



HEAVY REDUCTION IN DEBT ACCOMPLISHED.

Nation's Indebtedness Reduced Over Billion and Half Dollars in Six Months.

A reduction of \$705,660,000 in the national debt was accomplished by the Treasury Department during March, a report by that department shows.

Deduction in the national debt since September, when the retirements began have been, by months, as follows:

October, \$1,533,000; November, \$94,478,000; December, \$278,973,000; January, \$168,689,000; February, \$264,057,000.

This makes a total reduction in the debt of \$1,528,390,000 since the retirements began last fall. Calculating interest at the rate of four and one-quarter per cent, the annual savings to the Federal Treasury on the six months' reduction is \$64,956,576.

The national debt stands now at a little less than \$55,000,000,000, of which of course, approximately \$10,000,000,000 is for loans made by the Allies during the war, which eventually will be returned to the Treasury, making the amount that must ultimately be made good by taxpayers approximately \$15,000,000,000.

Commendation for the manner in which Treasury officials are handling the country's fiscal affairs comes from high Republican sources. The Treasury officials, said Representative Frank W. Mondell, Republican floor leader in the House, "have handled a trying situation most admirably, but they cannot avert disaster unless we keep expenditures within our income." Supporting Treasury officials in opposing further bond issues, Mondell said that an actual reduction of the public debt is necessary during the next fiscal year, beginning July 1, "to sustain national credit."

Mr. Mondell added that further bond issues could only be floated at greatly increased interest rates at the cost of a considerable reduction in the market value of outstanding Government securities, with the grave danger of wrecking the specie of our currency with the certainty of increasing the price of commodities and further enhancing the cost of living. Under these conditions a further bond issue is unthinkable.

Car Burns in Sight of Owner.

Fire of unknown origin totally destroyed the large Willys-Knight automobile owned by Charles M. Rice, of Reedsville, Thursday evening of last week, while he was returning from a fishing trip.

Mr. Rice had been fishing during the day for trout and when he returned to the road-side near the Williamson Taylor farm, where the automobile was left standing while he fished, he found the car enveloped in flames. It is a total wreck.

Mr. Rice is well known in Centre Hall.

Items from the Millheim Journal.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Columbus, of Los Angeles, Cal., are visiting Mr. Columbus' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Columbus, of Penn street.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Millheim town council on Monday evening a resolution protesting the new Bell telephone toll rates was unanimously adopted, and the secretary was instructed to forward the complaint to the public service commission.

Ray and Russel Miller, who are employed at Youngstown, O., accompanied by David Morey and Walter Tims, of Youngstown, motored to Millheim in the latter's automobile last Thursday, arriving here at 12 o'clock at night. They visited with Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Miller until Wednesday when the return trip was made.

Earl H. Wert, a native of Aaronsburg, who has been connected with the South-west National bank of Philadelphia, for a number of years and for a year or more has been cashier of the institution, was recently elected one of the vice-presidents of the bank. The title of cashier will be retained by Mr. Wert. His many friends in his home section will be glad to learn of his promotion.

Last Thursday afternoon about 2 o'clock Charles Brown, who recently moved from Pleasant Gap to the Keen Jamison farm, west of Millheim, was kicked in the face and frightfully injured by a horse while he was in the act of hitching his team to a plow. His nose was crushed and his upper jaw bone broken by the kick and as he was alone it is not known if he was rendered unconscious or not. He took his team to the barn and stabled them before going to the house to summon a physician. Dr. John Harndenbergh was called and owing to the severity of the wound Dr. Musser was called for consultation when it was decided to take the injured man to the Bellefonte hospital. Several X-ray examinations have been made at the hospital, several pieces of bone have been removed and his jaw wired together.

The "sweet girl graduates" and the "charming lovely bride" will be much in the spotlight for a few weeks, for this is the beginning of their season.

Why Proficient Spellers are Scarce.

Spelling contests among schools, once quite popular and arousing keen interest and friendly rivalry, are almost unheard of in the present day, and their absence accounts for the scarcity of proficient spellers in the schools. Prof. N. L. Bartges, principal of the Centre Hall High school, was led to remark following the holding of a spelling contest a week ago: "We have very few 'star' spellers any more in our schools because we do not spell enough. If we could return the custom of holding spelling bees as was done in former days when different school challenged each other to spell and the teachers were unable to spell the pupils down with their regular spelling book, we would have more proficient spellers in our schools."

