



STATE GRANGE IN SESSION.

State Master McSparran Makes Annual Report—Strongly Opposes Centralization.

The Pennsylvania State Grange opened its fiftieth annual session in Williamsport on Tuesday, with Hon. John A. McSparran in the chair. Among other things Mr. McSparran said:

Organization has gone forward in normal fashion and Pennsylvania has to her credit 26 new Granges and 6 reorganizations. We are credited with being the leaders in organization this year again but I feel that we are second to Michigan which has achieved 11 new and 26 re-organizations.

The National Grange meeting at Wichita, Kansas, while not largely attended because of the fact that Grange population in the Middle West is not as big as in some parts of the country, yet the meeting was full of interest. As usual matters of policy were taken up along which were the following:

- Opposed to ship subsidy.
- Favored Truth in Fabrics.
- Opposed Filled Milk.
- Favored Completion of Muscles Shoals.
- Favored Enforcement of 18th Amendment.

Urged our Government to take up active steps in the Far East and relieve Armenia.

Demanded lower freight and passenger rates.

The Farm Bureau Federation was opposed because it was believed not to be a real farm organization.

For many years the policy of centralization has been growing. Various departments of the State Government, under the guise of efficiency, have been reaching out for larger control and greater power.

In the Highway Department, for instance, is now centered the control of all public roads. No longer can the county commissioners, the elected servants of the people, determine as to what kind of roads the county shall construct with the money collected from its taxpayers.

Instead of the township supervisors, the elected representatives of the district, having the management and control of the township's roads, today Harrisburg must be consulted as to minute details, which oftentimes calls for expensive inspection. And if township supervisors shall have conducted themselves well, and shall have obeyed the Department rules and regulations, they receive for their townships a reward from the Department at Harrisburg.

The Department of Health shows the same tendency.

Not as a matter of public necessity or of public health, but as a matter of political domination, has there been taken away from the people at home the control of sanitation and kindred subjects. In the Department of Public Instruction there has been the same development. Once upon a time the school directors could decide as to the local needs of education, as to the costs of schools and as to building and other requirements. Today the authority of the school directors is limited to almost the sole privilege of levying and expending taxes. No longer do our school directors direct, but they must petition Harrisburg for permission to do almost anything from the construction of a million dollar high school building down to the erection of even an outbuilding for a little one-room schoolhouse.

The new Department of Public Welfare is given such wide authority that we expect to see the local officers of charitable institutions appointed and removed by Harrisburg.

For years, in all departments, this tendency has grown by leaps and bounds but it was in the last session that there was the culmination of these efforts to centralize our government. In the Marshall Bill, the assessors and collectors of taxes were to be officers of the county and not of the local municipality. In the McCurdy Bill, the township supervisors were to be abolished. In the Edmunds Bill, the powers of school directors were further diminished. In the draft of the proposed Constitution as prepared by the Constitutional Revision Commission, justices of the peace were to be abolished, and the appointive powers were given to state officers which would have permitted the appointment of even a majority of our county and of all our borough and township officials.

The time has come for this movement to stop. We challenge anyone to show that this centralization has brought to these lines of public endeavor any added efficiency. Centralization does not bring efficiency but it does increase expenditures; it does not expedite public business, but it does make new jobs; it does not promote the public weal, but it does permit political control. But its most pernicious effect is its sapping of the moral of the citizen. It was only after a mighty struggle and great sacrifices that our fathers established this government.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

A regular session of court is on this week.

Progress Grange will meet on Saturday evening at 7:30. Election of officers will be held.

W. Byron Garis was in Philipsburg the greater part of last week where he has taken contracts to erect foundation walls for several buildings. The work is to be done at once.

Mrs. Kate Saunders is seriously ill with pneumonia at the home of Sylvester Ray, at Bellefonte, to which place she went about October 1st to take up her duties as housekeeper.

William Bradford, of Phoenixville, was one of the Bradford party who put in four days of hunting in the Seven Mountains and quit, then because they had killed the limit allowed a camp.

The First National Bank of Bellefonte anticipates opening business in its remodeled banking house. The interior of the bank has been entirely rebuilt and the new equipment is modern in every particular.

While blasting a large rock in the excavation for C. G. Hassinger's cellar, in Millheim, a stone was thrown over on W. P. Catherman's house roof and down through the floor and ceiling, landing alongside the bath tub.

Messrs. Asher C. and Bruce Stahl, of Altoona, enjoyed the deer hunt as members of the Slack party, from Centre Hall, who killed the limit the first three days of the season at their hunting grounds in Stone Creek.

