

The Centre Reporter

VOL. C.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1926.

NO. 17

BELLEVLLE TIMES BUILDING DYNAMITED

Early Sunday Morning Blast Demolished Plant—Work of Unknown Enemy—Editor and Family and Other Occupants of Building Are Thrown Out of Bed.

A mysterious explosion attributed to dynamite used by some unknown enemy of Charles E. Allison, publisher of the Belleville (Mifflin county) Times, completely wrecked the building occupied by the newspaper plant at 2:35 o'clock Sunday morning.

In apartments on upper floors at the time were sleeping Editor Allison, his wife and two children; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Elder and two children; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Smith and two children. All of these persons were thrown from their beds, furniture was tossed across the rooms and dishes and other breakables shattered, but no one was injured.

The force of the explosion was terrific. Windows and doors were blown against buildings 60 feet distant and glass and debris littered the streets and adjacent yards. The interior of the Times office was ruined, machinery, stock and equipment being blown through the floor into the cellar, while laths and plaster loosened by the blast littered the entire surroundings.

Many persons heard the explosion and came running in all degrees of dress and undress. Some soon forced their way into the building and removed any possibility of obtaining fingerprints or scent for dogs to be used in a search for the perpetrators of the outrage. State Policeman Frutchey, of Harrisburg; County Detective Davis and Sheriff Printz made an early survey of the scene, but found no clue that might throw light on the crime. They are united in their opinion, however, that it was due to dynamite, either cased in the building with a time fuse attached, or thrown through the window from an automobile passing on the William Penn highway.

Editor Allison stated that he had no known enemies, although he had received a threatening letter two years ago and another two months ago, a crude affair written with a stubby pencil, in which he was warned to "watch his step" but these he attributed to the work of some irresponsible person who objected to his freedom in expression in politics and on other public questions.

He is active in the Izaak Walton League and strong in his efforts to propagate and protect wild life. His political efforts have been largely in sympathy with the Eckbert Foelt interests, but his columns have been open to all persons, so that no one can attribute the crime to political animosity. He estimates his loss at \$15,000. He had a policy of insurance that would cover an explosion. Francis Smith, an employee of the Penn Central Light and Power Company, who lived in the building, quickly cut off the current and thus fire was averted.

Boy Hit by Auto, Dies of Fracture of Skull.

Thomas Shreckengast, 10-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Shreckengast, of Nittany, died Friday morning from injuries received last Sunday night a week ago when struck by an automobile driven by Charles Heltman, of Mackeyville. The child, who was with his parents, dashed into the street, directly into the path of the car. His skull was fractured, and he remained unconscious until Wednesday night.

He is survived by his parents and a brother and sister. The funeral service was held Sunday afternoon.

Fathers' Day at Penn State.

Fathers' Day will be observed at Penn State this week-end, beginning Friday evening. This will be the sixth celebration. John S. Musser, of Harrisburg, president of the Parents Association, will have charge of the Saturday morning meeting.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue of sundry writs of Fieri Facias issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, and to me directed, there will be exposed to public sale at the Court House in the Borough of Bellefonte, on

SATURDAY, MAY 22nd, 1926.

The following property:

All that certain message, tenement and tract of land situate in Ferguson Township, Centre County, Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows, to wit: BEGINNING at Stones, on land, now or formerly of William Bloom and Henry Fye; thence by Centre Furnace Company's compromise line North 32 1/2 degrees West 21 1/2 perches to stones; thence South 55 1/2 degrees West 65 perches; thence by Centre Furnace Company's compromise line South 24 degrees East 61 perches to the place of beginning.

Containing 53 acres and 117 perches. Excepting thereout all iron ore, etc. right as formerly reserved by the Pennsylvania Company.

Being the same premises which Jacob Cramer and wife, by the deed of April 3rd, 1922, and intended to be recorded and even date herewith granted and conveyed the same to Alice G. Brungard, of the first part hereto, this mortgage being part of the consideration named therein.