A spelling contest was held recently between the eighth grade of the grammar school and the first and third year classes of the High school. A thousand practical words were given to the pupils for study some time before the test. One hundred words selected from the thousand were spelled for the written test. The general average for the High school was 85 2-17, which was a little higher than the grammar school average. Ruth Ripka won the prize for individual spelling.

The following pupils in the High school made 94 or more per cent: Ruth Ripka, 100; Marion Bible, 99; Prof. N. Bartges, 99; Helen Tressler, 97; Harvey Flink, 97; Frederick Moore, 94.

The following pupils in the grammar school made 92 or more per cent: Viana Zettle, 96; Gladys Garbrick, 95; Luella Bloom, 94; Albert Emery, 92; Albert Smith, 92; Stanley Brooks, 94.

In spelling down orally Marion Bible stood last.

Letters from Our Appreciative Readers.

Glenshaw, Pa.,
April 22, 1920.

Messrs Smith and Bailey,
Centre Hall, Pa.

My dear old friends:—

Please find my check enclosed for three dollars, advancing the payment of my paper to that extent.

We are always all ready for the Centre Hall Reporter; glad to get the news from home. That is God's country in there.

Work is going fine here and I like it very much. Of course I have been here along enough to know the ins and outs.

The evening High School, of which I am principal, had an enrollment of one thousand this year.

Regards to everybody.
Sincerely,
L. O. PACKER.

Soo Falls, South Dakota,
April 20, 1920

Editor Reporter:—

Enclosed find my check for subscription. You would have had it sooner if you had "dunned" me. I enjoy the paper very much. Give all my friends my best wishes. We are having a very late spring here—cold, snow and rain.—
James K. Conley.

Equipped Lookout Trees With Ladders.

Forester W. H. Horning, of Snow Shoe, in charge of the Karthaus State Forest, has organized the forest fire fighting forces of the Central Forest Protective Association. Recently, he traveled over the eastern end of Clearfield and Centre counties in that connection. Four fire wardens were employed to serve as patrolmen and lookout men on the lands covered by the Association.

Last Saturday, Forester Horning gave an illustrated lecture in the Keewaydin school house, discussing the lumbering industry as conducted in the United States and in foreign countries. He contrasted the forest conservation methods of the European countries with the forest devastation prevalent in this country.

Ranger N. A. Barr, of Karthaus State Forest, recently equipped two lookout trees with ladders. These trees are situated on the high divide separating Clearfield, Cameron and Clinton counties, commanding a view of many thousands acres of State and private forest land. Those lookouts will aid materially in detecting forest fires. As they are connected with the new telephone system, the patrolmen using the lookouts may quickly report forest fires to all of the foresters and rangers of the Karthaus, Sinnamahoning and Medix Run State forests.

Reports from every county in the state show excellent prospects for a heavy fruit crop this year. On April 1 the condition of the apple orchards of the state were 95 per cent of normal; the peach orchards, 87 per cent, of normal, and the cherry orchards 95 per cent of the normal.

Be a Reporter reader.

CARLOAD BROOK TROUT AND BASS FOR CENTRE CO. STREAMS

County Association Has Assistance of Senator Penrose in Securing Lot of Fish for Stocking Centre County Streams.

An interesting meeting of the Centre County Association for the Conservation of Fish and Game was held at Bellefonte on Friday evening. A large number of sportsmen were present, as well as the Hon. N. R. Buller, State Fish Commissioner, who addressed the meeting. A letter from the Hon. Boies Penrose, United States Senator, was read. The letter is appended:

UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. F. W. Crider, President,
Centre County Association for the Conservation of Fish & Game,
Bellefonte, Pa.

Dear Mr. Crider:—

I have been assured by the Bureau of Fisheries in Washington that at a proper time the Centre County Association for the Conservation of Fish & Game will receive, approximately, a carload of brook trout and bass.

It afforded me great pleasure to assist in this matter on account of the great interest which I have always taken in the Centre county and its rugged scenery and splendid opportunities for the sportsman. I have been the habit during my public life of visiting Centre county from time to time, ever since I first went to State College as a member of the House of Representatives in 1885 with the Committee on Appropriations. I have often said that Centre county, with its bracing climate, clear streams, rugged mountains and fine farm lands, is one of the best counties in Pennsylvania. Certainly there are few counties in the whole State presenting finer opportunities for sport as I know from my fishing experiences along your several streams. The streams which start in Centre county are most remarkable in the apparent unlimited abundance of trout and other fish, and I am fully impressed with the importance of keeping these streams properly stocked.

