

The Centre Reporter

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DEMOCRATS MAY ABOLISH BOTH UNIT AND TWO-THIRDS RULES

National Committee Members Said to Be Exchanging Views on Much-Disputed Problem.

Concerted action by members of the Democratic National Committee from a number of western and southern States in an endeavor to make both the unit rule and two-thirds majority inoperative in future national conventions has advanced to the stage of formal interchange of views on the subject, a member of the committee revealed.

A committee member from one western State had prepared a formal declaration on the subject for submission to the proposed meeting of the national committee at Clarksburg, W. Va., early in August.

Under this resolution, the committee would declare both rules contrary to Democratic principles and recommend to the various State bodies that all plans for the convention of 1928 and thereafter be calculated on the basis of majority rule on the nominations, and with every delegate free, so far as binding party rules are concerned, to vote his own preference.

More than one-fourth of the committee members have given assent to the proposition since the national convention adjourned, a leader in the move said. Additional members have been sounded on the question, and have promised to assist in bringing the proposed resolution before the full committee.

Thomas B. Love, national committeeman from Texas; W. W. Howes, of South Dakota, and Clyde Herrig, of Iowa, are understood to have taken the lead in the move, with a primary view of making a recurrence of the situation which developed in the recent convention unlikely, if not impossible.

Community Picnic

The annual community picnic will be held on Grange Park, Saturday, August 2. Posters and announcements will appear later.

Metal Plates for Hunters This Season

Instead of the cloth tags which have been issued with hunters' licenses ever since the State license law became effective, hunters this year will be issued metal tags, resembling miniature automobile license plates.

The tags are being made at the Huntingdon reformatory. They are four by six inches in size and are of aluminum, with the lettering and numerals in enamel, which has been baked.

The 500,000 licenses ordered for this year are being made at a cost of \$12,000. The printed tags cost \$16,000 last year, being made by a Baltimore firm, and had the contract been given to the State printer the cost would have been \$40,000, it is declared. The State printer, contending that under the law the contract belonged to him, is now suing to recover the profit which would have accrued to him had he been given the contract.

The new tags are not yet ready to deliver and hunters will be permitted to use their 1923 tags until the new ones are sent to the county treasurers for distribution.

FIND TAXES EATING UP RENT FROM FARM LAND.

Federal Survey Shows Levies Heavier Than on Urban Property.

State and county real estate taxes since 1920 have absorbed a larger percentage of the income from rent on farms in various parts of the country, a study announced recently by the Department of Agriculture disclosed.

Basing their study on taxes for 1919, the experts found that the southern area, real estate taxes absorbed about 10 per cent. of the net cash rent; in north central states 12 to 25 per cent.; and in western states 10 to 33 per cent. Since 1919, taxes generally have increased while rents have been reduced and there is reason to believe, the department said, that taxes on many less favored farms have absorbed all of the income from rent. Local rather than state taxes are held responsible for the greater part of the burden.

Present taxing methods which take land valuations without considering farm earnings as the basis for taxation are objectionable, the department said, and pointed out that land values include anticipation of future earnings which may never be realized.

As average cash rents are the best index of the earning power of farm real estate, the experts declared the true measure of the tax burden the farmer is carrying is the ratio between average taxes and average cash rents. A recent survey of more than 100 Indiana farms, the department said, showed the ratio of taxes to rents increased almost threefold from 1919 to 1924. The 1919 study covered 26 States and indicated that farm real estate bore heavier taxes than most urban real estate in the counties covered.

ON TOUR TO PACIFIC COAST

The Crawford and Emerick Party Give Reporter Readers Excellent Description of Trans-Continental Trip by Auto.

(Received too late for insertion last week.)

San Francisco, California, July 11th, 1924.

To the Editor of the Centre Hall Reporter:

We promised to drop you a line giving you some data of our trip to California. We have been so busy talking in the sights that we have had no time to write. Our party consists of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Emerick and son, Paul.

We left Bellefonte on Saturday, June 14th, and arrived in California on June 26th. We traveled by way of National Highway to Kansas City, going through Wheeling, W. Va., Dayton, Ohio, Indianapolis, Ind., St. Louis, Mo., then by Santa Fe Trail through Dodge City, Kan., to LaJunita, Col. We then took a side trip to Colorado Springs and Pikes Peak; after spending a day here we went South again and struck the trail at Trinidad, which we followed over the Raton Pass into New Mexico, Santa Fe and Albuquerque.

