



300,000 ACRES FARM LAND IN THIS STATE IDLE.

Survey by Employment Bureau and Farm Agents Shows Thousands of Vacant Farms.

More than 300,000 acres of farm land remain idle in Pennsylvania this summer, largely as a result of the shortage of farm hands, a report of the bureau of employment to Commissioner Royal Meeker of the state department of labor and industry showed.

The report was based on a survey of the entire state, completed on June 1 by the state employment agents with the assistance of county farm agents. The total acreage lying idle is estimated at close to ten per cent of the total agricultural acreage of Pennsylvania.

Shortages of labor in other lines continue, according to the reports of the various employment offices. The common labor shortage is general throughout the state while various industries are affected. Shortages of domestics exist in most of the districts.

Every district, however, however, notes the shortage of farm hands and points to the serious condition resulting from the inability of the farmers to get help.

The Scranton district, covering seven counties, Tioga, Bradford, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Sullivan, Susquehanna and Pike counties, reported the largest number of idle farms, 2,250. The acreage of these farms is placed at 50,000.

The Harrisburg district, including Adams, Clinton, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union and York counties, reported 353 farms idle with a total of 25,400 acres.

"Kiddies Day" at Hecla Park.

The thousand prayers made by that many kiddies for sunshine on last Thursday was answered by giving them a perfect day for their second outing on Hecla Park at the hands of the Elks Club, Bellefonte.

The youngsters began gathering to the front of the Elks' home as early as six o'clock in the morning for an 8:30 o'clock start, and before all had made their appearance the one thousand caps had disappeared from the custodian's chest, indicating that not less than twelve hundred red-blooded youngsters were to be guests of the Elks for the day.

At the park every child appeared to enjoy himself or herself to its full. The five tickets given each little guest were exchanged for sweets or drinks long before the time for return home, and it was then that G. W. Reese, who held the key, was in high favor.

At noon the children were lined up, and in a remarkably short time each one had a plate laden with food sufficient to sustain anyone for a day.

During the afternoon the Elks flag day exercises were held. The speakers were Rev. Maynard and John G. Love. The children gave respectful attention. This over, the little ones and their elder brothers were lined up for a group picture.

Millheim High School Graduates.

The following twelve graduates of the Millheim High school (four-year course), were awarded diplomas by L. W. Stover, president of the board of directors, in a few well chosen remarks:

- Margaret Evelyn Cunningham, Irene Elizabeth Musser, Edna Irene Hosterman, Jean Dolores Hosterman, Maxian Anna Meyer, George Franklin Stover, Lester Rupp Beaver, Franklin Hosterman Haines, William Jeremiah Winklebleich, Harry Rossmann Durd, Wendell Gephart Goodhart, Robert Lynn Wolfe.

Dr. Becht's Appointment Confirmed.

The appointment of Dr. J. George Becht as state superintendent of public instruction, to succeed Dr. Thomas E. Finsgan, was confirmed by the senate. The vote on confirmation was 45 to 2. Senators T. L. Eyre, Chester, and William J. McNichol, Philadelphia, voting no.

COLLEGE COMMENCEMENTS.

Gettysburg, Franklin and Marshall, and Susquehanna Graduate Large Classes.

Seventy-seven graduates received their diplomas at the ninety-first commencement of the Gettysburg College, the class being one of the largest in the history of the institution. The oration to the graduates was made by William L. McPherson, of New York; the salutatory was given by Charles C. Hughes, of West Chester, and the valedictory by Calvin L. Zerbe, of Pine Grove.

The announcement was made that Dr. W. A. Hanson, of Harrisburg, had been selected as president of the college to succeed Dr. W. A. Granville, whose resignation became effective several months ago.

The Rev. Dr. Hanson is pastor of a Harrisburg Lutheran church and president of the Eastern Pennsylvania synod.

Degrees at Susquehanna.

Susquehanna University's commencement closed when Dr. Charles P. Aikens conferred these degrees: Master of Arts, George B. Harman, Swissvale; Vance McK. Shober, Dubois; Charlotte M. Fisher, Selinsgrove; Master of Science, Arch A. Aucker, Stryker, O.; Charles M. Weigle, Mercersburg; Homer F. Fetterolf, Selinsgrove; Doctor of Pedagogy, honorary, Edward Weidenhamer, Milton; Doctor of Literature, honorary, Letta Simmons, Carthage, Ill.; Doctor of Divinity, honorary, Rev. G. Arthur Fry, Pittsburgh; Rev. Charles Lambert, Elysburg; Rev. W. L. Rutherford, Chicago; Rev. C. A. Sundberg, Greenville; Doctor of Human Laws, W. C. Pearce, New York City.