Seized, taken in execution and to be sold as the property of Alice G. Brungard and Oliver B. Brungard.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock A. M. of said day.

E. R. TAYLOR, Sheriff.

Sheriff's Office, Bellefonte, Pa., April 23, 1926.

ADVERTISING OUR SPELLING.

Common Usage Spelling Being Adopted—Historic Names Revived—How Centre Hall Got Its Post Office From Old Fort.

The post office department from the time of the erecting of a post office at Centre Hall, during the James Buchanan administration—1857-1861—spelled the post office name CENTRE HALL, but only a few months ago issued an order changing the spelling to CENTRE-HALL, in accordance with the common usage.

The Centre Reporter, since its founding in 1868, and all local residents, excepting a limited few, used the common usage form of spelling the town's name. During the past few years there has been much agitation on the part of various historical societies to revise the spelling as well as the naming of towns and local points of interest, the effort being to bring about the common usage of spelling and again adopting old names of historic value. The Pennsylvania Geographic Board recently passed on the spelling and the names of towns and historic points, and among others mentioned, in their circular of April 7th, is Centre Hall, as follows:

CENTRE HALL; Centre County. (Not Centre Hall). In accordance with common usage and in accordance with the spelling designated when the county by that name was erected. Action was taken at the request of the Federal Board for use on Centre Hall topographic map soon to be issued. The circular makes reference to Centre county and three nearby points thus:

CENTRE; county, in Central Pennsylvania. (Not Center.) A decision based on the spelling of "An Act for erecting parts of the counties of Mifflin, Northumberland, Lycoming and Huntingdon into a separate county." The first section states "that all and singular the lands lying within the bounds and limits hereinafter described, shall be, and are hereby erected into a separate county, by name of CENTRE COUNTY." Biron's Laws of Pennsylvania 1789-1892, Vol. VI, Page 83.

GREEN; township, Clinton County. (Not Greene.) Based on correspondence with A. D. Karstetter, Postmaster, Logan, Pa., following examination of deeds of early date which were found to carry the spelling, "Green." The township was named for Captain Harry Green. The name is spelled on the monument "Green."

CATHARINE'S CROWN; peak in Nittany Mountain just on the border line between the Williamsport and Milton quadrangles. Peak so named as a memorial to Catharine Smith, a widow with ten children, who built a grist mill, later a gun-boring mill at the mouth of White Deer Creek, at the present village of White Deer. The big flouring mill located at that point is built upon part of the foundation of the old Smith boring mill. The peak named Catharine's Crown looks down on the former home, mill, and grave of Catharine Smith.

TRICZYLYNY; mountain, Centre County. A mountain point just East of Central Railroad of Pennsylvania, just one mile northeast the square of Bellefonte. Named in honor of Casper Karl Stegner (Tracy), a prominent surveyor of early days, born 1767, exiled from Poland 1793, died 1851, and was buried in the shadow of the peak now named for him.

Speaking of the change of the post office from Old Fort to Centre Hall, back in the latter fifties, it might be well to mention how it came about. The Centre Hall hotel building in which was a store room, had been completed by the late Henry Witmer, and a store opened by William Wolf, his son-in-law. Centre Hall was bidding for home-makers, but with the post office a mile south—well, it was a severe drawback. Young men looking forward were not sure which point—Old Fort or Centre Hall—might develop into a town. The Harpster brothers—Jacob, George and Samuel—were casting about for sites to establish themselves in business. They went to George Odenkirk, who then owned the Old Fort hotel and conducted it and also owned the large farm surrounding it, with the idea of buying several lots opposite the hotel. Mr. Odenkirk consulted with his friend and neighbor, James Brishin, who strongly urged him to sell lots, believing that with the post office there, Old Fort would have a great advantage over its rival—Centre Hall. But Mr. Odenkirk shrunk from the idea of cutting up his fine farm into town lots. He refused to accommodate the Harpsters. The brothers then purchased lots in Centre Hall, the sites now occupied by C. D. Bartholomew, the Boozer garage, and William F. Colyer, on Pennsylvania Avenue, now referred to as Main street, and on Church street the lots now owned by D. A. Boozer and C. M. Arney. These were all improved, business places being erected on three of them and dwelling houses on four. Most of the building was done immediately.

