

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

John C. Rossman, of Millinburg, was a visitor in town beginning of the week.

Frank B. Wythe, on Sunday, took charge of the Phillipsburg post office.

E. M. Huyett has not been in the best of health for the past week or more.

Mrs. J. H. Puff continues to improve and is gaining strength, but is yet confined to bed.

C. W. Boozer was fortunate in securing a lease on the Kerlin house recently sold to J. W. Dashem, and will move there about April 1st.

Guard your stomach. It is the foundation of health or disease. The world's most famous stomach medicine is Tanlac.—Centre Hall Pharmacy.

Capt. G. M. Boal returned to Centre Hall last week after an absence of six weeks or more, which time was spent with his daughter, Mrs. C. H. Meyer, in Reedsville.

Miss Nellie Smith was a visitor in Centre Hall on Sunday, calling on her uncle, T. A. Hosterman. Miss Smith is teaching nursing in Columbia hospital, Wilkingsburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde E. Dutrow, on Sunday, went to Bellefonte by car and there took the train for Williamsport and for a few days were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Dutrow.

Mrs. J. S. Housman offers her farm about one mile southeast of Colyer, for rent. For further information call 23R5 Centre Hall, or in person at the T. A. Hosterman home, Centre Hall, adv. pd:

Mrs. John Bare, of near Spring Mills, who had been a sufferer from pneumonia for several weeks, has recovered to such an extent that she is now able to sit up in bed each day for a short time.

Miss Mary Farmer, of Colyer, called at the Reporter office last Friday to arrange for sale bills. Miss Farmer and her mother will move to Philadelphia, following the sale on March 30, and will reside with Mrs. Farmer's son, T. F. Farmer.

John H. Bare of near Spring Mills was a caller on Tuesday in the interest of his clear up sale on March 11. Mr. Bare will move to where Robert Strouse now lives and Mr. Strouse will go onto the Bare farm. Mr. Bare will retire from farming operations.

The cold snap beginning Sunday has relieved river towns from fear of damage by ice floes. There was considerable alarm among residents of Lock Haven that the Susquehanna river might shed its ice too rapidly and repeat some of the havoc experienced three years ago.

A birthday surprise was tendered Mrs. Harry Igen, of Farmers Mills, on Monday evening, when her many friends and neighbors gathered together. The evening was spent in playing games and the usual refreshments, such as ice cream, cake and candies, were served in abundance.

The condition of T. A. Hosterman is improving gradually and now he is able to move about in his room to some extent with the use of crutches. The beginning of the week one of the abscess pockets had closed and this caused very severe pain while the pocket was being drained of pus.

Warren H. Miller, who when a resident of Reading frequently visited at the E. M. Huyett home in Centre Hall, has been admitted to the practice of law in the state of Ohio, and is now living in Youngstown. The Reading Eagle published the young man's picture and an account of his success.

A quilting party held at the home of Mrs. A. P. Krage last Thursday evening was enjoyed by the following ladies: Miss Mary Fisher, Mrs. Frank Fisher, Mrs. David Boozer, Mrs. Harvey Mark, Mrs. Howard Durst, Mrs. Frank Bible, Mrs. W. F. Bradford, Mrs. Thomas Delaney, Mrs. John Delaney, Mrs. Orvis Swartz.

Harry W. Todd, the new Burgess of Phillipsburg, has given warning that Volstead law must be enforced. Booze has been flowing rather freely in Phillipsburg but Burgess Todd says it must cease, and he told the councilmen and borough officers that their positions would not save them from prosecution if they persisted in violating the enforcement law.

Out in Nebraska where the corn is so plentiful that it is being burned for fuel, the corn growers have conceived a new idea—the storing away of the corn, not in cribs, but to eat it. Many organizations have been formed who call themselves Corn Eaters of America. They are not only eating their share of corn, but they are also calling the attention of the world to the value and economy of corn and its products as a food.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

Among the southside callers at the Reporter office was Charles A. Miller, who reports everything moving along in good form in his bailiwick.