The department graduates were: Theological Seminary—Russell F. Auman, Rebersburg; Dallas C. Baer, of Sand Patch; Joshua C. Brenninger, Oakland, Md.; Glenn W. Fouk, Sunbury; William A. Janson, Enhaut; Vance McK. Shober, Dubois; College of Liberal Arts: Bachelor of Arts—Thomas Atkinson, Johnstown; Lillian R. Auman, East Sunbury; Mary T. Beck, Sunbury; Reida E. Bingham, Beavertown; John W. Bittinger, Shammokin Dam; John I. Cole, State College; Clarence E. Drumm, Wilkes-Barre; Lewis Foltz, Sunbury; George H. Goetz, Harrisburg; Edna P. Goff, St. Petersburg; Edgar Hanks, Friedens; Miles C. Hummer, Harrisburg; Russel Knoebel, Elysburg; Ray V. Laudenslager, Selinsgrove; Joseph E. Law, Jersey Shore; Dorothy E. Margerum, Trenton, N. J.; William E. Mitchell, Lewisburg; Lynn O. Ramer, Milroy; Alice P. Rearick, Elk Lick; Jesse F. Reese, Harrisburg; Stella G. Riser, Manheim; Harry J. Rothermel, Millway; Samuel D. Slinger, Painterville; Erna C. Stahl, Lewisburg; Charles H. Stong, Altoona; Violet M. Surface, Selinsgrove; Archie McK. Swanger, Mifflinburg; Harry E. Sweeney, Ashley.

Bachelor of Science—J. Stephen Bobb, Herndon; Winston Emerick, Johnstown; Russell M. Fetterolf, Mt. Union; Marvin W. Groce, Selinsgrove; Beatrice Rettinger, Sunbury; Bryan C. Rothfuss, Montoursville; Theodore H. Smith, Shohola; Fern W. Snyder, Middleburg; Thomas H. Stetler, Middleburg; Thomas J. Weible, Johnstown.

Bachelor of Music—Ruth M. Hermann, Selinsgrove.

Sixty-five at Lancaster.

Sixty-five seniors were awarded diplomas at the commencement exercises of Franklin and Marshall College. Dr. James H. Dunham, of Temple University, Philadelphia, the commencement speaker, advised the graduates to discard all finality and always to have open minds. The degrees of Doctor of Laws and Doctor of Divinity were conferred on eight men.

W. F. Dejer, of Leacock, delivered the salutatory; E. J. Kemp had the Marshall oration; F. Emerson Andrews, of Lancaster, was the class poet, and David Davidson, of East Stroudsburg, delivered the valedictory. Degrees were conferred by President Apple and many prizes were awarded.

Fractured Knee Cap.

While at play, last Friday afternoon, Vivian Packer, aged eight years, daughter of Prof. and Mrs. L. O. Packer, fell in such a way as to fracture the knee cap of the left leg.

C. C. Wolf, of Aaronsburg, was obliged to return to the Geisinger hospital for a second treatment of one of his eyes. It is feared the removal of the eye ball will be necessary.

COMMENCEMENT EVENTS

At the Gregg Township Vocational School a Success in Every Detail.

Thursday and Friday evenings, June 14 and 15, marked the close of another successful school year in the history of Gregg Township Vocational School. On Thursday evening the class night program was given to a crowded house and the applause that greeted each number bespoke the merits of the event. The program was divided into three parts, as follows: The first part had for a setting the "Beauty Shop" in New York City, conducted by Miss Lodie Vonada, manicurist; Miss Jennie Albright, hair-dresser, and Miss Sarah Rearick, designer of ladies' hats. This act brought out what is usually given in a class prophecy,—the life activity of the three members mentioned twenty years hence, and gave a discussion on the present occupation of those members who began their school work with the graduating class, but who for one cause or another discontinued school before completing the four-year course. This act also introduced at its close a chorus of twelve girls who appeared at different intervals, dressed in various costumes appropriate to the part, taken by the different characters of the succeeding acts. The chorus feature was pleasing and added interest and color to the entire program.

Part two consisted of the appearance of the following members in the role in which prophetic imagination would have each play in 1943: Miss Renna Heckman appeared as a professional baseball pitcher in a major league and demonstrated several of her throws and balls, among which were the snail ball, the modified spitball, and the fear ball. Jennie Auman appeared as a successful child welfare and settlement worker and illustrated the successful work that she was carrying on in improvement of the health of infants in New York City. Harry Detwiler as a germ specialist gave a very humorous poem—full of information and warning.

