

The Centre Reporter.

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NO. 6

COUNTY GRANGE MEETS.

Large Class of Young Men Take Fifth Degree.

A largely attended session of the Centre County Pomona Grange was held Thursday of last week in Grange Arcadia, Centre Hall. The first session began at ten o'clock, when reports were heard from the various Grange activities. Some of these were discussed at considerable length.

A class of about twenty young men, students in the Agricultural Department, Pennsylvania State College, and members of Penn State Grange, made application to receive the Fifth Degree, and after the formalities had been gone through the degree was conferred by Master C. B. Ness, and the unwritten work was explained by John S. Dale, a district deputy.

The Grange Park committee, in whose hands the creamery plant was recently placed in care, reported that the plant had been leased to the Dewart creamery company, and that the building had been repaired and is now in use as a shipping station. The plant was leased with an option to buy, and consequently the officers asked for a \$4000 was granted an order to sell the same.

The annual and quarterly reports of the fire insurance company were read by the president, John S. Dale, and secretary, David K. Keller. The report shows the company in good standing and leading all competitors in the matter of percentage expended for the conduct of business. At the request of directors of the company, the question of increasing the fee of one dollar for writing a policy was discussed. A motion to increase this fee by one hundred per cent was lost.

A second matter brought to the attention of the Order was one requesting that when writing policies in which grains of various kinds are insured, a bulk sum be written instead of itemizing each kind of grain. The request was granted.

The enlargement in scope of exhibits at the Grange Encampment and Fair was dwelt on by the Master, as was also the financial features. There is some indebtedness—in round numbers \$1000—due to the large expenditure in wiring the grounds for lighting by electricity. The matter of premiums was discussed by Prof. T. I. Mairs. The custom of paying a premium to all exhibitors—the custom now in vogue—was condoned, but the speaker argued that in addition to this ribbon should be awarded through a committee for the most meritorious articles.

The noon hour was greatly enjoyed by all, and especially the young people. Three long tables, well laden with choice provisions, afforded an opportunity to satisfy hunger.

SECRETARY BAKER'S REPORT.

From the Altoona Tribune (Republican.)

Whatever doubt we may have cherished concerning the ardor, the efficiency or the wisdom of Secretary Baker of the war department, have been dispelled by the remarkable address made by him before the senate committee on military affairs on last Monday and reproduced in full in yesterday's issue of the Tribune. It is a very remarkable presentation of America's part in the war, a luminous and satisfying review of the work already accomplished by the way of aiding her allies and evidently caging the German tiger. It will take its place among the immortal documents produced by the great war and will be read with ever-increasing satisfaction by future generations who will study it in the light of accomplished events, events that will have made for world freedom.

It is now a little less than ten months since the United States recognized the existence of a state of war with the imperial German government. That in a very short time in which a traditionally peaceful nation may transform itself into a warlike power. Great Britain, which has seen far more fighting than our nation, was illly prepared for battle when Germany struck at Belgium and it took her a full two years to recruit and organize a formidable army, while her advance guard died in France or Belgium in a desperate but successful effort to hold the German savages at bay. Our republic has already sent across the Atlantic a formidable army and will be ready during the present year to augment it by a million and a half of the best fighting men the world ever saw. That is no mean performance for a people all of whose inclinations are toward peace.

Secretary Baker shows that what we have done, what we may do in the future is contingent upon the advice and the request of our allies beyond the seas. He describes the railroad building, the construction of landing facilities at the ports designated for American use, the erection of storehouses, the building of 600 miles of railroad, the activities of American engineers and railroad men who are at

(Continued on inside page.)

FLAMES DESTROY BIG BARN ON GATES FARM, AT WADDLE.

Eight Head Horses and Four Cows Perish in Flames which Resulted from Exploding Lantern, Friday Evening.—Loss \$10,000, With Little Insurance.

The large barn on the George Gates farm, a mile above Waddle, in Buffalo Run valley, is a mass of ruins, a fire starting at 6:30 o'clock Friday evening destroying the big structure, together with eight head of horses, four cows, over 100 chickens, grain, hay, and a most complete equipment of the best and most modern farming machinery.

LANTERN EXPLODED.