John Auman, formerly miller at the Centre Hall roller mills, came to Centre Hall to superintend the loading of his household goods and ship them by rail to Philadelphia where he has been employed in a large mill since September.

Mrs. William F. Fetterolf and daughter-in-law, Mrs. George Fetterolf, and the latter's two little children, on Friday, went to Tyrone where they visited Mrs. Leroy Puff, the former Mrs. Fetterolf's daughter, for the first time since she is living there.

Pennsylvania is credited with heading the list in the production of buckwheat, but Centre county is not listed as a producer. The Keystone state contribution toward furnishing buckwheat cakes for the world is 4,516,000 bushels of the three-corned lerry.

Garman Matter, a youth living with Farmer John H. Detwiler, east of Centre Hall, shot two red foxes in the woods nearby the Detwiler home last week. They were fine specimens and their pelts will make a fine adornment for some young lady's neck next summer.

Mrs. P. McManis, of Harrisburg, was the guest of her sister, Mrs. William Bower for a few days last week at her home near Potters Mills. The trip is made at this time because this is the season for making sausage, the like of which are only known to Centre county farmers.

The Reporter is indebted to Clyde Bradford for a liberal supply of venison, the same being a portion of the limit of bucks killed the first four days of the hunting season by the Bradford party. Their camp, which is a permanent one, is located at Pole Bridge, above Colyer.

Among the barn fires in Chester county was one next to the farm on which George P. Potter, formerly of this place, lives. It was owned by Mrs. Michael Kosba, about a mile out of Phoenixville. Mr. Potter was one of two men who first reached the place to give assistance. The loss was \$12,000, no insurance. Fourteen cows, four horses and a bull was the stock burned.

Mrs. Jerome H. Auman, of Birdsboro, will make public sale of her farm, stock and implements next Tuesday, and shortly thereafter she and her daughter, Miss Mildred, will make their home with one of Mrs. Auman's older daughters in Phoenixville. It will be recalled that Mr. Auman was killed some time ago by being struck by a train while crossing a railroad track.

P. A. Auman, of Centre Hall, who went to Birdsboro when the accident happened, has been there since and is helping to prepare for the sale mentioned above.

The Reporter was favored with a call last week from Mrs. Harry I. Hettlinger, of Spring Mills, and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Herman Long, of Liverpool. The former's husband will accompany Mr. and Mrs. Long to Liverpool and from there go to visit his brother, John Hettlinger, who is farming near Philadelphia, and, of course, will not fail to visit the big city of Brothely Love.

The Longs at Liverpool are running a garage and restaurant, and will be able to serve any of the Reporter's readers who pass that way by auto with refreshments and at the same time put the machines in order to complete the trip.

BLACK AND RED TAILED BUCKS.

Red Tails Are the Native Deer; the Black Tails Are West Virginia Breeds—Hunters Appear to Wish the Spike Bucks Protected.

Deer hunters are having their in-lining just now and they are discussing all phases of hunting life and the habits and general make-up of the little deer themselves. The writer recently listened to an interesting discussion of this character a few days ago, and among other things brought out was that there are in the Seven Mountains two kinds of deer tails, when you speak of them as to color. One tail is red, the other much darker and is usually termed as black, although it is not altogether so.

Years ago, before the young hunters of today were born, all the deer in the Seven Mountains were red tailed. During the past twenty-five years the greater part of the deer killed were black tailed. The black-tailed deer are supposed to have migrated here from the West Virginia mountains, the migration being ascribed to the cutting away of vast forests in that state. The West Virginia deer are not nearly as large nor as safely as the old native red-tailed deer. To the crossing of these two species of deer is credited the deterioration of the native deer.

But here is a query among hunters in the Seven Mountains who will complete their fifteen-day hunting season on Friday: Where did the red-tailed deer this season come from? An investigation develops that many more red-tailed than black-tailed deer were killed this season, yet few had been killed in the past twenty-five years.

Coming to the amending of the deer hunting laws, there seems to be a general expression on the part of real hunters, hunters with real sporting blood coursing through their veins, that the spike buck should be protected. The sportsman hunts not for the meat, but how proud he is of an eight-point rack! This is the secret of the agitation to save the spike buck. It is argued that it would be but for a year that the hunters would suffer, after that period the pronged buck would come in regularly just as the spike buck comes in now. Again, it is argued that it would be easier to live up to the law if only bucks with points could be legally killed, since it is easier to determine whether a buck has one or more points than to calculate whether his horns are four inches above the hair.