Harry Bartsches gave an interesting burlesque on the description of the points a good cow must possess in order to be accounted good. Part three, in which was given the class poem by Sarah Goodheart, and the presentation by Sarah Rearick and Jennie Albright, was brought to a close by the school song in which the entire school united.

Commencement Exercises.

The Commencement exercises on Friday evening, at which time the class, whose names appear later, received their diplomas, was given in the M. E. church. The crowded house with many who were unable to find standing room, bespeaks the need of an auditorium for Spring Mills where the people of the community may be comfortably accommodated.

The eight seniors who rendered the different numbers on the commencement program, gave their assigned numbers in a highly commendable manner.

Dean R. L. Watts, of State College, made a very pleasing presentation address in which he commended the community for its interest in school affairs, and left with the members of the graduating class an idea of the accomplishments which are in store for each one who is willing to work.

The Commencement program was rendered as follows: Overture, "Dance of the Rose Malodens"—Orchestra. Invocation—Rev. C. F. Catherman. "Rose of the Rio Grande"—Orchestra. Salutatory—Dorothy Campbell.

"The American Girl and Her Community"—Elizabeth Royer. "Path of Glory"—Orchestra. "Accomplishments of the Present Administration"—(a) Evident—Maurice Zettle (b) Lacking—Matthew Burrell

"Types of American Song"—Kathryn Lynn. "Woman in the Home"—Tona Hosterman. "Types of Instrumental Music"—Paul Vonada. Valedictory—Nona Wagner. "Tomorrow"—Orchestra. Presentation Address—Dean R. L. Watts. Benediction—Rev. E. E. Haney.

Class roll: Jennie Auman, Jennie Albright, Dorothy Campbell, Sarah Goodheart, Renna Heckman, Tona Hosterman, Kathryn Lynn, Elizabeth Royer, Sarah Rearick, Lodie Vonada, Nona Wagner, Harry Bartsches, Matthew Burrell, Harry Detwiler, Paul Vonada, Maurice Zettle.

Alumni Organization and Banquet

One of the most delightful occasions connected with the 1923 commencement of the school was the banquet held by the alumni of the Gregg Township High School and the Gregg Township Vocational School. An alumni association was formed by calling together representatives of the classes of these institutions graduating in the years from 1914 to the present time, a period of nine years,—eight classes. The Gregg Township Vocational School was organized in 1918, and this accounts for no classes during the two years of 1918 and 1919. The representatives of the various classes organized the association and made possible the first banquet, which was held on Friday evening, the second floor of the athletic hall was handsomely decorated with evergreen, class colors, class mottoes, lanterns and flowers. The main table was in the form of a rectangle and through the center of this was a second table. At the main table the classes prior to 1923 sat facing the center table at which were seated the 1923 class, the faculty, the school board, and a few others, in all one hundred eight. The tables, like the hall itself, were beautifully decorated. The toastmaster, Mr. Gramley, made the announcement of the alumni officers, as follows: President, Dean Braucht; vice president, John Decker; corresponding secretary, Jennie Bartsches; recording secretary, Martha Smith; treasurer, Christ Musser, each of whom responded in a few words declaring their intentions to serve faithfully.

This over, the passing of judgment on the efficiency of the economics department began. It was a real test, for the proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof. Not only were the foods perfect to the taste, but the serving was quietly and expeditiously done. During this period there was an occasional breaking out in song. And how they did sing!

MENU: FRUIT CUPS, PERFECTION SALAD, SANDWICHES, SALTED NUTS, FRUIT SHERBERT, MINTS, COCOANUT KISSES, LEMONADE, TOASTS

Toast Master, Eugene Gramley, '14. Class of '14—"Our Advent"—Heien Bishel. Class of '15—"Setting the Pace"—Walter Wolfe. Class of '16—"Memories"—Dean Braucht. Class of '17—"Ring Out the Old, Ring in the New"—Mrs. D. A. Wachstetter. Class of '18—"Seriousness"—John Decker. Class of '21—"As I Recall"—Ray Bartsches. Class of '22—"Our Yesterdays"—John Gramley. Class of '23—"New Aluminum"—Kathryn Lynn. "Our Aim"—Mr. Gehr. Mr. Gramley was an ideal toastmaster and never failed to create a laugh in introducing the representatives of the various classes whose names appeared on the list under "toasts." All through the line, which not only included the list given above, but the faculty and the school board, the speakers were capable of giving expression to their thoughts, whether humorous or serious. And how they did proclaim their allegiance to their alma mater!