The Harpsters were Democrats, and so was Mr. Witmer and Mr. Wolf. Aside from politics, their interests were identical. Community harmony is a great factor in development, and so it proved here. A petition was presented to a Democratic postmaster general requesting that the post office be removed from Old Fort to Centre Hall, and that William Wolf be named postmaster. The order for the change of office and the appointment of a new postmaster was issued.

And so it was that the postmaster general spelled the name C-e-n-t-r-e Hall and all succeeding postmasters.

BUILDING BOOM FOR MILLHEIM.

Contractor and Builder F. V. O. Houston With Twenty-Seven Men Doing Most of the Work.

Millheim is having a veritable building boom. Aside from the various and numerous minor improvements being made to properties in the town, new structures are underway or will be within a few days. The carpenter work as well as the excavations for cellars and wall construction is either under contract to be performed by or superintended by F. V. O. Houston and his force of twenty-seven helpers.

With the exception of the Evangelical parsonage, all the new dwellings known will be erected in what is known as Gramley's Addition, which lies to the east of Millheim along the State road.

The W. S. Gramley bungalow, the wall for which is now up, will be of brick and stucco. The first story to be the brick portion.

Mrs. Calvin Meyer, of Coburn, is having a home constructed very similar to that of Mr. Gramley's, the outer material being the same. The auto shed is already up, and excavations are being made for the main residence a bungalow type.

Benjamin Heckart, a florist at the Morganza reformatory, a State institution, whose wife was Miss Carrie Tibens, of Gregg township, also long taken at the request of the Federal Board for use on Centre Hall topographic map soon to be issued. The circular makes reference to Centre county and three nearby points thus:

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DEATHS

Y. P. B.'s ON STAGE.

Render "Uncle Ephraim's Summer Boarders" Most Acceptably.

Members of the Y. P. B., boys and girls, did themselves great credit in the manner in which they were able to render every feature of the play entitled "Uncle Ephraim's Summer Boarders" in Grange Arcade, on Friday evening of last week. The house was well filled, making the door receipts a handsome sum.

In addition to the play itself there were numbers that brought earned applause. The instrumental and vocal music was a strong feature of the evening's entertainment.

After the play was completed the W. C. T. U. held their annual dues social, and after this light refreshments were served their members as well as the members of the junior organizations—the Y. P. B. and the L. T. L.

The young people whose names appeared on the program as characters in the play are as follows: Marcellus Royer, Wilbur McChellan, Helen Neff, Elwood Smith, Gervin Shaeffer, Paul Palmer, Russell Goodhart, Eugene Colyer, Eugene Burkholder, Clayton McKinney, Bruce Knarr, Edith Moltz, Alma Lutz, Elizabeth Bradford, Margaret Luse, Frances Brooks, Margaret Weible, Kathryn Goodhart, Elizabeth Bartholomew, Vivian Packer, Algie Emery, Miriam Moore, Grace Weible, Emeline Brungart, Louisa Smith, Mha Spkyer, Ruth Musser.

The Seven Mountain Detour.

The detour over the Seven Mountains leads by way of Sifersville and then over the "new pike." On leaving the "pike" the detour leads toward Garry's resort, and from there through the Garry lane to the Faust place on Sand Mountain where it intersects with the State highway.

The detour is now completed in a sense, yet further improvements are being made on it.

Detour signs have been placed at Pottery Mills and Milroy, but the contractors up to this time have been permitting auto to pass over the road under construction. Just when the road will be closed tight all depends on how the traveling public and the contractor get along.