One of the most unusual specimens of deer was brought into Lewisport last week. This was a doe with horns. One horn was about five inches long and the other four. The animal was shot by Herbert Leeper of the Amic Camp, hunting on Spruce Mountain. The horns, very rare on any female deer, caused the doe to be mistaken for a buck by the hunter. The deer is on display in Gurvey's store window on North Brown street, Lewisport, and was viewed with much interest by many.

Horned Doe Shot.

Farm Loan Bank Leaders Meet.

The conference of the presidents and secretary-treasurers of Federal Farm Loan associations in this territory, called by the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore, under which they operate, convened in Williamsport last week, and was attended by James I. Thompson, president, and N. E. Robb, secretary, of the Centre county organization. Twenty-four loans have been made in Centre county, aggregating \$82,200. Bradford county made the largest loans—\$52,100.

Lewistown Looks Forward to Boom.

By acquiring title to large additional tracts of land on the opposite side of the Juniata river from Lewistown the American Refractories Company of Pittsburgh has given impetus to reports that it is about to erect a plant for the manufacture of brick there, but the intentions of the company continue to be veiled in mystery.

The Potato Crop.

Pennsylvania's potato crop for 1922 amounts to almost twenty-five million bushels according to reports presented to Secretary of Agriculture Fred Rasmussen by the Bureau of Statistics of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Centre county's yield for 1922 was 287,048 bushels, from 2,708 acres, a yield per acre of 106 bushels.

Do It Early.

Do it early, Christmas is coming. If it is advertising, do it early. If it is buying Christmas presents, do it early. If it is mailing a Christmas package, do it early.

A 200-pound bear was killed in the mountain near Bellefonte by Clay Bliglow.

Bob Cat With Eyes Aslant.

The Slack hunting party report a bob cat having visited their camp in the Seven Mountains during the first few days of the hunting season. It was shy, however, and kept within safe distance when there was a stir about the place. Finally it was decided since a cat was seen, a cat must at least be shot at. Unknown to several visiting hunters a nail keg was secured and over one of the open ends a paper was fastened on which was worked the outlines of a cat's face, and slanting eyes were cut through the paper. The framed-up cat was placed by a clump of bushes and a small lantern set back of it. The "cat" was attractive in appearance and looked as though it wanted its "fights" to be shot out. It wasn't long until the beast was spied, and the right party grabbed up a shot gun, aimed, and fired! The cat was upset and the investigation afterwards was of a character to make the hunter who fired the shot the butt of a huge joke.

State Clinic in Bellefonte.

Through the efforts of the tuberculosis committee of the Women's Club a State clinic is now open in Bellefonte every Tuesday afternoon with Dr. David Dale in charge, and Miss Campbell as dispensary nurse. The latter will be on hand Monday and Tuesday of each week. The clinic will be held in the W. C. T. U. rooms used by the Red Cross nursing service, the hours being from 2 to 4 P. M. on the day given above.

War Pensions Increased.

The Senate bill providing increases in pensions for soldiers of the Civil and Mexican wars and their dependents, to widows of the war of 1812, and to certain Indian war veterans and widows, has been passed by the House.

This bill provides that all Civil war soldiers now receiving \$60 and less shall receive \$72.00. All widows of Civil war veterans will receive \$50.00 a month.

State Masonic Officers.

The annual election of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge of Masons was held in Philadelphia and the following officers chosen:

R. W. Grand Master, Abraham M. Bantle; R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Samuel M. Goodyear; R. W. Senior Grand Warden, William H. Hamilton; R. W. Junior Grand Warden, J. William Smith; R. W. Grand Treasurer, Charles E. Roberts; and R. W. Grand Secretary, John A. Perry.

Committee on Masonic Homes: G. D. Orady, R. W. Past Grand Master; Edward W. Patton, William M. Donaldson, Andrew H. Hershey, Henry C. Schock, David J. Davis and August Daub.

Re-investing W. S. S. Funds.

The local postoffice force is busy handling the 1918 War Savings Stamps which come due the first of January. These stamps can either be converted into cash, \$5.00 for each stamp, or be converted into Treasury Saving Certificates, bearing interest at the rate of four per cent compounded, which is about the same rate of interest paid on the 1918 stamps. From what can be learned about fifty per cent of the holders of the 1918 War Savings Stamps are reinvesting in Government securities and the other half of the holders are collecting the cash, which will be paid direct from the U. S. treasury by check.

Why Buy Christmas Seals?