Following is a list of names of alumni present at the banquet: Class 1914—Eugene T. Gramley, Cora Cormon Shook, Katie McCool Harshbarger, Jennie H. Bartsches, W. Christie Musser, Helen R. Bishel. Class 1915—Harold Stover, J. Russell Condo, Ethel Homan, Carrie Heckman, Walter S. Wolfe, Gladys Ziegler, Mildred Luss.

Class 1916—Alta Sinkalsine, Dean S. Braucht, Ethel G. Hettinger, Pealer Rossman, Ralph L. Raebau, Rena Wagner Wise. Class 1917—Edwin Musser, Mrs. David Wachstetter, Mrs. Dean Braucht, Lolla Zeigler.

Class 1918—Randall Heckman, Sarah I. Bishel, John W. Decker, Anna N. Bartsches, Guy L. Corman. Class 1919—Delsey A. Norris, Katharine V. Rearick, Lynn V. Meyer, Marian A. Neese, Marguerite Krape, Biron E. Decker, Grace Neese, Ray M. Bartsches, Martha W. Smith, Ralph S. Hagan, Ida M. Rearick, Rachael E. Hosterman, Theresa Wagner, Paul Bartsches.

Class 1922—Grace Z. Bower, J. David Hosterman, Bessie C. Zerby, George H. Hosterman, Guy W. Corman, Eugene C. Siegle, Ethel M. Musser, Jacob W. Bartsches, Catharine Hosterman, Roy Rote, M. Alma Corman, John Gramley, Alma C. Zerby, Robert Bishel, Victor Haney, J. Blaine Malone, John A. Myers, C. E. Winklebleich, Isabel Lee, Randall Meyer.

Class 1923—Paul Vonada, Nona Z. Wagner, Jennie M. Auman, Maurice Zettle, Dorothy M. Campbell, Sara Goodhart, Elizabeth Royer, Harry Lee

(Continued on next column)

50-50 ON BALL GAMES.

First a Victory Over Millheim, Then a Defeat at State College.

Centre Hall, 17; Millheim, 10. In a game featured by heavy clotting, Centre Hall defeated Millheim on Grange Park, last Thursday evening, in a five inning twilight game. Score, 11-10. Centre Hall began going after Winegardner with a vengeance, scoring eight runs in the first two innings, while Crawford kept Millheim to four runs in three innings. In the fourth, Millheim came up with determination written on their countenances and scored six runs, going ahead by one run. The locals failed to score in their half of the fourth, and while Millheim drew a blank in the fifth, with Gross having relieved Crawford in the box, Centre Hall batted out two runs and won the game, one being out when the winning run counted.

Centre Hall outbatted the visitors 12 to 8, but Millheim had all the extra-base hits, Winegardner and Ran. Miller each hitting for the circuit. Sam Ross was the star for Centre Hall. He hit safely every time up, made a dandy catch in left field and put the winning run across in the fifth with his fourth hit of the game. Good boy, Sam.

Table with columns: CENTRE HALL, R, H, O, A, E. Rows: A Crawford, Klinger, Ross, H Emery, C McClintic, Kellar, W Bradford, Garris, N Crawford, Gros.

Table with columns: MILLHEIM, R, H, O, A, E. Rows: W Gramley, S Miller, G Musser, Ran Miller, Winegardner, Cable, Lockwood, Hackenbue, Brown.

Increasing Hatching Capacity.

The Kerlin Grand View Poultry Farm is about to close its 1923 hatching season, which was extensive, a feature being the large percentage of chicks obtained from the eggs incubated. Every chick hatched was a Kerlin Quality White Leghorn. A few days ago the firm gave an order for incubators that will increase the capacity of the plant from one hundred thirty thousand to two hundred fifty thousand eggs, an increase of one hundred twenty thousand.

State College Elects New Trustee.

John S. Fisher, of Indiana, former state commissioner of banking, was elected a member of the Pennsylvania State College board of trustees, succeeding the late Senator William E. Crow. Charles M. Schwab, Loretto; Vance C. McCormick, Harrisburg; and E. R. Petebone, Wilkes-Barre, were re-elected for three year terms by forty-six delegates from agricultural and industrial societies of Pennsylvania.

Detwiler, Kathryn E. Lynn, Matthew M. Burrell, Tona E. Hosterman, Harry I. Bartsches, Renna M. Heckman, Lodie R. Vonada, Sarah M. Rearick, Jennie Albright.

