

Thirty-four Years Ago.

January 25, 1883.—At the recent dedication of the new Lutheran church at Zion, the entire debt—\$1,445—was provided for. The church is a fine one and cost about \$5000. One widow lady, Mrs. Mary Shaffer, in all has given \$800.

Many farmers find their cisterns empty, due to the scarcity of water.

The Centre Hall boys have one of the best coasting routes in the state. They can start from the top of Nittany mountain, one mile from here, and come sailing down right into town at railroad speed—and they make good use of it during the sledding season.

Spring Mills Market: Wheat, 75; 90; \$1.00; rye, 70; corn, 65; oat, 40; butter, 25; tallow, 6; lard, 10; ham, 12 1/2; eggs, 25; coal—per, \$3.35; oatmeal, \$4.75.

Rural Mail Service.

The remarkable growth of the rural delivery service since it was established twenty years ago is shown by statistics given in the annual report of Postmaster General Burrier, just submitted to congress. In 1898 there were 148 carriers, the total daily mileage was 2,560 and the cost of the service that year was \$50,241. Three years later there were 4,331 carriers, the daily mileage was 100,296 and the cost was \$1,750,321. During the last fifteen years the service has been rapidly extended in all parts of the country. At the present time, according to the figures given by the postmaster general, 43,464 rural routes are in operation, covering 1,112,556 miles, at an annual expense of \$52,715,613.

At the close of the year covered by the report 5,582,705 families, representing a total population of 27,160,857 persons, were being served by the rural carriers. A comparison with the records of the previous year shows that in 1917 there were 753,171 additional persons served, at an increase in expense of \$1,204,792, or a unit of \$1.60 per person. The cost per mile in 1917 was 15.106 cents as compared with 15.2 cents per mile in 1916.

That there are still many sections of the country which the rural mail carrier is not seen is shown by the statement that 1,851 petitions for establishment of rural delivery routes were filed with the department last year. Of these 1,806 were accepted and referred for investigation.

On June 30, 1917, motor vehicle routes to the number of 714 were in operation, of a total length of 41,762 miles. The annual rate of cost of these routes was \$1,382,744, or an average of \$1,786.49 per route, the routes averaging 58.56 miles. The postmaster general says these motor routes are operating satisfactorily in territory the services of which by horse-drawn vehicle routes would cost approximately \$1,713,000. Thus the establishment of the service by motor vehicle on routes of not less than fifty miles represents an annual economy of approximately \$320,256.

The operation of motor routes it is declared, not only represents a more economical form of mail service to the rural communities, but it also permits of the establishment of a wider postal zone from the larger and more important trade and postal centers. The postmaster general therefore recommends that existing legislative restrictions be removed, and unlimited opportunity be provided for the establishment of service by motor vehicle to the rural communities.

In view of the large number of routes in operation, the millions of people served and the constant extension of the service that is being made, together with the necessity for occasional changes of routes, it is not surprising that there should be some criticism of the department and complaints from some patrons who think the service should be improved. It is evident, however, that as a whole the rural mail service is moving smoothly and to the satisfaction of the great majority of the people.

Transfer of Real Estate.

A. E. Canfield to A. P. Zorby tract in Worth Twp.; \$100.

Henry F. Bitner, Admr., to W. Howard Durs, tract in Potter Twp.; \$2350.

Walter Garrity to F. W. Gramlev, tract in Potter Twp.; \$50.

James C. Reed to Albert Gerbrich, tract in Harris Twp.; \$400.

Wm. H. Noll, Jr. et al, to White-rock Quarrier, tract in Spring Twp.; \$150.

Wm. H. Noll, et al, to White-rock Quarrier, tract in Spring Twp.; \$12,000.

George B. Uzzell, et al, to David Chambers, et al, tract in Snow Shoe; \$2000.

Mary Jane Wasson to Isaac Bickler, tract in Halfmoon Twp.; \$600.

When Will the War End?

Positive evidence have I none, But my aunt's charwoman's sister's son Heard a policeman on his beat Say to a housemaid in Downing street, That he had a brother who had a friend Who KNEW when the war was going to end.

Centre Reporter, \$1.50 a year.

STATE AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

There was an appreciable increase in alfalfa acreage in a number of counties this year.

There are 334 poultry plants in the State that are carrying over 500 hens this season.

Hay is selling at high prices in many sections of the State, the variance of price in sections being greater than ever before.

The apyary advisers of the State are urging the keeping of bees and the discontinuance of the old method of smoking out hives to secure honey.

There were 4,225 oleomargarine licenses issued by the Dairy and Food Bureau of the Department of Agriculture this year as compared with 3,348 last year.

Commercial orchards throughout the State are being listed in a new bulletin to be issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Owners of orchards are requested to write for registration blanks.

CENTRE MILLS

From last week. Arthur Kline came down from Altoona, Wednesday, to help his parents butcher on Thursday, returning home Friday.

Mrs. Emma Neese, of Keuka, N. Y., who was called home to attend the funeral of her father, Elias Breon, two weeks ago, returned to her home on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Cummings autoed to the home of Chas. Neff, south west of Centre Hall, last Wednesday and spent the day there.

Adam Reish had an acetylene light plant installed in his dwelling and now lights his house and barn with gas.

Ray Held went hunting with the Millheim hunting party on Monday morning and before dinner he was the lucky hunter to shoot a four pronged buck which weighed 155 pounds dressed. The animal was put on exhibition at the Millheim meat market for the time being.

Orian Reish spent Tuesday hunting in Little Sugar Valley.

FARM FOR SALE

The undersigned offers for sale his farm, consisting of seventy-eight acres, and located three miles west of Centre Hall. Will sell on reasonable terms. R. F. D. service.—F. D. OSMAN, Centre Hall, R. D. 1. 47 0 42

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THE CENTRE REPORTER, Centre Hall, Pa.

Wise Men of The East.



were endowed with foresight that led them to the manger at Bethlehem. The wise man of to-day is endowed with the foresight that leads him to the Farmers National Bank,

and thereby benefits his business standing in the commercial world. Make your self a Xmas gift of a pass book and the prestige that a connection will give you on the

The Farmers National Bank

(Depository for Funds of U. S. Government)

Millheim, Pa.



"Number, please?"

A telephone call is not fully "started" when this question by the operator has been answered.

In repeating the number you ask for, she does so in order that you may know whether she has understood rightly; also that in hearing the number repeated you may correct any transposition or miscalling of numerals made when the number was first given by you.

It is very essential that this repetition be listened for and corrections made when required. The operator is trying always to do her part; consideration of her effort and readiness to co-operate are due her in return.

The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania
W. S. Mallalieu, Local Manager
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Turkish Rockers In Leather—Big and Massive Sure to Please "Father"



GOODHART'S



FURNITURE STORE :: Centre Hall

HOUSE FOR SALE.

A six room house located on Hoffer street, at corner of alley, and built a few years ago, is offered for sale. There is a good stable on the lot and everything in good repair. Will be sold reasonable. If you are looking for a nice little home, do not pass this up.—CLEMENS W. LUSK, Centre Hall, Pa.

CYRUS BRUNGART

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