The Gates farm is tenanted by H. B. Carson, who held a half interest in the stock. The farm really is two farms in one, totaling 260 acres. All the operations are done on a big scale. On Friday evening, Stuart Gates, a son of the owner, who was assisting Mr. Carson on the place, went to the barn with a lighted lantern to throw down hay from the mow. He sat the lantern on the barn floor, and it is presumed that the force of air in throwing a mass of hay from the mow above caused the lantern to explode. The fire, thrown in every direction, soon reached a stage where it became beyond human control. Mr. Carson at the time was also in the barn but the two men realized that the only thing to do was to release the stock. Seventeen head of fine horses were tied in their stalls below and the men at once set about to save them first. After the ninth animal was taken from the barn, the structure was a mass of flames, making it impossible to enter with safety.

VALUABLE STALLION BURNED.

Included in the eight head of horses was a valuable stallion, weighing over 2200 lbs. Four head of fine Holstein cows perished in the flames, among which was one for which Mr. Carson refused \$135.00 last week. 100 chickens, which were wintering in the shed, also were destroyed.

It is doubtful if any farm in Centre county was better equipped with modern machinery than the Gates farm. Included in the list were a threshing machine, corn binder, corn planter, grain binder, gasoline engine, four buggies—all new—as well as all the other machinery needed to till properly a farm of 260 acres. Nine sets of brand new harness went up in the flames.

Because it has been the custom to haul the grain to market immediately following the threshing of it, only fifty bushels of wheat were in the barn when the fire destroyed it. Of corn there were 150 bushels; oats, 400 bushels; hay, from ten to twelve tons; besides plenty of straw and corn fodder.

The barn was a substantial structure, one part of which was built only five years ago.

No attempt has been made to make an accurate estimate of the loss, but Mr. Carson says that to say it is \$10,000, is placing it at a conservative figure. The insurance carried was very little, consequently the loss sustained by Mr. Carson and Mr. Gates is a heavy one. The owner of the farm resides in Altoona, where he is engaged in the coal business.

It is with discouragement that Mr. and Mrs. Carson face the future. Only four years ago fire destroyed their home with practically all their household effects. Now even an infinitely greater misfortune has visited them.

Be Patriotic.

One of the many ways we can be patriotic is to observe the Hoover and Garfield regulations regarding the consumption of food and fuel. We are not now to consume bread baked from whole wheat flour, no matter how much we chance to have on hand or how easily we can avoid the regulation. As to fuel, let us save as never before, regardless of the size of our bank accounts or quantity of coal in the bin.

Merchants, also, should not hesitate to express their patriotism in the observance of the regulations of the sale of flour and consumption of fuel—the saving of fuel by the closing of their places on Mondays. It might be well to pass the word along that arrangements locally have been made to report those not conforming to the Garfield-Hoover regulations so that if there have been any violations of these orders in the past, it will be extra hazardous to repeat them in the future with the expectation of escaping the penalty.

The Garfield order calls for the closing of stores, shops, etc., except those definitely exempt, during the entire day. Stores selling foods may remain open until noon, but only food is to be sold. It is urged, however, that the food-selling stores also close during all Monday.

Patriotic concert, to-night.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES' PROGRAMS.

February 11th and 12th at Centre Hall; 13th and 14th, Spring Mills.—Present Conditions Should Increase Interest in Institutes.

With practically the entire world looking upon the American farmer to supply the greater part of the food stuffs during the year, more interest than has ever before been shown is manifest in the series of Farmers' Institutes which are held in Centre county six days beginning February 8. Meetings will be held at Port Matilda, February 8 and 9; at Centre Hall, February 11 and 12; and at Spring Mills, February 13 and 14.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture which supervises the meetings is being assisted by able speakers from the United States Department of Agriculture and representatives of the Pennsylvania Committee on Public Safety.

Director of Farmers' Institutes, C. E. Carothers, has placed J. Stuart Gruppe, of Jersey Shore, in charge of the section of the State of which Centre county is part, and County Chairman, John A. Woodward, of Howard, has arranged attractive programs for the entire series of meetings. Mr. Gruppe is an expert on soil fertility, potato culture, hog breeding and corn culture.

The instructors assigned for the Centre county meetings are: E. L. Phillips, New Bethlehem, Pa.; F. H. Fasset, Mashopeter, Pa.; and Mrs. Eugenia G. Benn, Williamsport, Pa. Mr. Phillips is an expert poultryman. He will speak on poultry farming; selection of breeds, incubating and brooding; location, construction and care of poultry houses. M. Fasset is an expert on orchard management and the marketing of fruit. His talks will include spraying, pruning handling and marketing. Mrs. Benn will talk on: Human dollars; home sanitation; and, the value of organization among women.