We went through the petrified forest in Arizona which consists of twenty-five thousand acres of petrified trees all lying down; some trees are one hundred feet long and from four to six feet in diameter. At Maine, Arizona, we turned North to Grand Canyon and stayed one day and night. We did not ride the mules down the canyon as we had expected; after looking it over some of the party thought it too hard a task to ride a pack from 8 A. M. to 4 P. M. We were also afraid that Crawford's feet would drag on the ground and that the donkey would have no backbone after getting through with Emerick. We do know, however, that it would not have made the hair stand up on Crawford's head. Grand Canyon is beyond description, as anyone will say who has ever seen it. It is thirteen miles across and one mile deep. The petrified forest and Grand Canyon are well worth the whole cost of a trip to the Coast. Leaving the Canyon we went South over the same road to Maine, then West over the desert to Needles and Barstow, Cal.

This was a decided change in weather conditions; at the Canyon it was very comfortable and at Needles it was 123 in the shade. We drove 372 miles this day from 8 A. M. until 12 o'clock at night. Some of the roads were good and some poor. The only places we stopped were at Kingman and Needles at the hotels to eat and drink their ice water. We were all glad when we reached San Bernardino. We spent some time driving through Riverside and Redlands through the orange and fruit groves. We bought oranges for 5 cents a dozen. There are 7000 carloads of lemons now in storage in California and trees are as full as they can hang and bushels on the ground going to waste. Continuing our trip on toward the coast we stopped at Pasadena to see the ostrich farm. The ladies wanted to buy \$25 hats but the male side objected. We passed thru Los Angeles and continued to Santa Monica, which is located on the beach and is one of the most beautiful places to live that the party has ever seen.

Here we met Bob Buddinger formerly of Snow Shoe, and Bob Bullock, formerly of State College. Buddinger is in the real estate business and is building some of the finest bungalows the writer has ever seen—it seems like fairyland to go through these houses. Bullock is in the garage business in Los Angeles and has a large garage near the center of the city. Both men are doing fine. After spending three days in this vicinity we decided we wanted to see a little of Old Mexico, so we drove down through San Diego to Tijuana. We arrived there Sunday morning and every building on the main streets had a bar room and gambling machines. One bar was 100 feet in length and the quart bottles were lined one against the other the full length of the bar. We did not sample the goods but saw lots of it being consumed. We again started North and stopped with a cousin of Mrs. Emerick's. This town is in the fruit belt; they also raise English walnuts here. Land in this section is worth as high as \$5,000 per acre. Leaving this place we continued North thru Los Angeles, stopping for lunch at Universal City. Like all tourists we wanted to see all we could so Crawford and Emerick applied for admission to the Universal studios. They thought we wanted a job and asked us what we could do. We informed them we could do most anybody if they weren't looking. The guard sent us to another gate but we there informed they were not admitting visitors. We, however, saw them filming pictures in several other places. We then proceeded North via the inland road thru Bakersfield. Some of the party had covered the coast road five years ago so decided to take the other road, other than as far as the desert. We then turned East to the Sequoia National Park; to reach this we had 26 miles of one-way roads through the Sierra Nevada mountains controlled by three ranger stations. The altitude at the place we turned off to go to the park was less than 300 feet above sea level, and when we reached the park it was 6,900 feet, so you see how we climbed for those 26 miles. Some of the party did not seem to enjoy this ride but we will not mention any names. After reaching the Park we were well rewarded by seeing the big trees; some 300 feet tall and 36 feet in circumference and from five to six thousand years old. This seems like a fairy tale but when one sees these trees we must believe. There are numerous groves of these large Red wood trees in California and

(Continued on inside page.)

SLAIN IN WILDS OF MOUNTAINS.

"Bill" Musser, in Limelight As Bootlegger, Found With Two Bullet Wounds in Head—Body Discovered Sunday Afternoon by Forest Ranger—Harry Musser, Nephew of Slain Man, and Herbert Heaton, Farm Hand, in County Jail as Suspects—Trio Seen Together in Blackford Restaurant, Bellefonte, After 12 O'clock Sunday Night.