The funds gathered from the sale of Christmas seals is expended in fighting tuberculosis, a preventable disease. In 1921 there were 8,129 deaths from this disease, yet if the tuberculosis death rate of 1906 had prevailed last year there would have been a death total from tuberculosis of 12,385 in Pennsylvania.

Thus last year there was a saving in Pennsylvania of 5,256 lives. This life saving has resulted from: widespread educational efforts; tuberculosis clinics and hospitals; nursing advice and service; health teaching in schools; nutrition work for children; better local health organization. Despite all these measures you are in constant danger from the 8,000 deaths annually and 75,000 active cases of tuberculosis in Pennsylvania.

Christmas seals are an important factor in lessening the menace to your life and through these seals your precious and valuable life can be saved.

Unbelieving Officials.

Secretary Denby is clamoring for a "navy next to none," and Secretary Weeks cries for a bigger army. Have they no confidence in the "new sense of security in the righteous pursuits of peace" which President Harding declared was one of the fruits of the disarmament conference?

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Mrs. Lizzie Hogan, of Unionville, visited Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Dinges, in Centre Hall, returning home on Friday.

On Friday morning James H. Smetzler went to Altoona for a few days' visit.

On Friday Mrs. D. J. Meyer went to Hebersburg to be with friends for a few days.

Mrs. Helen Platt and little daughter, of State College, visited the parents of the former, Mr. and Mrs. John Breen, in Centre Hall, the latter part of last week.

The Philipsburg Journal reports that it appears that less buck deer were killed in that section during the opening of this season than last year during the same time.

Miss Hazel Ripka is expected home from Virginia College, Roanoke, Va., the latter part of this week and will remain until after the Christmas and New Year's period.

George W. Rowe was in town Thursday and Friday, devoting the time in assisting in the year's supply of pork for his brother, J. Samuel Rowe, and farmer Perry H. Luse.

The winter season of the meeting of farmers at Pennsylvania State College will open next Monday and continue for four days. These meetings have not been held since 1919.

Dry agents have been working in Clearfield county and in the Philipsburg district. A number of men have been placed under arrest, and some of them landed in the Clearfield county pen.

While Russel Reish, one of the Porter township school teachers, spent a few days in the mountains hunting deer, his place in the school room was acceptably filled by Rev. J. M. Kirkpatrick.

Farmer Albert Henry, who lives along Brush Mountain below the Hoy school house, had the misfortune to lose the best horse in the only team kept by him. The animal died from colic and was worth \$150. The loss is keenly felt by Mr. Henry.

The latter part of last week Mrs. Philip S. Brady left Centre Hall to join her husband in Johnstown where he is employed. She was accompanied by her little son, her two daughters having been left here with their grandmother, Mrs. (Dr.) G. I. Yearick.

The Garis crew of stone masons, assisted by John F. Kramer, are building the foundation walls for a residence being erected by Charles Hassinger, in Millheim, the location being north of the public school building. Mr. Hassinger is manager of the Millheim knitting mill.

Pennsylvania State College entered two steers in the International Live-Stock Exposition held in Chicago from the 2nd to the 9th of this month. There were 666 head of Herefords in the show. A small herd of Herefords are kept at Penn State for the instruction of students in beef cattle raising.

Another important real estate deal was consummated in Millheim when William N. Duck sold his Main street block to T. B. Ulrich, the barber. The building has two dwelling apartments, a shoemaker shop and the room until recently occupied by Bowersox's drug store. The price is said to have been between six and seven thousand dollars.

Frank D. Lee had his first experience on really slippery roads since he began driving a car, three or four years ago. During the period of icy roads, last week, he came onto the brick road from the Zion road at Nell's store, and wishing to put on chains drew the brake to stop his coupe. The car skidded and turned into a fence, putting it out of commission.

Mrs. Clyde Bradford, of Centre Hall, and daughter, Miss Catharine Bradford, nurse in charge of the Glenn Sanitarium, State College, are off on a trip to Philadelphia, where they will visit Mr. and Mrs. John Auman, former residents of Centre Hall, and Mrs. Bradford's cousin, A. C. Smith. On their return they will come home by the way of Williamsport, where a short time will be spent with Mrs. Ira From, a sister of Mrs. Bradford.

Guy Harshbarger, of Altoona, was a guest of James H. Smetzler, in Centre Hall, for several days last week. He is a member of the Bradford hunting club, but owing to an injury received while at work for the Pennsylvania Railroad company he was unable to accompany them this year. He was given a good share of the six deer killed by his hunting companions, which will give out an aroma that will be scented by many Altoona people who happen to pass his residence when the venison is being prepared.