Everyone who has ever come in personal contact with Prof. E. R. Gehr, whether it was in school work or otherwise, will deeply regret that he has decided to relinquish his position as principal of the Gregg Township Vocational School. He has done so much for the institution in the two and one-half years of his services there that pupils and citizens alike hold him in the highest esteem. He is truly a wire of high voltage and capable of giving out intellectual sparks to everyone who touches him. Mr. Gehr has accepted a similar position in a Vocational school established a few years ago in Imperial, Allegheny county. He will not leave Spring Mills immediately, but will go in ample time to take up his work for the opening of the school in September.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

There are enrolled in the public schools of the state 1,650,000 children. Paul Fetterolf has secured work at Burnham. He was at his home here over Sunday.

Mrs. J. S. Getchell and children, of Uniontown, are visiting at the former's parental home in Centre Hall.

Mrs. L. O. Packer and children attended the wedding of Miss Dorothy Packer, a niece of Mr. Packer, at Altoona, on Thursday of last week.

H. W. Prantz has improved the appearance of his farm home at Earlstown by the addition of a front porch. Some concrete walk was also laid. Mrs. W. D. Crooks, Jr., Mrs. Paul D. Wells, Miss Martha Ranson and Miss Dorothy Shank, of Williamsport, motored to Centre Hall to spend the day with Miss Grace Smith.

A group of twenty or more men, members of the Bradford hunting party, spent Friday in the Seven Mountains repairing the road leading to their camping quarters.

A bill introduced by Representative Beaver, Centre county, prohibiting the discharge of firearms by hunters or trappers within 150 yards of a residence, was passed finally during the last hours of the legislature.

Rev. John H. Keller was the guest of his sister, Mrs. F. M. Fisher, for a few days. He came north from Hickory, South Carolina, to attend a meeting of ministers of the Reformed church.

Miss Helen Bartholomew, Mrs. C. D. Bartholomew and daughter Elizabeth, Edith and Doris Moltz, Gertrude Kuble and Mrs. L. L. Smith, last week, made a trip to Altoona in the new Chalmers sedan recently purchased by C. D. Bartholomew.

Rev. S. H. and Mrs. Deltzell, of Pleasant Unity, arrived in Centre Hall a week ago and are at the home of the latter's father, Alfred Durst, and sister, Mrs. W. F. Keller, on Friday. Rev. Deltzell started on a trip east, but will return here shortly.

Harold Alexander, of Centre Hall, who just became a senior in the Electrical Engineering Department at Penn State, on Saturday went to Philadelphia where he will enter the services of the Philadelphia Heat, Light and Power company to get practical work in his particular line of studies.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Shoffer and baby son motored in from Youngsville the latter part of last week, and after visiting relatives in Centre Hall, continued on to Aaronsburg to visit Mrs. Sheffer's aunt, Mrs. Sparr Wert. They are now at the Fleisher home near Coyle and expect to spend a few weeks near the mountains for the benefit of Mr. Sheffer's health.

It was a great pleasure to Capt. G. M. Boal, of Centre Hall, one day last week, to meet Edward Boilek after not having seen him for forty-eight years. Mr. Boilek was formerly from near Bellefonte and back in 1884 and 1885 taught the Manor Hill school, at that time known as "Whisky Hollow" school, and boarded at the Boal home. Mr. Boilek is now living in the Los Angeles section of California.

A Japanese chestnut tree planted on the lawn surrounding the home of J. Reed Thompson, in Milroy, is attracting much attention because of the fact that it is entirely free of chestnut blight, while thousands of chestnut trees nearby are dead or dying from the blight. The Department of Forestry thinks it is possible that this tree may point the way to the development of chestnuts that are immune to the attack of this disease.

Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Carter, of Williamsport, were among friends during last week, returning home on Sunday. While they enjoy visiting about Centre Hall they have no intentions to locate here. Mr. and Mrs. John M. Luse, also of Williamsport, at one time had some thought of going to a New York town, but upon investigating concluded to remain where they now are. Mr. Luse is employed in a large planting mill and likes his work too well to give it up at present.

F. V. Goodhart, the local undertaker and furniture dealer, has taken up the study of bugology and confines his researches to the 17th year locust now visiting Centre Hall. He insists they have taken up the popular tune of King Tut and instead of "Pharaoh" the familiar sound now heard is really "King Tut, King Tut," and that the "W" on the wing does not preclude war but "Why Worry." Of course, Mr. Daup bears him out in these statements.