

**SHORT TERM FARM LEASE IS CONDEMNED.**

J. M. Stiffer of Freeport, Ill., writes interesting article condemning short term farm lease.

J. M. Stiffer, Centre county native, and who is an authority on farm topics, writes the following article from his home in Freeport, Illinois, concerning a subject in which land owners are vitally interested:

The tenant farmer perhaps has received his full share of comment and unfavorable criticism in the past, because of a faulty system of which, through force of circumstances, he became a cog and part.

Many land owners give little encouragement for an extension of tenure beyond the one year period because, they say, it might conflict with certain other plans that may be in process of development. The one year guarantee gives little encouragement and affords poor opportunity, to a tenant, with ideas of a real constructive nature, to arrange a plant, assemble the machinery and perfect an organization for real farm improvement. The "one year with a privilege" (P), or short term lease, invites to nothing more constructive than a system of grainfarming—the logical outcome of which, is work-out and abandoned farms, unless there is resort to artificial fertilization through commercial fertilizers—always an expensive process. The short term lease is most attractive to the unthrifty, irresponsible, nomadic type of farmer, who on the slightest pretext, and to satisfy the promptings of an abnormal desire must "take up his bed and walk" regardless of personal or pecuniary benefit. The economic effects of our nomad population, whether in the city or country has been rather disastrous.

The "cream-skimming" process has been going on so long on some of our rented farms that only allurement to those who wish to take chance, is the residue of "sour milk." This is not intended as a harsh indictment against the fair and well-meaning tenant farmer, but the general facts as they stand us in the face in numerous instances are full warrant for this application, care must be taken so that the blame is placed where it properly belongs. The average landlord, if he is honest and really thoughtful, will not try to absolve himself of the guilt of being, to a certain extent, at least, party of the first part to much of the ruinous procedure carried out by his tenants.

When the paramount consideration of the landlord is the collection of exorbitant rents, it is hardly probable that the tenant will take the initiative in any venture of a real constructive character toward farm betterment. It often happens too, that when a tenant fixes up a place the landlord feels justified in raising the rent. Little wonder then, taking this into consideration with the one year lease, that we have such a large percentage of unthrifty tenant farmers. Since the tenant farmer is, and will continue to be a very important factor among our productive forces it behooves every consumer to interest himself in any plan or suggestion which gives promise of improvement among the producing forces, upon which all in the end must depend. That which benefits the individual benefits all to a certain extent. The "stock share" lease as framed up by our state department of agriculture and adopted at a number of landlord-tenant conferences in this and other states, seems to adequately provide through co-operative effort, a way to carry out a lot of agricultural extension work on every farm where there is a disposition to do things in the right way.

The long term lease—with 5 years as its minimum—gives promise, in the farm industry, of greater stability of character to any farm venture or enterprise, thus affording an opportunity for establishing and perfecting a plant and organization that is best adapted to the land, locality and needs of the community. It thus enables the tenant to determine on some definite policy, so he can frame up a program that will prove practical, progressive and profitable in procedure. The long term lease should invite to the best endeavor, thus promoting thrift and in the end effecting a radical change in ratio of farm owners to tenants. A very large per cent of the present landlord class began their career as tenants. The long term lease affords opportunity to pool resources and ideas and thus effect better understanding of the plans for constructive effort making it possible to strengthen the organization for greater efficiency. It is through team-work and co-operative effort that we can get the best results. The long term lease enables the tenant to acquire a more correct knowledge of the chemistry of the soils he must cultivate thus permit-

School Report for Fifth Month.

The fifth month in the boro school term came to a close Tuesday of last week. The statistical report and honor roll of the several grades is appended:

Primary school.—Number enrolled, males 18, females 22, total 40; average attendance, males 16, female 18, total 34; per cent. of attendance, males 89, females 81, total 85. Those present every day during the month are James Lutz, Paul Smith, Elizabeth Breon, Helen Brown, Alma Lutz and Estella Ruble.

Intermediate grade.—Number in attendance during month, males 12, females 25, total 37; per cent. of attendance during month, males 91, females 85. Names of pupils not absent during month: John Lutz, George Lutz, Joseph Ruble, Albert Emery, Lottie Keller. Names of pupils not absent during term are Lottie Keller, Albert Emery, Joseph Ruble.

