contrary, the primary object of clothing is to protect the body from heat and cold. Man's dress has through all ages, of necessity, conformed more or less to these practical purposes. True, there have been certain butterfly stages when man's costume vied with that of the women of any period in elegance and costliness but within the last hundred years the great economic change which has come over a large portion of the world, has brought with it a practical standardization of men's dress.

Women's clothing has been and continues to be subject to far greater extremes. While it would be far from desirable to take beauty and color out of our lives, for the sake of the wearers' health, certain reasonable precautions should be observed.

Paper soled slippers in mid-winter worn over icy pavements as contrasted with necks muffled in fur, are obviously a source of real danger.

The growing army of women in business, whose occupation demands a more reserved style of dress, will in time exert an influence upon their sisters whose chief aim is personal adornment.

LETTERS FROM SUBSCRIBERS.

California "Not Artificial," Says Mrs. Homan: Impossible to Judge in Few Days' Travel.—Wm. Zerby Tells of Early History and the Indians.

Editor Reporter:
We were disappointed that none of the "back east" folks came to see us this year. Last Exposition year we had a number of visitors and enjoyed it so much. I will send the editor a picture of our home—both useful and ornamental—and if he will give it a place in his office the sight of "Howard" under his own vine and fig tree may tempt some of his friends to cross the continent.

Somebody from Centre county wrote of California as artificial. That, I think, is a big mistake. "It is here nature gives of her rarest." The trouble is, people come out here and spend from four to six weeks rushing from one city to another, take a few sight-seeing trips, several hours or a day at Venice, Long Beach, or some other popular ocean resort, and then go home thinking they have seen California. Come and stay a year; prowl around the old missions; walk on the sands at Capistrano in the moonlight; wander miles out among the foothills and the valleys and mountains, and you will never again say "artificial" of our beautiful state.

Pardon the gush, such attacks are not of frequent occurrence, but I do love California. We are not boasting just now of the climate; we need rain and are having some heavy fogs, but still nearly every day shows hours of delightful sunshine.

My letter is growing too long but I cannot close without a word on the election. We voted for Wilson, feeling sure that if possible he would keep us out of war. We worked hard for the dry cause and were disappointed but will try again and are bound to win soon.

Mr. Homan sends greetings to all his friends and the Reporter.

Very cordially yours,
JENNIE L. HOMAN.
Fullerton, Calif., Dec., 1916.

Editor Reporter:
Having been in this western country for well on to seventy years, I have seen much of both prosperity and hard times—of the latter especially in 1848 when we had nothing to eat except potatoes and Johnny cakes. Schools, churches, hotels, stores and railroads were scarce but the dirty Redskins were as plentiful as prairie wolves. I have been among the Sioux and various other tribes. Four years ago this winter I was among the Chippewas in Minnesota, right in the big woods. This may seem strange to you but it is true. These Indians eat snakes, skunks and fat dogs. The best of my experiences among this tribe was the attentions an old squaw, 100 years old, bestowed on me, finally popping the matrimonial question. I would as lief marry an old brindle cow.

I have passed my seventy-eighth birthday and am enjoying good health. I often think of the scenes of my childhood: days far back in old Centre county.

Yours,
WILLIAM ZERBY.
Lisbon, North Dakota, Dec., 1916.
[Mr. Zerby was born along Sinking Creek, near Egg Hill, and at the age of ten years removed with his parents to Illinois, the trip being made by wagon. He has relatives living in Penna Valley.—Ed.]

FROM MARYLAND.

Editor Reporter:
The Reporter still comes as a welcome visitor. We take two dailies, one semi-weekly and three weeklies, and the Reporter, which I call my home paper, brings the most home-like tidings, and so it awakens memories of the past in the minds of many, who, like I, are away from old Centre. Indeed it is far more interesting to me than to those who are there, who learn of some of the events before they are published. I mean local events.