Let me have your order for fresh fish—halibut, salmon and other kind—and oysters. Deliveries will be made Thursdays, as a rule—Ray G. Decker, Centre Hall.

If you keep your ear close to the ground you may be able to discover several real estate deals in the course of formation. These, of course, are local:

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Shoop, who conduct the restaurant in the hotel building, visited friends and relatives in Matawan, Millin county, and in Altoona and Tyrone, returning Wednesday.

Mrs. J. S. Rowe had the misfortune to fall on the ice at her home in Centre Hall, on Monday. While no bones were broken she sustained rather serious injuries and has since not been able to walk about.

W. A. Wagner, merchant of Juniata, and well known here, while driving a seven-passenger Buick 6, had the misfortune to skid the car and strike a telephone pole, badly damaging the machine which had been in use but for a year.

D. W. Bradford, the International implement dealer, is on the lookout for farmers needing tractors. Next week he will advertise prices of the tractor that will appeal to prospective buyers at a time when prices are falling.

F. F. Treaster, of Colyer, announces sale for February 25th. He will sell three cows, 50 Leghorn chickens and household goods. Mr. Treaster is a carpenter by trade and when not engaged will make his home with his son Leslie, who now owns and lives on the Colyer farm, south of Colyer.

Hiram Lee, of State College, is suffering intensely from blood poisoning. About two weeks ago a splinter of wood penetrated the palm of his hand and later blood poisoning developed. His brother, Frank D. Lee, who has been with him for several days, returned to Centre Hall and reported that the attending physician was now hopeful of the recovery of his brother.

Four men—Charles Hemmels, William Cartright, William Rupe and Walter J. Ralley—who admitted they held up Adolph Roth, manager of a theatre in Phillipsburg, on January 30th, were placed under \$1000 bail for their appearance at court at Bellefonte. The men pounced upon Roth on his way home on the night mentioned with the expectation of getting the theatre receipts, but got nothing.

The State College Chamber of Commerce has planned to wage a relentless war on rats beginning with Monday. The work is to be done by the use of barium carbonate, 1000 pounds of which have been secured. This poison when eaten by dogs and cats does little harm, but to rats it is sure death. The Boy Scouts will play an important part in the rat exterminating program.

BOALSBURG NEWS.

The fourth number of the Lecture Course this Thursday evening in Boal hall: The Metropolitan Glee Club. If you love music don't miss this entertainment.

On Tuesday evening the High school entertained the Centre Hall High school in the social room of the Knights of Malta temple.

Wednesday evening the Rebekahs held their monthly birthday reception to all members whose birthdays have occurred within the last month.

Friday evening, February 17, the Knights of Malta will celebrate their twelfth anniversary with a banquet. A program of entertainment—recitations and music—is being prepared.

Last Friday evening the Boy and Girl Scouts held a social and bazaar. A very pleasing program of entertainment was arranged.

George E. Meyer, the piano tuner, is busy tuning pianos at State College.

GEORGES VALLEY.

Miss Maggie Immel went to Pleasant Gap last Thursday to spend two weeks with friends there.

Mrs. Susan Davis returned from Lock Haven after spending a month with her sister, Mrs. B. F. Rickett.

Rev. I. C. Bailey dined at the J. W. Gobble home on Sunday.

G. V. Frederick expects to put his sawmill in operation in the near future as quite a number of the farmers have hauled logs in to have sawed.

Those who spent last Thursday with Mrs. Valentine were: Mrs. J. C. McClenahan and two children, Mrs. J. G. Boal and Miss Kate Frederick, of Potters Mills, and Mrs. F. M. Ackerman.

AUCTIONEER.—R. J. Witmer, graduate of the Jones National School of Auctioneering, makes all kinds of sales, specializing in farm sales. Address State College, R. F. D. Commercial phone 68L. 5107

Mersinger Farm Sold.