I have had considerable experience in my life in hunting and fishing in Pennsylvania and along the Rocky Mountain range in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming, and I recall few sections in the present day, where there is to be found a greater abundance of game, such as deer, bear, wild turkey and pheasant, than is found in and around Centre county.

Should I be able to aid your Association in promoting in any way the conservation and supply of game and fish in the future, I will be glad to have you call upon me and I shall always look forward with pleasure to visiting your vicinity.

Yours sincerely,
BOIES PENROSE.

52 Feet of Snake!

This is no fake snake story. No indeed! Several sons of Jeremiah Zettle, of Georges Valley, were rambling over the point of Egg Hill on Sunday and soon came upon a black snake, which they killed. It was at the same place where a year ago they despatched nine reptiles and so it caused them to wonder whether another nest of snakes might not have been hatched out since that time. They commenced to look about and soon discovered that their conclusion was correct, for in a short space of time they found twelve black snakes, and all were killed. One of the young men had placed his coat on a rock, and upon picking it up found a lively wriggling snake attempting to hide under it. The young men gathered their "kill" together and being curious to know how much snake they really had, put them end to end and measured the string. There was exactly 52 feet and 3 inches of the glistening snake hide, but nary a wriggle.

A Trio of Trout Fishermen.

Roy, Maurice and Claude McClintic, sons of William McClintic, of Linden Hall, are three young fishermen who have more than the proverbial fisherman's luck when angling. All three got the limit of trout (25) on the first day of the season, and then to prove that it was not an accident Roy again caught the limit on Saturday. The McClintics are experts with either rod or gun.

Will Dedicate on Saturday.

The local Odd Fellows will hold dedicatory exercises on Saturday afternoon in their remodeled hall. Grand Lodge officials will be present and participate in the ceremony. A large turnout of Odd Fellows from all parts of the county is expected. The public in general is also invited to be present. The exercises begin at two o'clock.

The condition of the livestock on the farms of Pennsylvania on April 1, 1920, was 98 per cent as compared with normal years. This is regarded as an excellent showing on account of the severity of the past winter.

Promotion for Forester Keller of Boalsburg.

John W. Keller, formerly of Millintown, has been recommended for the appointment as chief of the Bureau of Agriculture of the Pennsylvania Department of Forestry by Gifford Pinchot, the State's commissioner of Forestry. Mr. Pinchot's recommendation will be presented to the State Forest Commission at its next meeting, May 7. It is expected the appointment will be approved, inasmuch as the Commission has assented to all of Mr. Pinchot's appointments since he went into office.

Mr. Keller, who is a son of ex-Judge Jeremiah N. Keller, of Millintown, succeeds J. S. Illick, who has been the bureau chief since 1911.

Chief Keller completed his early education at the Millintown High school, graduating at the head of the class in 1905. Later he attended the Lewistown Preparatory School and Susquehanna University.

He entered the Mont Alto State Forest Academy in 1906, graduating among the first three students in the class of 1910. Upon completion of his forestry course, Keller was appointed forester in charge of the Blackwell State Forest, in Tioga county, where he planted more than 1,000,000 trees in the six years he managed that forest.

Later he was transferred to Centre county, establishing headquarters at Boalsburg. He handled the Bear Meadows State Forest, and assumed charge of the Seven Mountain, Nittany and Penn Forests during the war.

Over the Top in Forward Movement.

In the Forward Movement drive the Reformed congregation at Rebersburg raised their quota and went eight hundred dollars over the top. And the field is without a pastor.

Held Commencement Exercises.

Wednesday evening of this week the Worth township High school, at Port Matilda, held their commencement exercises. Prof. H. C. Rothrock, for a number of years the very efficient principal of the school, brought another term of school to a successful close. The class numbered seven—four girls and three boys. The subjects were all well handled by the graduates and were of a timely character. The program follows:

- CHARGE OF THE LANCERS—MARCH
- IN MELODY LAND
- Invocation . . . REV. CHAS. E. DRIVER
- INDIANOLA
- Salutatory . . . WILDA IRENE LAIRD
- "Thrift"
- Oration . . . JAMES IRVIN GRAY
- "The Mayflower and the Buford"
- SOMBER LAS OLAS
- Oration . . . LAURA MAY ADAMS
- "The Gospel of Common Sense"
- Oration . . . DAVID GARLAND BEHRENS
- "The Hour Has Struck"

- EXUBERANCE
- Oration . . . VIOLET ODESSA GRIFFIN
- "The Nineteenth Amendment"
- Class Oration . . . OLIVER PERRY REESE
- "Only A Commencement"
- SHOUTIN' LIZA
- Valedictory . . . HELEN MINA CRAIN
- "Character the Only Real Diploma"
- (a) CHANSON POPULAIRE
- (b) ELAGIE
- Commencement Address . . . JOHN B. LAIRD, D. D., of Philadelphia
- Presentation of Diplomas
- Closing March—A YANKEE SCOUT

Schools Make Good Showing.