Neighboring Neighbors.

Neighbors proved their worth to Michael Delaney, tenant on the W. H. Baird farm, south of Earlystown. Mr. Delaney was ill with flu, and his neighbors concluded that if the crops were to be put in on time there would be need of their assistance to do the plowing, so six of them put in a day or more turning the sod.

Paul Bradford and Morris Burkholder used their tractors and Clayton Wagner, Ralph Dingus, Charles Andrews and T. F. Delaney operated hand plows.

Since Friday Mr. Delaney has been able to be out of bed, and one of the things that looks especially good to him now is the bottom side of a lot of sod in his field.

Three Babies.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Chester W. Grove, on the Royer farm, at Earlystown, on Saturday. On the same day Mr. and Mrs. Orvis Weaver, in Centre Hall, were presented with a boy.

On the day previous a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Peters at the Peters Salvage Garage, near Pleasant Gap.

Dr. Hugh Morrow was the physician in attendance in the three cases.

Master Dewey for Pepper.

Philip Dewey, master of the Pennsylvania State Grange, formerly a Pinchot adherent, forsook him and declared for Pepper for U. S. Senator.

Heckman Home Burns.

The Jeremiah P. Heckman home, on the "back" road in Georges Valley, was completely destroyed by fire between noon and one o'clock on Saturday. The fire was caused by a spark from the fue falling on a shingle roof. Neighbors responded quickly and succeeded in salvaging all of the household goods. Insurance in the sum of \$700 will cover but a portion of the loss.

Mr. and Mrs. Heckman, both of whom are well advanced in years are being given a home by their son, Nestor Heckman, of near Spring Mills.

Postponed Auction Sale.

On account of the weather conditions, the auction sale at the Meiss Store, Colyer, advertised for last Saturday evening, was postponed. Favorable weather prevailing this Saturday evening, the auction sale will be held. All are cordially invited.—G. R. Meiss Colyer.

Killed at Chemical Lime Plant.

Michael DeLallo, aged 60, was instantly killed Sunday morning while at work in the quarry of the Chemical Lime company, Bellefonte, when a large stone fell from near the top of the mine and crushed the life out of DeLallo. The body was horribly mangled. He had worked at his type of work forty years and thirty-six years of that time he had worked in Bellefonte. Six and a half years ago a son, George, was killed in the same manner. A wife and nine children survive.

The Bulletin of the West's News-rows bridge, near Reedsville, within the next few months will have a certain ty. Arrangements are underway for the letting of the contract. The P. R. E. the State Highway Department and Mifflin county have come to an agreement as to the division of the cost.

Deaths.

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth (Stiver) Barr died at her home in Tyrone, Monday morning. Interment was made Wednesday afternoon, services conducted by her pastor, Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Speer.

Mrs. Barr was a daughter of the late Michael and Mary Ann Stiver. She was born at Boalsburg, February 1, 1844. Her early life was spent at the foothills of Seven Mountains where she gained a splendid common school education. On November 28, 1867, she was united in marriage with Samuel Wilson Barr. To this union were born three children, namely: Ralph, who died July 21, 1917; Miss Elsie, who died December 6, 1911; and William C. Barr who resides at the homestead in Tyrone. Mr. Barr preceded his wife to the great beyond August 5, 1911. Mrs. Barr was a member of the First Presbyterian church, the Sunday school, Woman's Home Missionary society and The Ladies Aid society. For thirty-five years she was superintendent of the Beginners Department of the Sunday school.

McCLINTIC—Charles McClintic, aged and respected citizen of Hartleton, passed away at his home at that place on April 19, after he had been a patient sufferer for the past two years.