No farmer in Centre county can afford not to attend the meetings at one of the designated places.

The programs for the Centre Hall and Spring Mills institutes follow.

CENTRE HALL
MONDAY AFTERNOON—1:30.
Devotional Exercises..... Rev. Josiah Still
"Care and Management of the Orchard"

Soon Time For Income Tax.

Don't overlook your income tax! If your income is taxable—and it must be a modest one not to be taxable under the new law—don't sit back awaiting an invitation to pay up. To receive such an invitation will cost you 50 per cent. extra tax and an added penalty of from \$20 to \$1000.

That is the cost of failing to make income tax returns on time. By "on time" is meant on or before March 1. The fact that you receive no prior notice would not save you from the penalty. Uncle Sam is not required to notify you that you owe income tax. It is the other way about. The law requires you to notify him that you owe it.

The only notice he gives is notice to pay heavy penalty for failure to make tax returns within the prescribed time.

The Pennsylvania Committee of Public Safety advises you that if you are a \$1000-a-year single man or woman, or a \$2000-a-year married man or woman you owe income tax and you must hunt up and make returns to the tax collector of your district. There are, of course, some limitations as to what constitutes income but don't rely upon your own idea of them. Communicate with the Internal Revenue man of your district and keep on the safe side.

Internal Revenue deputies have been stationed at the following places to receive income tax returns: Chambers of Commerce, Phillipsburg, February 15 to March 1.

Free Seeds for Your War Garden.

Through the courtesy of Congressman Rowland, we have for free distribution a limited supply of garden seeds. Call at the Reporter office for a pack, but please do not send the children for them unless you send with them a note requesting a package. Or a postal request will bring them to you free.

Congressman Rowland as well as ourselves are anxious that these seeds should fall into the hands of those who will put them to good use.

Preserve Your Classification Card.

Registrants under the selective draft act are being urged to carefully preserve the cards sent them by local boards, indicating the class in which they have been placed under the new rulings. It is declared that these cards are now more important than the original registration cards, as they indicate that the holder has not only registered, but that he has received and executed his questionnaire.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Mrs. George W. Bradford, of near Millroy, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. John A. Martz.

Have you seen that soldier friend of yours the "samilage" book you promised yourself you would? Mrs. D. R. Foreman, of Bellefonte, spent a few days last week with friend in Centre Hall.

Farmers' Institute at Centre Hall, Monday and Tuesday of next week. Make your arrangements to be present. Milk consumers in Centre Hall are now paying ten cents per quart, which is a raise of two cents over the former price.

Dr. E. E. Sparks, president of Penn State, is in the south where he will lecture to the soldier boys in the cantonment camps. He begins at Florida.

Pennsylvania soldiers at Camp Hancock are taking strongly to the Augusta girls. The records show that fifteen per cent of the boys who marry select for wives one of the Georgia maidens.

A. W. Rokenbrod has sold out his hotel at Laureilton, the Pennsylvania Inn, and expects to return to Look Haven with Mrs. Rokenbrod. They formerly conducted the Spring Mills hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Emerick and daughters, Mrs. C. D. Mitterling, and Misses Lena and Carribe, and C. D. Mitterling attended the funeral of S. K. Emerick, at Unionville, last Thursday.

In a letter from J. H. Jordan, of McConnell, Illinois, to the Reporter, Mr. Jordan says that the grain crop last year in that section was good. Corn, however, did not mature, resulting in much soft and mouldy corn.

The Phillipsburg Ledger last week passed into the hands of a party of Phillipsburg business men, including H. B. Scott, representative in the General Assembly. In due time the Ledger will appear as a semi-weekly.

Private Calvin C. Rice, of the 109th Field Artillery, Camp Hancock, who overstay his furlough, was locked up in Look Haven last week. He is from Niagara Falls and claimed he was out of funds and got no response from his company commander for money due him.

The Dewart Creamery Company is doing a nice business since beginning operation at Centre Hall last week. Farmers from all sections are bringing in their milk, receiving prices far ahead of anything ever paid before for the lactical fluid. With the coming of spring and improved conditions for travel, a big truck will be put into service for gathering the milk.