Murder will likely prove to have been the culmination of a drunken spree engaged in by "Bill" Musser, his nephew, Harry Musser, and the latter's farm hand, Harry Heaton. The trio started out from the Harry Musser farm home, below Penns Cave, Saturday towards evening, and from the information at hand the last seen of the three was in the Blackford restaurant, Bellefonte, some time after twelve o'clock Saturday night. Their movements after that until some time on Sunday appears known only to the suspects now in Centre county jail.

The dead body of Musser was found at a rather secluded place close to the highway leading from Washington Furnace, in Nittany Valley, over the Nittany Mountain to Madisonburg, in Brush Valley. The location is in what

is known as Little Sugar Valley. He lay in a path leading from the main road to a cabin, a distance of about 200 feet. The body was covered with his overcoat and his slouch hat was used to protect the face. By his side was a bottle of gin. Forest Ranger D. O. Dorman stumbled onto the dead man's body accidentally. He passed by without disturbing it, but soon an acquaintance of Dorman's came along the main road, and then the two made sufficient examination to discover identity and that the man had two bullet wounds in the head, one bullet entering back of the ear. The men at once notified Sheriff R. E. Taylor, who immediately took measures to proceed legally in the matter.

(Continued on inside page.)

P. O. S. of A. Officers.

New officers were recently installed in the local order of P. O. S. of A., as follows:

Past President—John A. Lutz
President—Alvin Flory.
Vice President—Clarence T. Musser.
Master of Forms—F. H. Raymond.
Recording Secretary—T. L. Smith.
Assistant Recording Secretary—T. L. Moore.

Financial Secretary—E. S. Ripka.
Treasurer—D. W. Bradford.
Conductor—Rosman Wert.
Inspector—Red Hackett.
Guard—Eugene Burkholder.
Chaplain—W. O. Heckman.
Right Sentinel—Rufus Shaver.
Left Sentinel—Roy Weaver.
Trustees—E. E. Zettle, W. H. Bland, A. C. Ripka.

Representatives to State Camp—T. L. Smith, M. C. Drumm, E. S. Ripka.

Spring Mills.

Past President—Howard Weaver.
President—Bright Bitner.
Vice President—Paul Swabb.
Master of Forms—Harry Corman.
Recording Secretary—Jerry Albright.
Assistant Recording Secretary—Groes Shook.

Financial Secretary—W. H. Hettlinger.
Treasurer—S. L. Condo.
Conductor—M. C. Berger.
Inspector—Charles Ripka.
Guard—Miles Bressler.
Chaplain—W. H. Smith.
Right Sentinel—Glenn Corman.
Left Sentinel—Russell Lingle.
Trustees—E. P. Shook, H. E. Stover, W. H. Smith.

Letter from North Dakota.

Antler, N. D., July 14, 1924.

The Reporter:
Pardon me for not being more prompt in paying for my paper. I have been sick and away from home so as to be near a doctor, and did not realize that my paper was unpaid until I came home the other day, so now I will enclose P. O. money order for \$1.50 and hope that will pay for the paper for another year. I missed the paper so much while I was away from home that I don't want you to discontinue it, as through it I keep in touch with a great many of my friends in the east that otherwise I would never hear from.

Well, this has been rather an eventful summer so far. In the first place, the month of May was so cold and dry that nothing could grow, and in truth, it hasn't been very warm at any time yet. We had our first spring rain on the 4th of June, but since that we have had plenty of rain and some very hard ones. On the 21st of June they had a very hard hail storm in the vicinity of Maxbass. The rye and early wheat were badly cut up and went amount to much. The rest of the grain was quite small, and was not hurt much. The gardens were almost entirely destroyed. At the same time we had a very hard rain here, but not much hail, so crops look good about here, but everything is late on account of having been too cold.

The June berries ought to be ripe but I doubt whether they will get ripe in this month, so this year they ought to be called August berries.

Everybody has their share of trouble in this world. On the 30th of May my little granddaughter fell and fractured a bone in her left arm, but she has got along real well. The rest are all quite well and very busy. My son-in-law has been very busy all spring and summer. He has charge of the North lumber yard and implement house; also coal yards; and it keeps him busy all the time.

Today is a very bright sunny day but not very warm for this time of year.