Deceased was born near Centre Hill, April 7, 1848, and was the son of the late John and Evelyn McClintic. He was well known throughout the western part of Union county and was held in high esteem by everyone who knew him. Surviving are his widow, one son, Oliver, of West Brownsville, and one brother and one sister, Alexander McClintic, Yeagertown, and Alice Wherry, of Yeagertown. Funeral services were held from his late home Friday morning, Rev. Clippman, of the Presbyterian church, officiating.

McCLOSKEY.—Mrs. Catherine L. McCloskey, wife of N. M. McCloskey, passed away at her home in Clarence, Mrs. McCloskey had been ailing with heart trouble for two years and became bedfast six weeks ago. She was born in Penna Valley on October 24, 1845, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Weaver. July 4th, 1871, she was married to N. Mitchell McCloskey, making their married home in and around Marsh Creek until twenty-four years ago when they moved to Clarence. She was an active member of the Church of Christ for fifty years. Those left to mourn her death are her husband and eleven children: Joseph C. of Williamsport; Alvin C. of Kato; D. Lloyd, of Windber; J. Wm. Harvey G. Howard I. and Thomas C. of Clarence; Charles W. of Phillipsburg; Mrs. James Shay, of Towanda; Mrs. O. E. Metzger, of Akron, Ohio; Mrs. H. C. Thomas, of Wellsboro, O. Fifty-four grandchildren; twelve great grandchildren and one sister, Mrs. Irvin Wagner, of Blanchard. Funeral services were held at the Church of Christ in Snow Shoe; interment in the Snow Shoe cemetery.

KELLER.—Mrs. Susan E. Keller, widow of William Keller, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charles Fromm, of Bellefonte, the result of an illness of six weeks with dropsy. She had made her home with her daughter throughout the winter, previously living with her son, David Keller, of Rockview. Mrs. Keller was born in this county and had she lived until July she would have attained the age of 80 years. Her parents were Martin and Catherine Mease. Seventeen years ago her husband died. Surviving are these children: Mrs. Charles Fromm and Mrs. Edward Brown, both of Bellefonte; David Keller, of Rockview, and Jared, in the west. One sister, Mrs. Ephraim Keller, of Pleasant Gap, also survives. Funeral services were held at the Fromm home by Rev. Robert Thena, Reformed minister. The services were then continued in the church at Pleasant Gap, where interment took place.

GINGERY.—Mrs. William Gingery died at South Brownsville, Wednesday of last week. Her husband is a son of John Gingery, also of South Brownsville, the latter having been a resident of Centre Hall during the early eighties.

The funeral of Mrs. Gingery was attended by the following relatives from this section: John E. Rishel, Mrs. John E. Rishel, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gingrich, Centre Hall; Mrs. Wallace White, Mrs. Jacob Confer, Mr. and Mrs. James Summers, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Summers, of Bellefonte.

Miss Aura W. Coburn, at State College, aged 77 years.

Mrs. Bella Dunlap, at Fillmore, aged 60 years. The husband, Oscar Dunlap, and two sons survive.

Mrs. Laura Ellen Wyland, wife of David Wyland, at Milesburg, aged 65 years. Her husband has three sons and five daughters survive here.

Mrs. William Yarnell, formerly of Yarnell, at the home of Mrs. Otto McCoy, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Mrs. Lamanda Wilson, wife of John C. Wilson, at her home in Salona, aged 67 years.

Mrs. Mary McMahon, widow of Peter Mahon, in Bellefonte, aged almost 81 years. Several children and a brother, John Kearns, survive the deceased.

(Other deaths on inside page)

The League of Third Class Cities have arranged for a court test of the claim of about \$60,000 made by the State Highway Department, which sum represents fines collected by these cities in cases where arrests were made for speeding and reckless driving.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

D. C. Mitterling purchased the Dodge coach which F. V. Goodhart traded in on his purchase of a new Nash-Six.

The scarlet fever situation in Lemont has taken on the form of an epidemic. A large number of homes are quarantined.

Miss Freda McKinney, who had been in Altoona for some time, is back to her home at the State House, in Seven Mountains.