The students of the five Rural High Schools of the County receiving instructions in Vocational Agriculture have completed their first course in practical farm poultry. An examination was held covering the important points on incubation, care of young stock, the selection and care of the laying stock, and marketing the products.

The boys and girls from these Rural High Schools show much interest in this improved course of secondary agriculture as shown by the following grades and school averages.

School	Average
1. Port Matilda	87.03
2. Centre Hall	86.71
3. Howard	86.04
4. Hubersburg	82.50
5. Boalsburg	78.31
The standing of the ten highest students was as follows:	
1. Miss Vonada A. Johnston, Howard H. S., 98.4.	
2. Miss June Heckman, Walker Twp. H. S., 98.	
3. Ernest Frank, Centre Hall H. S., 97.3.	
4. Miss Laura Adams, Port Matilda, H. S., 96.8.	
5. Miss Helen Tressler, Centre Hall, H. S., 96.5.	
6. Miss Hilda Laird, Port Matilda H. S., 96.3.	
7. Miss Grace Fye, Centre Hall H. S., 96.1.	
8. Dean Emerick, Walker township, 95.8.	
9. Miss Margaret Dale, Boalsburg H. S., 95.6.	
10. Rudolph C. Williams, Port Matilda, 95.2.	

VACATION BANKS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Suggestions For Earning Money.

MOTHERS KEEN OVER IDEA

That school children may keep up their good habits of thrift and saving during the summer vacation, the Savings Division is now distributing attractive pasteboard banks into which the little thrifty savers may deposit their pennies, nickels and dimes. These banks are not to be opened until the opening of the schools in the fall, when the teacher will take charge of the savings and invest them in Thrift and Savings Stamps.

In addition to the banks, the Savings Division is distributing a list of suggested methods for the little vacationists to earn money when there are no school worries. A wide and choice variety has been prepared for boys and girls of different ages and inclinations. Projects for boys range from selling newspapers and delivering groceries to raising poultry and calves. Old clothes, tin foil, rubber, papers, etc., can be routed out for a rummage sale. Girls can cultivate vegetable gardens, mind babies, help in stores, sew and can.

The benefits of such vacation work will have far-reaching results. Children not only learn the value of money by actually working for it and earning it, but they acquire good business experience and form judgments. They gain ability and courage to attack larger business projects and to earn more money. The community and the country must of necessity profit by their thrift and their production which in the long run will help to lower the cost of living. Finally, by saving what they earn, and investing it in Thrift and Savings Stamps, they will be preparing for their future contingencies—which may mean college education, a start in business or a help in adversity.

These banks are extremely popular and in great demand, and the Savings Division is shipping thousands of them daily to teachers who are interesting their pupils in them. Mothers of families heartily endorse them, realizing the benefits to their little ones. They are very enthusiastic over the project and are introducing them in their children's school room where the teachers were not acquainted with the idea. These pasteboard banks will be gladly furnished to any school room or to any individual for family use, and a post card to the Savings Division, 92 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, as soon as the number is ascertained, will insure a prompt shipment.

BUY THRIFT AND SAVINGS STAMPS

W. S. S. A BADGE OF CITIZENSHIP

Jersey Judge Refuses Papers to Woman Who Refuses to Buy Government Securities.

The possession of Thrift and Savings Stamps is a part of Americanism according to Judge William Watson of the Common Pleas Court, of Passaic, N. J.

He recently refused the application for citizenship of Mimi Bevar, of Paterson, because she was shown to have refused to buy Savings Stamps or to support the American Red Cross during the war.

Not only do Savings Stamps give the owner a partnership with the government, but they entail the duties of a partner on the part of the possessor. For that reason Judge Watson considers them reliable evidence of qualification for citizenship.

THRIFT SPARKS

Money talks and the easiest thing it says is "good-bye."

Thrift, like charity and good manners, begins at home.