Grammar grade.—Number in attendance during month, males 18, females 18; average attendance during month, males 16, females 16, total 32; per cent. of attendance during month, males 90, females 90; per cent. of attendance during term, males 95, females 92. Those present every day during the month are: Ernest Frank, Frederick Moore, Frederick Lucas, Albert Smith, Harold Breon, Arthur Bohn, Pearl Ruble, Gertrude Ruble, Helen Lucas, Ethel Frank, Hesel Ripka. Those in regular attendance during term: Frederick Moore, Frederick Lucas, Albert Smith, Harold Breon, Gertrude Ruble, Helen Lucas.

Penns Valley's Name.

"By heavens, Thompson, I have discovered an empire." These are the words of Captain James Potter, in the summer of 1764, when he got his first glimpse of Penns Valley from the crest of Nittany mountain. Capt. Potter for some years had a "feeling" that beyond the mountains south of Bald Eagle creek there was a great and good country where the white man had not yet trodden. With this belief he and an attendant came up the Bald Eagle creek to the mouth of Spring creek, where they turned to the south to satisfy the belief that some where near lay a beautiful country. After the discovery of the valley, Capt. Potter and his companion Thompson came down over the mountain to the spring at Old Fort. Almost starved the two men found a creek which by them was named John Penns Creek, and following it were astonished to find it to be Penns creek, well known by both of them for a considerable distance above its entrance into the Susquehanna.

Penns creek having its source in the newly discovered empire, the valley was named after the creek, and this is the point the writer wishes to impress upon its readers in quoting a portion of the Lin's history of Centre and Clinton counties, in response to the query of the origin of Penns Valley's name by a Blair county subscriber.

The Pink Label This Week.

Credit for money paid on subscription is shown on the pink label which appears on your paper this week. Look at it carefully and if there is an error, report at once. No figure less than a "7" should look good to any subscriber. We have a supply of "sevens" on hand which are still going at the old rate.

Washington Voted 'Dry.'

The National Capital was voted "dry" last Wednesday, when the House, by a vote of 237 to 137, passed the Sheppard bill in exactly the same form as it came from the Senate. It prohibits the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the District of Columbia after November 1, and abolishes 300 saloons. Importation for personal use is permitted.

\$1,125,000 for 'Pen' at Rockview.

Representative Scott last week introduced in the Legislature a bill appropriating \$1,125,000 for construction work at the new penitentiary at Rockview.

Water Companies Want Trees.

Officials of the Pennsylvania Department of Forestry are much encouraged by the replies received to a circular letter on reforestation, addressed several weeks ago to all the water companies in the state. To date ninety-five water companies have written to the Department stating that they are interested in restoring tree cover to the hills on their watersheds, and applications are listed for over 100,000 trees to be used for this purpose. The Department has agreed to make free examination of all planting sites with a view to determining the best method of replacing the forests and conserving the water supply.

W. O. T. U. INSTITUTE HERE.

Two Sessions on Saturday.—National, State and County Workers to be Here, Among Them Mrs. Addie B. Parsels, National Lecturer.

What promises to be one of the most interesting and instructive institutes held in Centre Hall for some time will take place in Grange Argadia, Saturday March 10th, afternoon and evening. National, state and county workers in the temperance cause have been assigned parts on the program, and the local young people interested in the work will also take part. The mere mentioning of the name of Mrs. Addie B. Parsels, the national W. O. T. U. organizer, should assure a house crowded to the doors, for her services are in constant demand and it required no little effort on the part of the local organization to have her come here.

The following is the program for the two sessions:

AFTERNOON—2:45 O'CLOCK
Miss Rebecca Rhoads, Presiding
Opening Song.....Y. P. B's
Devotions.....Local President W. O. T. U.
Greetings.....Young People's Branch
Subject for Discussion.....Opened by Mr. Claud Edgett, State President of Y. P. B's
"Prize Essay Contest".....Miss Rebecca Rhoads, County President W. O. T. U.
"Department Work and the War Chest".....Mrs. A. B. Parsels, National organizer and lecturer. Benediction—Adjournment.
EVENING SESSION—7:30 O'CLOCK
Opening Song.....Y. P. B's
Prayer for Temperance Work.....Rev. R. E. Jones Solo.....Miss Gladys Dunkle
County Y. P. B. Organizer
Lecture.....Mrs. A. B. Parsels
Offering.....
Closing Song.....

State Inspector Visits High School.

The Centre Hall High school faces the alternative of meeting with the requirements as prescribed for a third grade High school or lose the State appropriation. A State High school inspector who was in Centre Hall on Thursday discovered that the school was getting along without the necessary science equipment, as well as without a reference library, including an encyclopedia. The inspector's decree was that all of the above must be placed in the school before the opening of the next term or the State appropriation would be withheld and the school will lose its standing as a third class High school.