Having been familiar with most of the territory of the Seven Mountains, from Stone Valley to the Lewistown pike, it sent a thrill through my entire system to read of the hunters camping at Stone Creek, Bear Meadows, Nevill's, and nothing but distance and much to do here, kept me from shouldering my trusty Remington and springing a surprise on the campers at Stone Creek Kettle or the Bear Meadows. These two places were my ideal hunting grounds for deer, and the Detwiler hollow, up to the point of Thick Head Mountain, just opposite Hessick's and Bachdel's, for bears.

We killed one in that region which dressed 400 pounds—next to the largest one ever killed there. But I notice that none of those with whom I hunted were among the campers—too old, or all gone. But many of the campers' names are familiar; possibly they are the descendants of those with

(Continued at foot of next column.)

SCHOOL REPORT FOR THIRD MONTH.

Giving Statistical Report and Honor Roll in the Several Grades.

The third month of the boro school term came to a close January 2nd. The following reports were received for publication:

Primary grade.—Number pupils enrolled, males 18, females 24, total 42. Average attendance, males 16, females 19, total 35. Per cent. of attendance, males 88, females 82, total 85. Those present every day during month: Harold Bohn, Reuben Garis, James Lutz, Clifford Meyer, John Meyer, Byers Ripka, Elwood Smith, Elizabeth Bradford, Elizabeth Breen, Helen Brown, Algie Emery, Alma Lutz, Ethyl McClenahan, Dorothy Odenkir, Dorothy Packer, Estella Rubie, May Smith and Romie Smith.

Intermediate grade.—Number in attendance during month, males 12, females 25, total 37. Per cent. of attendance during month, males 93, females 89. Names of pupils not absent during month: Oscar Colyer, Franklin Runkle, Franklin and Joseph Rubie, Albert and Howard Emery, Theodore Breen, John and George Lutz, Helen and Ruth Runkle, Isabel Snyder, Vianna and Florence Zettle, Helen Long, Mary Weaver, Lottie Keller, Grace Miller, Gladys and Vivian Packer, Anna Garis, Mary Weber, Helen Bohn, Mildred Bitts. Those not absent during term: Franklin Runkle, Franklin Rubie, Joseph Rubie, Albert and Howard Emery, Theodore Breen, John Lutz, Helen and Ruth Runkle, Vianna and Florence Zettle, Mary Weaver, Lottie Keller, Gladys and Vivian Packer, Mary Weber.

Grammar grade.—Number in attendance during month, males 18, females 17, total 35. Average attendance during month, males 96, females 92. Per cent. of attendance during term, males 97, females 92. Those in regular attendance during month: Gertrude Rubie, Beatrice Kreamer, Helen Lucas, Madeline Smith, Hazel Ripka, Ruth Bartges, Fred Lucas, Frederick Moore, Reuben Zettle, Harold Keller, Isiah Emery, William Sweetwood, Albert Smith, Harold Breen, Clyde Smith, Daniel Smith, Paul Feteroff.

Those in regular attendance during term: Gertrude Rubie, Beatrice Kreamer, Helen Lucas, Frederick Lucas, Frederick Moore, Harold Keller, William Sweetwood, Albert Smith, Harold Breen, Clyde Smith, Daniel Smith.

Report of High school for first three months: Number of pupils enrolled, 23; per cent. of attendance, boys 95; girls, 97; average, 96. Pupils who have not missed a day: Mamie Brooks, Margaret Emery, Lillian Emery, Belle Meeker, Adaline McClenahan, Fernie Heckman, Catharine Rubie, Harold Alexander, Ralph Henney. During the first six weeks the thirteen girls enrolled did not miss a day.

State is Rejecting Auto License Tags.

The state highway department is registering a stiff kick on the quality of auto license tags furnished by the prison labor commission. The tags are made at the Huntingdon reformatory and the first shipment of 8000 received by the highway department was rejected outright, and tags received in a city are also of inferior quality, so that the state is refusing to send them out. Consequently the state is way behind in furnishing applicants with tags. Because of the enforced delay it is thought that an extension will be granted auto owners to use their 1916 tags until January 30th.