With best wishes, I am,
Yours very truly,
MRS. MARY H. PRICE.

The Centre Reporter, \$1.50 a year.

SPLIT WITH STATE COLLEGE.

"State" and Centre Hall Divide 50-50 on Two Games During Week.

Bellefonte took two games from Millheim and Centre Hall and State College divided on the games played during the past week.

Home Run Wins at State College.

In the fast-gathering darkness in the eighth inning of the Centre Hall-State baseball game on New Beaver Field, last Thursday evening, Ode Spicer, States first baseman, caught one of Gross' fast ones and sent it to the football bleachers in deep center field. Very few people could see the little sphere as it sped through space, but they did observe two outfielders giving chase with all the speed they possessed. Spicer crossed the rubber a-head of the returned ball, and "State" put a game in the "won" column after a series of reverses which extended back several weeks. Spicer's big hit was all the more sensational, for it came with two down in an extra inning, made necessary when Centre Hall tied the score in the 7th with four runs, when they went after Tomco and pounded out five hits, the first hits made since the second inning. State

bombarded both Crawford and Gross, driving the former from the box in the third. Among State's eleven hits were three three-baggers and a home run. The box score:

CENTRE HALL

	R	H	O	A	E
Duret, 3b	0	0	1	0	0
Frank, 1b	1	0	7	0	0
Fetterolf, rf	0	0	0	0	0
Gross, ss, p	2	1	1	3	0
A Emery, 2b	2	1	1	0	0
Foust, c	1	2	5	3	0
Keller, lf	0	0	1	0	0
Spiker, if	0	1	0	0	0
H Emery, cf	0	1	0	0	0
N Crawford, cf	0	0	0	0	0
A Crawford, p, ss	1	1	7	5	0
Totals	7	7	23	12	0

STATE COLLEGE

	R	H	O	A	E
Lonberger, cf	1	2	0	0	0
Spicer, Ode, 1b	3	2	10	0	2
Spicer, Ott	1	2	8	2	0
Gilliland, 3b	1	3	2	5	0
Williams, if	1	1	1	0	0
Hartswick, ss	1	1	0	2	0
Kellerman, rf	0	0	0	0	0
Hoffbaugh, 2b	0	0	2	1	2
J Gilliland, 2b	0	0	0	1	1
Tomco, p	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	8	11	24	11	5

Defeat Crippled State College Team.

With three of her best players missing in the line-up, State College went down to defeat Saturday afternoon, on Grange Park, before the locals. Score, 7-5. Lonberger, Spicer and R. Gilliland, a trio of State's dependables, were absentees on Saturday, and Centre Hall had little difficulty with State, although the game was no walk-over by any means. Gross was hit hard, but showed flashes of good work; in the fourth he struck out the side, and in the 9th innings caused 14 of State men to fan. Foust caught a clever game, held the base runners to the bags and threw out all who attempted to steal. It was the best catcher's work seen this season. Eddie is there with the stick, too. He set the pace in hitting for his teammates, collecting three to one for any of his co-workers. Crawford's work at short was noteworthy. The box score:

STATE COLLEGE

	R	H	O	A	E
Lytle, 2b	1	2	1	2	2
Spicer, 1b	0	2	9	2	1
Hartswick, c	2	4	3	2	0
Williams, if	0	1	4	0	0
Buck, cf	0	2	0	0	0
J Gilliland, 3b	1	1	1	3	1
Hoffbaugh, ss	0	0	0	1	2
Minnich, rf	0	0	3	0	1
Kellerman, p	1	2	2	2	0
Totals	5	13	24	11	7

CENTRE HALL

	R	H	O	A	E
Frank, 1b	1	5	0	0	0
Duret, 3b	0	1	1	1	0
Sfyker, ss, 2b	0	0	0	1	1
Foust, c	1	3	4	3	0
H Emery, cf	1	0	0	0	0
Knarr, if	0	0	0	0	0
Keller, cf	2	1	0	0	0
Fetterolf, rf	0	0	0	0	0
N Crawford, ss	1	1	4	3	0
A Emery, 2b, ss, rf	1	1	1	0	0
Gross, p	1	0	2	2	0
Totals	7	9	27	10	2

"Able's Irish Rose."