C. D. Bartholomew is having his dwelling house given a coat of paint. The work is being done by F. E. Arney and James Frohm.

The Lutheran and Reformed Union Sunday school, at Farmers Mills, last week purchased a new York piano from J. A. Harter, of the Harter Music store, Bellefonte.

The Millheim board of health as now constituted is as follows: Dr. E. M. Miller and J. R. Miller, 6 years; T. K. Frank and P. J. Meyer, 4 years; A. E. Bartzes, 2 years.

Mrs. George E. Homan purchased from S. G. Snook the lot adjoining the bungalow occupied by W. E. Weaver and family, in west Millheim, and it is likely she will build a dwelling house on it.

The grade schools in the boroughs start next week in closing for the term. Time lost by various teachers accounting for irregular closing periods. The High school has another month to go.

Bellefonte papers are cackling because the borough officers think they can get through 1926 without increasing the tax millage, which is now 25 mills—10 for street, 10 for borough, 5 for interest.

W. W. Kerlin exchanged a Star coupe-four on a six of the same style car. The deal was made with James I. Fetterolf, the Durant local dealer.

The Bartholomew family and Mrs. J. F. Lutz take this method of expressing their appreciation of all kindnesses shown them during their recent bereavement in the loss of both Mrs. Margaret Kreamer and Joseph F. Lutz.

The Stevenson property, south of Millheim, purchased from the heirs of Forest and Anna M. Stevenson by C. H. Pressler, was sold last week by the latter to Charles Gilmore, an employee of the Penna Valley Hosiery Mills and a son of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Gilmore.

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Reareick left Centre Hall within the past week, and are now residents of Houtsdale, Clearfield county, where Mr. Reareick has been assigned a territory which he will work for the Rawleigh Products company. Their many friends here wish them success.

Through the efforts of Ed. T. Jamison, the insurance agent at Spring Mills, a second check in the sum of \$25.00 was donated the Logan Fire company of Bellefonte, for their services during the fire which destroyed the Jasper A. Wagner home in Spring Mills a short time ago.

Among the homes being improved in Centre Hall is that of Grover Weaver's. Mr. Weaver is adding a section to the west side of his house and making the whole of it full two stories in height. E. E. Zettie is doing the work, while Mr. Weaver continues daily as a railroad section hand under Levi Hartley.

The real estate of the late William Klimefelter, advertised to have been sold on Saturday, on the premises, above Colyer, was not sold, although there were buyers on hand. It appears there were two tracts—two goods—and one had been discovered and advertised. On account of this the sale was postponed.

The large trees in several apple orchards in Half Moon Valley are being cut and made into logs by E. H. Zimmerman, the Millheim lumberman. The logs are shipped to the Diston & Co. factory and by them are sawed into convenient sizes and dried and later made into handles for the large number and variety of tools manufactured by them.

It is one of two things, either auto drivers on the new concrete road over the mountains to Phillipsburg are reckless or the head of the Highway Department is something like Roosevelt used to call his antagonists when he was pressed too hard. This Mr. Connell told a bunch of "Rubes" from Mifflin and Centre counties that the roads built by his department were all safe.

In a second baseball game between the upper and lower classes of the Centre Hall High school, the girls in the two higher classes tied their rivals, doing much better than in their first game, when they met defeat. The Freshmen and Sophomores, of course, still claim to be victors, but the Seniors and Juniors are determined not to leave the banner of victory with them permanently. These games have been creating much interest in school circles.

Rev. M. C. Drumm, former Lutheran pastor here, and now serving the Middleburg Lutheran pastorate, in a letter to the Reporter states that the Middleburg church has signed a contract to excavate and concrete the basement of that church, fitting same with a beautiful dining hall, kitchen and social room, which will make that church one of the finest in Snyder county. The improvements will cost \$4,000, toward which amount the Ladies Aid society has \$2800 in cash. The work is expected to be completed within six weeks.