Benjamin Franklin said: "A rolling stone gathers no moss." A careless spender gets no W. S. S.

A fool and his money are soon parted. Are you proud of yourself?

Reducing the waist line to meet the new 1920 spring models is not nearly so important to the housewife this year as reducing her "waste" line.

Being patriotic only counts the way it is like being a good citizen when you are in jail. Real patriots are on the job 300 days in the year. Buy government securities.

Practice thrift and save regularly for thirty days, and you will never abandon the habit; in that time you will have learned how much it means to you.

Mothers owe it to their children to instill in them the habit of saving, not only money, but of food, clothes, and other articles.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

Judge Quigley is holding court at Pittsburgh this week.

We aren't telling any secrets, but a certain wedding-to-have-been isn't going to be.

Miss Ruth Smith, who taught school at Spring Mills the past term, closed her school work on Friday.

Mrs. Lydia Treaster, of near Centre Hall, is visiting her son, Homer Treaster, of Yeagertown.

John H. Runkle, east of Centre Hall, has been appointed Democratic chairman for Potter township. The selection is a good one.

"We always look forward to the old home paper," says David G. Smetzler, of Clyde, Ohio, in making a remittance to the Reporter.

Ralph Henney, who is employed by the Westinghouse Electric Company, at Pittsburgh, spent a few days the past week at his home here.

Potatoes were being bought up about here last week by local buyers who paid from \$3.25 to \$3.50 a bushel. They had difficulty in finding many large quantities.

The long brick building holding the silk mill at Spring Mills makes an imposing appearance when viewed from the public road, as the writer discovered when passing by in an auto.

The Hon. Sam. W. Small, of Georgia, who spoke at Centre Hall a few months ago, gave his lecture, "Is Civilization a Failure?" in the Methodist church at State College on Tuesday evening.

Don't forget the box social and parcel post sale in Grange hall on Saturday evening of this week. The local graduating class is giving the social, and the proceeds go toward commencement expenses.

Prof. W. W. Reitz, supervisor of agriculture in the Gregg township Vocational school at Spring Mills, will leave for Cornell next fall where he expects to do some teaching as well as taking post-graduate work.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Meyer returned from the southland last Friday, after having spent the greater part of the winter with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McCormick, at Columbia, South Carolina.

Mrs. Roger T. Bayard, nee Miss Florence Rhone, of Tyrone, assisted the officers of the Pennsylvania State Grange in conferring the sixth degree on a large class of candidates at State College last week. Mrs. Bayard was the former Flora of the State Grange.

Harry Neff, who is employed on a farm near Boalsburg, was a caller at this office on Thursday and enrolled as a Reporter subscriber. Anyone fortunate enough to have Harry's services on the farm can rest easy so far as looking after the work is concerned.

H. C. Fetterolf, from the State Board of Vocational Education, visited Centre county last Wednesday and Thursday, making the regular rounds with J. B. Payne, County Vocational Supervisor, and reports that the work is being well organized in this county.

The overall fad is spreading. Judges, lawyers, ministers, doctors and teachers joined the ranks. Last weeks the male scholars of the Lewistown High school appeared at school wearing overalls, and the male members of the faculty are falling in with the students.

It is reported that a number of cattle have died this spring, some during the past week, at Port Matilda, west of Bellefonte. The cattle seem to be troubled with a weakness of the back. They get down and are unable to regain their feet, dying in a few days.

The graduating class of the Centre Hall High school is making preparation for holding their commencement exercises on Friday evening, May 25th, in Grange hall. The class numbers six—Ernest A. Frank, J. Frederic Moore, Harvey W. Flink, William D. Reiber, Sara L. Heckman and Ruth I. Bartges.

Pennsylvania's leading public service corporations have pledged their assistance to Governor Sprull and Gifford Pinchot, Chief Forester of the Department of Forestry, in his campaign to make the State's forests fire-proof this spring. They have received hundreds of letters commending them for their efforts to stop the destructive forest fires that have laid waste more than 5,000,000 acres of timberland in this Commonwealth.

The local Odd Fellows and Rebekahs were overjoyed in the patronage accorded their entertainment at Pine Grove Mills on Saturday evening. The hall was crowded and many were turned away owing to the limited seating capacity. The door receipts were over \$80.00 and because of the kindness of the Pine Grove Mills people and low charge made for the hall, the lodge members were enabled to turn into their treasury the tidy sum of \$75.00 Very good, indeed.