By science equipment is meant physical geography apparatus, botanical apparatus and agricultural apparatus.

Dr. Dixon on the "Potato"

Dr. Dixon, State Health Commissioner, in his weekly "Talks" this week, lowers the dignity of the potato to which it has suddenly arisen by reason of its \$3.00-a-bushel-price. Dr. Dixon says: The potato is at present the most advertised vegetable we have. Its consumption far exceeds any other vegetable made up of a large proportion of starch. Let us consider the claims of the potato to the high dignity that has suddenly been thrust upon it.

The human digestive system is limited in its power to digest properly large quantities of starch. Americans have made general use of starchy foods and this practice is playing its part in checking the natural growth of our people, both in mind and in body.

The excessive eating of 'potatoes, so often taken at a meal simply at a matter of habit when there are other starchy foods and sugar in the meal to supply the same want, causes a catarrhal condition of the digestive system, thereby preventing the normal working of the glands of digestion. Gradually a diseased condition of the organs of digestion results and this prevents nature's process of preparing food for assimilation. Consequently the system has to absorb the waste products and a gradual starvation and poisoning is the result. The catarrhal patient, in addition, gradually loses resistance to germ diseases.

Wants State to Have Boro Streets.

Provision that the State pave the streets of boroughs and incorporated towns in Pennsylvania which are themselves financially unable to do so is made in a bill introduced in the House Thursday morning by Assemblyman Cook of York. It carries a special appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the State Highway Department for this purpose.

Public sales in this section for the next week are: Friday, March 9, G. W. Tressler, near Penns Cave; Wednesday, March 14th, L. R. Lingle, at Earlstown; Thursday, March 15th, Sharer and Keller, near Centre Hall.

About the usual number of changes in residence will take place the first of April, so that the present month contains thirty-one days of worry and what-it-was-over for those who must make ready for moving day.

INSPECTION OF BOAL TROOP.

United States Army Officer to Inspect Troop and Equipment on Friday, at Boalsburg.—Drills on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Boal Machine Gun Troop, stationed at Boalsburg, will undergo the annual inspection at the camp on Friday of this week. The inspection will be made by Captain T. A. Roberts, of the United States Army. It is necessary that every member of the troop be present. The entire equipment of the troop, including saddles, arms, dress, etc., will be brushed up preparatory to the coming of the officer.

The troop order, which has been issued to every member by Lieut. T. D. Boal, states that some form of entertainment will be furnished on Friday and Saturday evenings; also, comfortable sleeping quarters will be furnished for the men who care to spend the night, and all must remain for retreat.

Three days will be devoted to drill—Friday, the 9th; Saturday, the 10th; and Sunday, the 11th. From these drills the privates realize \$2.81; first-class privates, \$3.37; corporals, \$3.81; sergeants, cooks and horse-shoers, \$5.62.

There will undoubtedly be a large turnout of people in the valley to witness the drills.

The Pension Habit.

The pension habit is growing. The large corporations all over the country are providing old age pensions for faithful employees and their widows. Why not? It is based upon the profit sharing plan of the present day in the industrial world. Nearly everybody it would seem lives and works in the happy advance rays of the sunset of retirement. The soldier and sailor are retired on three-fourths pay. The telephone company recently applied this law to its employees. The Edison company, The United States Steel and a score of other large corporations and railroads have their pension systems. Who would have dreamed of this tendency thirty five years ago? The ministers did not as they went out to preach righteousness on pitiful pay. After the Carnegie Foundation has made provision for the teachers and college professor, it is noteworthy that the ministers are about the only faithful workers now left without an adequate pension. It might be well worth while for the church, the richest institution in all the land to do the right thing toward her old ministers.

The Methodist Church is securing \$10,000,000 for pensioning of her ministers. The Presbyterian Church \$7,000,000; The Protestant Episcopal \$5,000,000; The Congregational \$5,000,000; The Baptist \$5,000,000 and others small sums for the same purpose. The Lutheran Church in two subdivisions, the Augustana and the General Synod, aim to secure \$1,000,000. The Lutherans in this vicinity belonging to East Pennsylvania Synod are engaged in a simultaneous campaign from March 5th to March 25th during which time they hope to secure their portion of an adequate sum for a permanent endowment.

William Penn Highway Notes.