Says the State College Times: No matter what the weather man gives us, W. H. Baird is going to have fresh vegetables, and the other day he plucked from his cellar war garden some luscious rhubarb, the stalks of which were two and a half inches in circumference, and he is now telling his friends all about the good pie his wife bakes and how appetizing it is stewed.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lingle and two daughters, were arrivals from Dubuque, Iowa, on Friday, and will spend some time with Mr. Lingle's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Lingle, in Georges Valley. Mr. Lingle has just left a hospital in the west where he spent several weeks following an accident on the Illinois Central railroad, in which he was slightly crippled.


Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Martz, of Tusseyville, drove to Centre Hall on Saturday to question William Bailey in regard to their son, Clayton Martz, who is in training at Camp Hancock, Augusta, Georgia. Of course, the young man keeps in touch with his parents by letter, but the mother felt better satisfied to receive some encouraging information from one who recently left the soldiers' camp where the two boys were members of the same troop.

In addressing letters and packages for mailing the county should be used. In many cases the use of the county greatly facilitates delivery especially when addressed to a small town or to a point formerly a post office and now served by a rural route. For instance, a letter addressed to Centre Hill (Centre county) or Colyer (Centre county) or Unionville (Centre county) would be certain to be delivered. Without the county name the first letter might be forwarded to Centre Hill, a local point in Bucks county, the second to Collier, a local point in Fayette county, or to Bellwood, where there is also a local point called Colyer, etc. From these instances it will be seen that in many cases the county added to the address means much in guaranteeing delivery.

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PATRIOTIC CONCERT



IN GRANGE ARCADIA
Centre Hall
Thursday Ev'g, February 7th

Solos, Choruses
Monologues
Readings, Etc.

Two-Hour Program Begins at Eight O'clock

FARMERS AND WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

Campaign to Acquisit Them With Great Investment Value Will Soon be Projected.

A campaign to acquire the farmer with the great investment value of the war saving stamp is to be projected by the national war savings committee. Boomers of the loan believe that when the American farmer gets really acquainted with a thrift stamp and a war savings stamp, Uncle Sam will not be able to print them fast enough to supply the agricultural demand. A farmer can invest any sum from 25 cents up to \$1,000.

If the farmer likes secrecy, he has this advantage with thrift stamps and a government stamp. No one, not even the village it self, until the day for payment comes, can know how many he owns.

There are in Pennsylvania 220,000 farm owners or farm tenants. They produced last year \$450,000,000, an average of about \$2,000 each. Since they do not have easy access to savings banks and building associations, the 25-cent and 4.13 stamps would be an ideal sponge to absorb the surplus money of these farmers. Nothing equal to it for investment purposes has been devised in the United States—a gilt-edged bond guaranteed against loss by the greatest government on earth. Besides it pays \$4.39 annual interest and is immune from the income tax collector.

Pennsylvania Stock Figures.

According to the figures just issued by the Crop Reporting Board of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, there are in Pennsylvania at the present time 590,000 horses, 53,000 mules, 960,000 milch cows, 913,000 sheep, and 1,291,000 swine.

Compared with January 1, 1917, the following changes in Pennsylvania are indicated:

In numbers, horses have decreased 5,000; mules increased 5,000; milch cows decreased 20,000; other cattle increased 53,000; sheep increased 83,000; swine increased 117,000.

The average price per head of horses has remained the same; mules have increased \$1.00; milch cows increased \$12.50; other cattle increased \$6.00; sheep increased \$4.60; swine increased \$8.40.

Below—Whew!

Tuesday morning the official thermometer registered lower in Centre Hall than at any other time this winter—13 degrees below zero. The nearest to this mark was 11 degrees below, December 30th. Accompanied by a high storm, the cold was most intense.

February has started out to set a new mark, the same as her predecessors—December and January—have done. February 1st, 2 below; 2nd, 8 below; 3rd, 3 above; 4th, 2 below; 5th, 13 below. Next?

Stedded from Bellefonte to Old Fort.

A party of Bellefonte people braved the storm and deep snow, on Monday evening, to attend a chicken and waffle supper at the Old Fort hotel. The sled conveying the party was drawn by four big farm horses owned by Dick Beizer, who negotiated the big drifts enroute in fine style. The following were in the party: Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hazel, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Barlett, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Showers, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Showers, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Cairns, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Gehret, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Badger, J. H. Everhart, Miss Helen Everhart, Dick Beizer, Ed. Gross, of Bellefonte; Miss Hazel Ripka, Byers Ripka, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Ripka, of Centre Hall.

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