What is known as the Sweetwood farm, along Sinking creek, below Centre Hill, owned by P. Edward Mersinger, was recently sold by him to John G. Dauberman for a consideration approximately \$3000. Mr. Dauberman will remove all buildings, seed the greater part of the land to grasses and clover, and use it for pasture. Sinking creek passes through the tract and affords an abundance of water. There are about 60 acres in the tract and it lies nearby the Dauberman homestead.

Had Goller Removed

W. D. Barges, farmer east of Centre Hall, Monday of last week, accompanied by Mrs. Barges, went to Danville hospital, and on Wednesday had a goller removed. His condition since has been very favorable. Mr. Barges returned home Saturday.

Marriage Licenses

Russel D. WeberCentre Hall
Marie E. Britton.....Brisbin
Bruce HullBellefonte
Alma E. HueyBellefonte

Blizzard in North Dakota.

A letter from William Zerby, of Lisbon, North Dakota, tells briefly of a blizzard that prevailed there for forty-eight hours, beginning on the last day of January. "There were snow banks at our west door eight to ten feet deep. Lisbon was almost blockaded, but it was dug out with shovels; trains became snowbound; many cattle almost perished. I pulled a Dutch lady out of a snowbank. She said, 'pull, pull, pull! If you pull my head off I'll get a new one.' I could hardly pull for laughing," said Mr. Zerby.

CUSTOMERS NOW BUYING STOCK IN UTILITIES

Writer Sees Movement Only Proper Way to Achieve Public Ownership

The only sort of public ownership of public utilities which can ever be successful is the ownership by the public of the securities of the companies which serve the public. In this way and only in this way can the people achieve public ownership without loss or impairment of service, and without suffering the ill-effects which inevitably follow the mixing of politics with utility affairs.

In the period following the signing of the armistice the idea of customer ownership of utility securities has been widely adopted by various utility companies and the results have been more than satisfactory from both the public and the company standpoints. The Liberty Loan campaigns taught the general public to invest their savings directly and the utility companies offered a field for investment unexcelled for safety and stability, although some of the returns have not been as large as those of securities of other classifications. The result has been that there has been a steady increase in the public's holdings of utility paper, until today more utility securities are held by the general public than ever before in the history of the utility business.

On the face of it, it would seem that this has changed the ownership of the utility companies, but this is an erroneous impression, as will be shown. It is frequently charged that the utility properties are owned by that mysterious something known as "Wall Street," but followed through to the end it is found that ever since there have been utility companies, large investors in them have been found among the dealers and the insurance companies. The depositors in the banks, and the holders of the real securities of the utility companies. Thus the general public, indirectly, has had a proprietary interest in the public service corporation, an interest which the public did not suspect.

Now, however, conditions are changing, largely as the result of the efforts of the utility companies themselves to deal with their customers as investors in addition to placing their securities with the banks, insurance companies, and other agencies as investors of funds of depositors or policy holders. This effort of the utilities is slowly but surely bringing about a condition of real public ownership, that is, ownership of the corporation which provides the service by the people which the corporation serves.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES CRUDE IN EARLY DAYS

A visitor to a modern telephone operating room cannot fail to be impressed with the speed and efficiency with which the switchboard operators handle the subscribers' calls. Their swift and accurate movements in response to the flashing lights on the switchboard, the absence of any confusion even in rush hours when traffic is at its height, are indicative of the advances in methods and apparatus that have been going on for nearly half a century of telephone history.

Yet it was not always thus. The first telephone exchanges were pretty crude affairs in the light of modern telephone development.

At one of the early periods of switchboard development there was great confusion in the operating rooms because the operators had to shout to each other the connections wanted by the calling subscribers. There were many schemes devised to do away with the shouting. In one of these were little tubes provided, each tube ending before a particular operator, and instead of calling out, the operator receiving the call would write the desired number in lead pencil on the marble, put it into the tube and allow it to roll down to the operator desired. All these methods were changed when the multiple switchboard was introduced, in which all of the lines are carried through the entire switchboard appearing on each section so that each operator has a certain number of subscribers' lines in front of her which she answers and also has within reach all the other lines connected with the switchboard.