19th Electrocuting at Rockview.

Jonas Brobst, of Lehigh county, was electrocuted at the Rockview penitentiary on Monday for the killing of his wife at Allentown last May. Brobst went to the chair at 7:32 a. m. and was pronounced dead at 7:58 a. m. after five contacts had been given. He was the nineteenth man put to death at the new penitentiary.

Millheim has several cases of diphtheria and quarantine is in force.

"Movies" Will Show Forest Fires.

The Pennsylvania Department of Forestry will be able to show on the screen pictures of a real forest fire, photographed at close range on the South Mountains in Franklin county, where a number of fire fighters nearly lost their lives. A section of the reel shows a complete story from the time a criminally careless camper thoughtlessly kicks his camp fire about before breaking camp, until the fire is extinguished by rain three days later.

A second part of the picture demonstrates the modern system of preventing and fighting forest fires.

Dr. Parsons, the lecturer, will deliver his message in Grange hall, Wednesday evening, January 17th. Go hear him.

Swartz-Ross Nuptials.

A wedding of more than passing interest was that which occurred in the wee small hours of Saturday morning at the parsonage of St. Johns English Lutheran church, in Lock Haven. The principals were Miss Irene L. Ross, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Ross, of Linden Hall, and Lewis C. Swartz, son of L. E. Swartz, of Hublersburg. It was 12:15 o'clock Saturday morning when Rev. C. N. Shindler pronounced the words that made two hearts beat as one. The day of the wedding was also the anniversary of the bride's birth, it being her desire to be married on that day.

Immediately after the ceremony, the bride and groom departed on the Erie flyer for Harrisburg, Reading, and other eastern cities, and after enjoying a short honeymoon, they will reside in Hublersburg.

The bride is well known throughout Centre county, her services as a trained nurse having given her a creditable reputation. She is a graduate nurse from the Altoona City hospital. Personally she is of a most lovable disposition, charming in appearance, and enjoys the respect and love of a wide circle of friends. The groom is an industrious young man of sterling qualities and is principal of the High school at Hublersburg.

The Reporter joins the many friends of the young couple in extending congratulations.

The Week of Prayer Offerings.

The week of prayer services in Centre Hall came to a close on Sunday evening in the Reformed church, Rev. W. H. Williams, the Methodist minister, delivering a sermon fully up to the high standard which was maintained throughout the week. The services were well attended and the collections received for the week were the highest in years, a total of thirty-four dollars representing the plate offerings. Deducting from this amount two dollars for printing of the programs leaves a balance of thirty-two dollars, which is to be sent to the American Bible Society, each congregation to be credited equally on this amount.

It is interesting to note the denominations of the 1324 coins that were put on the collection plates during the week. The pennies outdistanced all other coins, there being 935; the nickels came next with 325; the silver coins were represented by 54 dimes, eight quarters and 3 half-dollars.

Two Valued Subscribers.

The Reporter has two subscribers on its list that have stood faithfully by the paper since its establishment to Centre Hall. It was when Daniel Ripkay of Spring Mills planked down his \$1.50 for another year's subscription, on Saturday, that we learned he had been following that rule since 1868—forty-nine years ago. Strange, too, that at the same time Adam C. Ripka, of Centre Hall, came out with the announcement that he, too, boasted such a record, and what's more, he helped, when a lad, to do the carpenter work necessary to house the Reporter's equipment when it first moved into its quarters on the second floor of the meat market property where the early numbers were printed. Good old friends, whose friendship is prized apart from the monetary consideration.

Farm Bureau for Centre.

Centre county was fairly well represented at a preliminary meeting held at State College for the purpose of establishing a Farm Bureau in this county similar to that maintained in thirty-six other counties in the state. Further meetings to continue the agitation will be held at Howard on Friday afternoon, at Spring Mills on Saturday afternoon, one o'clock, and at Pine Grove Mills on Saturday evening. A representative from the Extension Department of Penn State will explain the movement at these gatherings.