You will want to see "Able's Irish Rose," the comedy with a beautiful love story, that will appear in Moose Temple theatre, Bellefonte, Monday and Tuesday, July 23 and 24. One of the most hilarious complications follows another so quickly as to give no pause to the roars of laughter.

The play ran in Pittsburgh for months, and was witnessed by a number of persons from Centre Hall, who had gone to the Smoky City to witness a ball game between the Glants and Pittsburgh, and everyone who says it was the best play of the kind ever seen by them. And Rosemary Murphy, Able's Rose, is as pretty as a picture. Prices—50c, \$1.10, \$1.65, \$2.20, tax included. Chart at Mogg drug store.

Where are you going to church Sunday morning? Be sure you read the church announcements on page 4.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

The corn crop on many farms is looking promising. Its greatest enemy now are weeds.

The new home being built by J. Elmer Royer was recently plastered by D. H. Slegle, of Spring Mills.

A concrete walk was laid to the front of the Kerlin property occupied by Samuel Bitner, one of the employees at the Grand View Poultry Farm.

Mrs. W. J. Meyer, of Altoona, a telephone operator in the Bell system of that city, was recently a guest of Miss Verna Rowe, a local Bell operator.

While every automobile driver already knows it, it is worthwhile repeating that gas dropped one cent in price. The auto fuel is now selling for 24 cents.

Troop B and the headquarters company of the Fifty-second machine gun battalion, and the Boal troop, of Boalsburg, are in camp at Mt. Gretna. They will remain another week.

Mrs. N. E. Emerick and children, Thursday of last week, went by train to Port Matilda where they were guests for a few days of Mrs. Grace Weaver. The ladies are sisters.

C. E. Allison, editor of the Bellefonte Times, paid us a paternal call on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Allison, with his modern mechanical equipment, is giving Big Valley folks a newsy weekly paper.

Conditions in the New York Central shops at Avis are improving. Last week more than fifty men, unemployed for a considerable length of time, were called back to work. The shops are operating on a five-day week basis.

Edward Foust, who had been in Dunkirk, New York, during the past two, or more months, doing carpenter work, is back to his home at Potters Mills. He is giving the ball team a lift, being able to fit into any position.

Leading Lutherans of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Maryland and Delaware are expected at the annual session of the Lutheran Summer assembly at Gettysburg August 1 to 8. The largest attendance in the history of the assembly is predicted by those in charge of the arrangements.

The annual summer tour of the Busleton Motor Club will take the 150 members through State College on Saturday. The Philadelphia countians plan to spend an hour or more going over the college campus and farms. The cars will likely pass through Centre Hall on either the way to or from the institution.

Paul Musser, Millheim's professional baseball player, has been sold to the Wichita Falls club in the Texas league. Mr. Musser, a pitcher, endeavored to be transferred or sold into that league last season, principally because the official major league rules applying to the use of the spit-ball, emery ball, etc., do not apply down there.

Farmers in this section who waited had ideal hay weather last week. Large quantities of the choicest hay were housed as a result. The hay crop is unusually heavy, the timothy being both tall and thick on the ground. There were very few barns in all this section that had hay of any quantity in them when the haying season opened, so there was an abundance of room for storage.

The Houseman carpenter crew, of Millheim, are putting the finishing touches on the Sunset club house and will have their part of the work completed in the near future. The exterior and interior are being painted by John M. Colborn, and helpers. The colors on the outside trimming are black and cream, making a striking and pleasing contrast with shell stucco work. The club house will be ready for occupancy in about three weeks.

Misses Anna Morgan, Teresa Cassidy and Esther Lenton, of Williamsport, passed through town Friday noon. They were on a hike, having left their home Wednesday morning previous. The skirt was by way of Altoona, Huntingdon, Lewistown, Centre Hall and Lock Haven. To test the generosity of the country folks they took but little money with them. They were delighted with the lay-outs, especially that on the table of Mrs. Bruce Ripka, at Centre Hall.

Miss Catharine Gleixner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gleixner, is at the Dr. Weaver private hospital in Lewistown undergoing treatment and a series of operations for tuberculosis of the bone in one of her lower limbs. She has been a sufferer for a number of years and although numerous treatments had been resorted to her condition appeared to be growing worse. It is understood that scraping and bone grafting will now be resorted to. Her many friends here wish her speedy and complete recovery.