We Must Sell This Merchandise!

Our Entire Stock of Winter Merchandise which is left over will be sold

AT 50 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR

We Are Turning Our Stock Into Cash!

NOT A SINGLE GARMENT will be Carried Over

We are moving them out rapidly during this BIG HALF-PRICE SALE. It is important that we unload our great stock of Winter Merchandise at sacrifice prices.

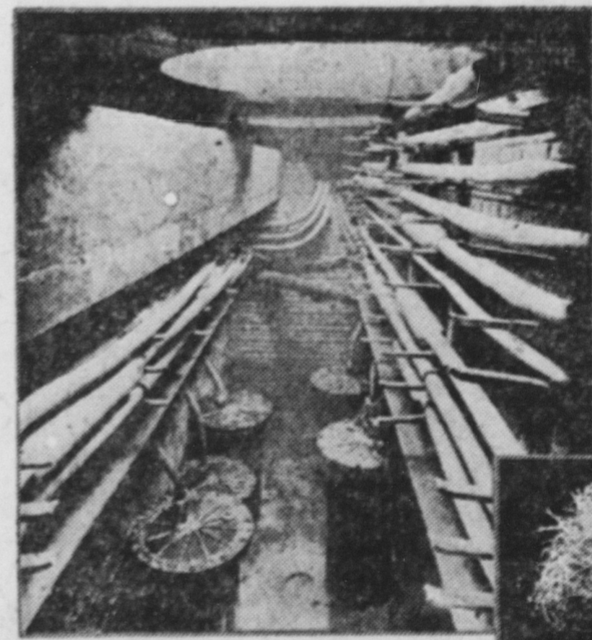
We Have Two Good Reasons :

First, we need the money to meet our obligations. Second, we need the room for our large Spring Stock, as we carry nothing over from season to season. We are compelled to unload every dollar's worth of fall and winter merchandise. Our entire stock is at your disposal at sacrifice prices. Our misfortune, however, is your good. IT'S MONEY IN YOUR POCKET. SPEND TO SAVE.

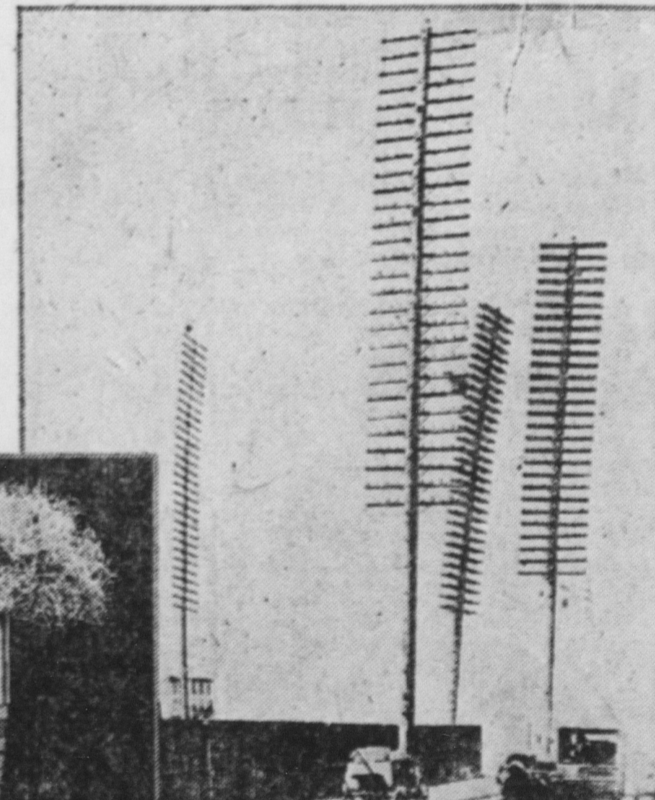
D. J. Nieman, Millheim

— ALWAYS RELIABLE —

Cables Carry 47,000 Telephone Wires Under Single Corner of New York's Busiest Street



Manhole showing loading Poles, Cable Racks, and at the back, Cables entering Ducts.