February 1st a county-wide meeting is planned to be held in the court house, Bellefonte, for the purpose of completing the organization.

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TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

Don't forget that the young people of the local M. E. church will present two plays in the Grange hall to-night (Thursday).

Miss Ruth Rockey, of Tusseyville, and Miss Catherine Ripka, of Spring Mills, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Miller over Sunday.

Dr. H. H. Longwell and Henry Potter had Essenkey installed in their auto tires this week, Domer S. Ishler, the local agent, doing the work.

State College is in the midst of an evangelistic campaign with Gypsy Smith, Jr., as evangelist. Two other members, a man and a woman, are also in the party.

Roy Dutrow, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Dutrow, east of Centre Hall, has accepted a position as car inspector for the P. R. R., at Altoona, and left for that city last week.

Allensville, Mifflin county, is to have a State bank. The applicants for a charter are Dr. Theodore Eharas, H. E. Bordell, Harry T. Kennedy, A. M. King, and M. B. Dachenbach.

Merchant and Mrs. E. A. Bower, Mrs. J. W. Bower and daughter Helen, and Miss Florence Mensch, all of Aaronsburg, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Coldron, on Saturday.

Mrs. Mary Desmer, eighty-four years old, died at Yeagertown last week. She is survived by eleven children, five living; fifty-two grandchildren, forty-two living; 102 great-grandchildren, eighty-two living, and five great-great-grandchildren, all living.

Guy W. Jacobs has been sent to San Antonio, Texas, by the York Manufacturing Co., and a card from him from that place states that with the thermometer at 80 degrees, the climate is very enjoyable in comparison with that which he left behind in New York.

John F. Hagen, of Farmers Mills, the daddy of the Hagen carpenter crew, dropped into this office last Friday and boosted his subscription a year ahead. The Hagens are building the Frank McClellan home in Centre Hall and were able to get in a few days' work during the warm spell last week.

Among the Reporter's callers last week was W. E. Hagan, tenant on the James J. Gramley farm, near Madsenburg. Mr. Hagan must vacate the farm because of the fact that it was sold by Mr. Gramley to George Long, of Spring Mills, who will occupy it in the spring. Mr. Long, who now lives on the Long homestead farm, will be succeeded by a brother, Gardner Long. Mr. Hagan is on the lookout for a farm that can be bought.

A teachers' local institute will be held in Millheim beginning Friday evening and concluding with a forenoon and afternoon session on Saturday. "The school as a social institution" is a topic assigned to Prof. W. O. Heckman, principal of the Centre Hall High school, at the last session. The Friday evening session will be held in the auditorium and will be given over to Prof. Charles Loebe, principal of the Central State Normal School, Lock Haven.

F. V. Goodhart, the local furniture dealer, in crossing the Seven Mountains Wednesday afternoon of last week, came upon an unfortunate young man standing in the middle of the road, head bare and eyes fixed on the ground, apparently oblivious to his surroundings. As the day was an unpleasant one and a cold rain was falling, Mr. Goodhart concluded that the young man's queer actions were the result of some mental aberration. Driving his car close to the man, who by the way, refused to move an inch out of his rigid position, Mr. Goodhart accosted him but failed to receive any reply. Feeling a sense of pity for the stranger Mr. Goodhart turned his car and drove back to Millroy where he reported his discovery to a fellow undertaker. The two men returned to the mountains and found the stranger standing in the same spot and in precisely the same "lost" condition. Running the car up until it touched the very person of the young man it failed to arouse him and no amount of questioning or shouting could elicit a particle of information. Fearing to take hold of the man the would-be benefactors returned to Millroy and telephoned a detective at Lewistown to handle the strange case. The officer failed to arrive until a few hours afterwards and in the meantime the human sphinx unloosed his feet and was seen walking in the middle of the road through Millroy, giving the impression of a demented individual. Upon the arrival of the Lewistown officer it was learned that a fellow answering to the description of the young man was wanted by the police.