Indications are that the Lewistown turnpike will be condemned before spring. This will leave only one toll road on the William Penn highway—that in Lebanon and Berks counties. During 1916 the number of farmers' automobiles in the counties along the William Penn Highway increased almost 4,000 over the number for 1915. Washington county heads the list with 1,185.

The counties of Huntingdon and Blair and the Pennsylvania railroad have joined hands for the improvement of the William Penn Highway between Union Furnace and Tyrone. The road will be shortened and widened, and a new concrete bridge will be built. Huntingdon borough will improve the highway in that borough.

Free Illustrated Lecture.

Prof. R. W. Helm, of Harrisburg, superintendent of Agricultural Education, will give two illustrated lectures on Vocational Education in the Grange Hall at Spring Mills, Thursday, March 15th, afternoon and evening. Prof. Helm gave similar lectures at Spring Mills and Boalsburg a few weeks ago and they were considered to be of such great importance to the rural community that the citizens of Spring Mills made a successful effort to have him come again. The lectures are free, and it is desired that all the taxpayers, as well as others, attend.

Out of a lot of one hundred and fifty chicks shipped to Nebraska by the Kurlins, but one was dead when the shipment arrived. The remainder were in such good condition that the couplets gave emphatic expression as to their vitality.

THE DEATH RECORD.

Mrs. Mary A. Ross Passes Away in Centre Hall.—Mrs. John Henry Moyer Dies at Tusseyville.—Other Deaths.

Remarkable vitality kept aflame the little spark of life within the body of Mrs. Mary A. Ross for a week following a paralytic stroke during which time she never fully regained consciousness. The end came peacefully early Monday morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Sara Bushman, in Centre Hall. Mrs. Ross was past seventy-five years of age.

Mary Alexander was a daughter of Francis and Lottie McElroy Alexander and was reared on the Alexander homestead, west of Old Fort. Following her marriage to John P. Ross she lived for a time on the Ross homestead at Farmers Mills. Upon the death of her husband she came to Centre Hall and has since resided here.

Mrs. Ross was a woman of keen intellect, having developed her mind as the result of much reading and close association with the work of the church and other societies. She was an active and devout member of the Presbyterian church; a charter member of the Spring Mills Grange and an active member of Progress Grange since coming to Centre Hall. She possessed firm convictions and the influence which she exerted was invariably for good. A devoted mother, a loyal friend and good neighbor, her passing is regretted by a host of friends.

Three children survive: Mrs. Sara Bushman, of Centre Hall; J. Frank Ross, of Pittsburgh; and Mrs. Lottie Goodhart, of Spring Mills. A sister, Mrs. W. A. Murray, of Boalsburg, is the only surviving member of her father's family.

Funeral services were held at her late home on Wednesday morning at ten o'clock, burial following in the Centre Hall cemetery. Rev. Josiah C. Still officiating.

Mrs. John Henry Moyer died at her home near Tusseyville on Friday morning at 10:30 o'clock, after an illness of three weeks during all of which time she was confined to bed. Her trouble was the cause of her death. The announcement of her death was the cause of sincere expressions of sorrow to be heard in the community in which she lived, for her fine womanly virtues had won for her the love and respect of the people among whom she spent most of her years. The deceased was Miss Ellen E. Renninger, a daughter of Samuel and Mary Renninger, and was born at Penn Hall, July 2, 1863, being therefore in her fifty-fourth year. June 27, 1882, she was united in marriage to John Henry Moyer, at Tusseyville. Six children were born to their union, three of whom survive, namely, Mrs. Arthur Cummings, of Rebersburg; Mrs. Fred Brown, of Colyer, and Cyrus, at home. Her husband also survives, as well as one sister, Miss Anna Renninger, at the Moyer home. Funeral services were held at 9:30 o'clock Tuesday morning in the Union church at Tusseyville. Rev. R. E. Jones, of the Reformed church, of which Mrs. Moyer was a life-long member, having charge. Burial was made at Tusseyville.

Alexander Kuhn, a life-long resident of Penns Valley, died at the home of his son Mervin, at Boalsburg, Tuesday morning at seven o'clock of infirmities incident to old age. Had he lived until May, he would have been eighty-two years of age. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kuhn and for a number of years lived in and about Centre Hall, where he farmed and followed the trade of a plasterer. For the past thirty-five years he was a resident of Boalsburg. He was a member of the Lutheran church all his life and his passing away removes from Boalsburg one of its most highly respected citizens. His wife preceded him to the grave a number of years ago, but two children survive, namely, Mervin, of Boalsburg, and William, of Jersey Shore. Also three brothers—David Kuhn, of Wisconsin; John Kuhn, of near Boalsburg; William H. Kuhn, of Philadelphia, the former two being past eighty years of age while the last named is approaching the four score years mark. Funeral services will be held at his late home on Friday morning at 9:30 o'clock, by Rev. G. L. Courtney, burial to follow in the Boalsburg cemetery.