Pole line built in New York City in 1887. The height of the pole was 90 feet, each pole carrying 30 cross arms. Destroyed by Blizzard the following year.

Cable 2 1/4 inches in diameter carrying 2,424 wires fanned out to show circuits.

There is perhaps no single street in the country so well known as Broadway, New York, and there is no point on Broadway where the underground telephone traffic is heavier than it is at the crossing of Franklin Street. More than 35 lead-covered cables traverse the street, each cable containing on an average nearly 700 telephone circuits making a total of over 47,000 wires under this single thoroughfare. This vast number of wires, if placed upon a single overhead line, would require poles two miles high. If the poles were only as high as the Woolworth tower, Broadway would be roofed in by twelve such gigantic lines and a veritable canopy of copper.

In the Bell Telephone System over 15,000,000 miles of the 26,000,000 miles of wire is placed in underground conduit, the cost of this invisible portion of the telephone plant being more than \$300,000,000. While the bulk of this subterranean construction is in metropolitan districts, some of it is to be found in toll circuits, such as the cable between Boston and

Washington, which is 453 miles long and runs entirely underground, and underground construction is also used in smaller places where this can be done economically.

The earliest telephone cables were laid in the streets of Boston and although carrying only about twenty circuits, proved to be extremely inefficient. Not only was the quality of conversation very poor, but because of the electro-static relations within the cable, conversation showed a great tendency to leak into neighboring circuits and it made little difference whether the receiver was attached to the same pair of wires as the transmitter or to any other pair.

In fact, it appeared at that time that a cable would be quite impracticable if more than a quarter of a mile long. In those days, however, the telephone, like the other branches of the electrical industry, was in its infancy and revolutionary advances have occurred since. By 1889, a few cables containing fifty circuits were successfully installed and operated.

These cables were two inches in diameter. The technique of making telephone cables has advanced steadily ever since, and many of the cables that are placed today, although only two and five-eighths inches in diameter, contain 2,400 wires. The great saving which results from the use of such cables may be illustrated by the fact that a single 2,400-wire cable carries as many circuits as could be placed upon eight pole lines of the type and size shown in the accompanying cut. This enormous increase in the carrying capacity of a single cable has been accompanied by a very great reduction in the amount of copper required for each circuit, with the result that the installations which have thus far been made have enabled the Bell System to save upwards of \$70,000,000 for the telephone-using public in first costs. Were the greater cost of upkeep of overhead construction to be taken into account the showing of savings would be much greater.

Another example of the care which must be exercised by public servants, even in the unremunerative post of school director, has been furnished in the case of the board of education of Spring township, Snyder county, which has been surcharged \$1065 for violations of the law. The court absolved the men from criminal intent but directed the surcharge. It represented money paid some of the directors for work done on the school properties and for purchases made in excess of \$300 without competitive bids.

Pennsylvania's state treasury is short something like \$18,000,000 according to a statement made by State Treasurer Charles A. Snyder, and now the blame is being shifted from one office to the other. The whole Republican outfit in Harrisburg ought to be ousted, and must be if the people of this state are to come into their own.

Thomas A. Edison celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday on Saturday, and he is confident he will be able to celebrate fifteen more birthdays. Just now he is working on an amplifier for use on a radiophone. He predicts that finally we will be able to hear an ant talk.

"Uncle Joe" Cannon, of Illinois, after serving twenty-three terms as a member of the House, announced he was not a candidate for re-election. He was speaker of the House during eight years. Next May he will reach his eighty-sixth birthday.

SALE REGISTER

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24th, at 1:30 o'clock, at Potters Mills, Frank A. Carson, admr., will sell household goods of the late William O. Loughner.

RUSSIAN WIRES USELESS

The demolition of Petrograd, says a news despatch, has been intensified by the destruction of the central telephone service by fire and the indefinite suspension of the telephone service. The Government has strong temporary wires between the various departments, but the indication is that it will not be possible to restore the private telephones for a long time because of lack of material and organization.