Malachi Summers died at the home of his son, James, at Axe Mann, on Monday of last week, of hardening of the arteries, aged eighty-seven years. Funeral services were held at his late home on Thursday morning, after which the funeral cortege proceeded to Tusseyville where burial was made beside his first wife, who was a Miss Rossmann. Mr. Summers was twice married; his second wife, who was Mrs. Trease, being buried in the Zion Hill cemetery, near Tusseyville. Three sons—James, M. M., and Winfield survive.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.**HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS**

Rev. R. E. Jones was confined to his home for several days last week because of sickness.

Let's hope that the little lamb which whined in March will not develop into the lion when March goes out.

E. S. Ripka, the Hamilton-Brown shoe salesman, left for Boston, Massachusetts, on Saturday, to lay in his sample line of spring and summer shoes.

Orvis Horner, of Colyer, appeared before Squire Cyrus Brungart on Friday to make affidavit to the killing of a fine grey fox, making it possible for him to collect a \$2.00 bounty.

George Sharer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Sharer, who for the past six years has been a tenant on the Smeltzer farm near Zion, will occupy the Barthe farm, west of Old Fort, this spring.

The public sale held on Saturday by D. L. Bauges, administrator of Thomas C. Barthe, deceased, summed up to nearly \$4000.00. Potatoes were knocked off at \$2.50 per bushel while ham was in demand even at thirty cents a pound. A team of horses brought \$450.00.

William Zarby, of Lisbon, North Dakota, in writing the Reporter recently, says that another fearful blizzard of two days' duration struck their section on February 25, and as a result a driver and his team froze to death in Red River Valley, having stock in the snow drift all night.

The smokehouse of William Bilger, at Pleasant Gap, was burned to the ground early Tuesday morning of last week. A quantity of meat, worth about forty dollars, was consumed. Since the meat was being smoked it is supposed that the live coals were responsible for the fire.

J. F. Raudabaugh, of Loganton, was recently awarded the contract for carrying the mail on the Loganton to Rebersburg route, for four years, at a salary of \$643 a year. The Loganton to Mill Hall route was let to C. F. Royer, who was one of five applicants for the job, at a figure of \$994 yearly. He will be required to make two trips daily.

Prof. W. O. Heckman left for Williamsport on Thursday afternoon to attend to a business matter, expecting to reach home on Friday morning; but owing to an hour's lateness of the train, he was unable to make the connection at Sunbury, consequently he failed to arrive home until afternoon. The High school, therefore, had a day's vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Kremer, the beginning of next month, will leave Centre Hall and remove to Lewistown where Mr. Kremer has been employed for some months in the Standard Works. Their daughter, Miss Rebecca Kremer, will finish her school year as a midwife in the local high school before going to her new home.

Now that potatoes have reached the \$3.00 mark, food scientists tell us that we are just as well off without them so far as food value goes. Three-fourths of every potato is nothing but water, while a small fraction of the remaining fourth is starch. Very well, we'll do without them, but what can we buy to take their place that will be any cheaper? No answer.

A trained community nurse is an innovation which the boro of State College has recently put into operation. The services of the nurse are available to both residents and students. The State College Woman's Club is back of the movement, and they have established a reserve fund for the payment of the nurse's services where persons are financially unable to do so.

An effort is being made by Mifflin county's game protector to capture the huge elk which escaped about two years ago from the preserve in lower Centre county where it was placed with others of its species for propagation purposes. The elk is being fed and after becoming well accustomed to the sight of man a stockade will be constructed and an effort made to drive the animal in, crate it and ship it back to Centre county.

Lewistown had a big patriotic demonstration when her soldier leaders—Company M—just returned from the border, were mustered out by Colonel Flornbrook, of Governors Island, on Thursday. The ceremony was followed by a parade in which veterans of the Civil and Spanish American wars, fraternal orders and firemen participated; also a large proportion of the populace. The banquet was given Wednesday night. Dr. J. M. Yeager, Dr. W. H. Parsels and R. W. Alexander made patriotic addresses.