



ROCKVIEW CHAPLAIN ARGUES FOR REPEAL DEATH PENALTY

Spiritual Advisor at Centre County Institution Appears as Witness at Harrisburg Hearing, Telling of Death Chamber Scene as Reasons Why State Should Cease Taking Life.

Opposing views of the value of capital punishment as a deterrent of crime were presented at a public hearing before the house judiciary general committee, in Harrisburg.

Advocates of the passage of the Ditter bill, which provides for the abolition of the death penalty in Pennsylvania, asked that the criminal be considered as an individual and not as a type, and presented statistics to prove that the rate of homicide in States where there is no penalty of death has actually been reduced.

Chaplain P. N. Osborne of Rockview penitentiary, reiterated several personal experiences in the death house of that prison as arguments for abolishing capital punishment. In his opinion, modern jurists "are too likely to convict the wrong man."

"Before I became chaplain at Rockview," he said, "I was heartily in accord with this form of punishment. But three years of experience with condemned men going to their death have changed my views. If the people of Pennsylvania really knew what goes on behind those walls, they too would endorse this proposal to substitute life imprisonment."

"Men have come to Rockview that have been innocent of murder in spite of what the jurists found. And there is the great danger—the danger of sending an innocent man to his death. The majority of them are there because they killed in self defense. Now in my mind, no man can be called a criminal because he had to resort to taking a life in defense of his own life. There is no red-blooded man in this State who would not invoke the law of self-preservation."

Chaplain Osborne painted graphic pictures of the sullen depression which descends over the prison on the morning of an execution.

"These men," he said, "know what is going on inside of that little house. But they go outside and say they would fire in self defense if they had to 'burn up' for it."

The unanimous sentiment, according to the chaplain, among the prisoners is that death is no deterrent to crime, and holds no fear for them.

Prof. Ray T. Bye, of the University of Pennsylvania, presented a group of statistics to prove that the crime of homicide had decreased in States where life is not forfeited. He said that at present eight States and a large number of foreign countries do not inflict this punishment.

Speaking of the Pennsylvania law which gives the right to recommend life imprisonment, Professor Bye declared that jurists are not always to be trusted. In his opinion too often they are swayed by emotion.

"Sometimes," he said, "they are blood thirsty and again they are moved by sympathy."

Co-operative Marketing.

"How Co-operative Marketing Benefits the Producer and Consumer of Milk," will be the subject of Mr. Sexauer's 15-minute speech, over WTG, Schenectady, this (Thursday) evening at 7:30. He will outline the business methods of a modern farmers' co-operative marketing organization showing the service it performs for both producers and consumers. Mr. Sexauer will tell how the Dairymen's League aids the farmer by providing orderly outlets and steady markets for his product, and helps the consumer by assuring plentiful supplies of high quality commodities at all seasons of the year.

Rare Golden Eagle Presented to Middleburg High School.

A mounted golden eagle, one of the species of birds once common in the northern hemisphere, and still not uncommon in the British Isles, although very rare in Pennsylvania, has been presented to the Middleburg High school by the State Game Commission.

It is alleged that the eagle was taken illegally somewhere in the locality of Shamokin, and it was confiscated in the name of the Commonwealth by Game Warden B. P. Yeager, of Northumberland.

The bird will be kept in a case to be constructed by the boys of the vocational department. It may not be sold by the school, and in case legality of the death of the bird and of former ownership should be established the gift will be revoked.

measures almost seven feet from tip to tip of expanded wing, and three feet, three and a half inches from the beak to the end of the tail. The feathers of the head and neck are pointed and of a lighter, more reddish golden hue. The feet and the cere are quite yellow, with black talons, several of which are two and a half inches in length and all very sharp. One claw is missing, perhaps lost in a trap or in a fight with some animal.

Golden Eagles are fierce and strong. Instances are on record where they have borne away lambs and other small animals and in isolated cases, even children.

The Centre Reporter \$1.50 a year.

CENTRE COUNTY HOSPITAL NOTES.

Philip Walker, of Blanchard, who has been a medical patient, was discharged on Monday of last week.

Harold Menter, Penn State student, whose home is in Lancaster county, was discharged on Monday after having received surgical treatment.

Mrs. John Heverly, of Curtin township, a surgical patient, was discharged on Tuesday.

Miss Mary Hoekman, of Walker township, was discharged on Monday after undergoing surgical treatment.

Mrs. Raymond Smoke, of Fleming, was admitted on Wednesday, and on the following day a daughter was born to her. Both mother and the babe are doing fine.

Mrs. Levica Martin, of Bellefonte, was admitted on Monday for surgical treatment.

Mrs. Wm. Korman, of Spring township, was admitted on Wednesday for surgical treatment.

P. Lloyd Weaver, of State College, was admitted on Friday for surgical treatment.

Miss Elizabeth Brown, of Bellefonte, was admitted on Friday for medical treatment.

Joseph Barnes, of Bellefonte, who was a surgical patient for the past two weeks, was discharged on Friday.

Mrs. Anna Burns and child, of Pleasant Gap, were discharged on Friday.

Charles Kreamer, of Bellefonte, was admitted on Saturday for medical treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. John Scaughnessy, of Bellefonte, are receiving congratulations over the birth of a daughter on Saturday. Both mother and babe are fine.

Mrs. Thomas Way, of Stormstown, was admitted on Saturday for medical treatment.

Miss Beatrice Tierney, of Bellefonte, was admitted on Saturday as a surgical patient.

Mrs. John Benner, of Bellefonte, who had been a medical patient, was discharged on Sunday.

Mrs. Mary Simeo and infant, wife and daughter of Andrew Simeo, of Bellefonte, were discharged on Sunday.

Mrs. Linn McGinley, of Bellefonte, who had been a surgical patient, was discharged on Sunday.

Miss Lydia Jackson, of Bellefonte, a medical patient for the past two weeks, was discharged on Sunday.

Miss Madeline Shirk, 11-year-old daughter of J. H. Shirk, of Union township, who had been a medical patient, was discharged on Saturday.

Mrs. George J. Bar, of State College, a surgical patient for the past four weeks, was discharged on Saturday.

CENTRE COUNTY HOSPITAL.

Report of Manager Brown Shows His Department Received a Total of Cash Contributions in the Sum of \$31,675.99—Total Annual Membership Drive Receipts, \$7,643.03—Almost 1000 Patients Admitted.

The annual report of the Centre County Hospital has been printed in book form as prepared by Manager William H. Brown. A portion of the report of the maintenance department is reprinted and will be found of interest to the public.

The hospital is a non-denominational and non-sectarian public hospital for the reception, treatment and care of sick or injured persons without distinction as to race, color, religion or ability to pay.

During the year there have been 919 patients admitted, being 453 surgical and 266 medical, 84 births, 341 patients were radiographed and 3,043 laboratory tests were made. The average number of patients per day was 33 in comparison with the average of 23 in 1927. \$30,415.52 were received from patients in the hospital and \$6,750 paid by the State for charity patients, a total of \$37,165.52, while the operating expenses for the year totaled \$45,015.54, thereby leaving an operating deficit of \$8,850.02. This deficit was partly made up through income from endowment funds, special cash offerings, material help and offerings from auxiliaries, and from contributions from the May drive.

Each session of the State Legislature has been appropriating funds for the support of the hospital, but these funds come to the hospital as it is earned. They are not available at once, as is believed by many people. It is given only to the extent that charity service is rendered. This compensation is allowed only for each charity patient day by such an amount as shall represent the actual cost per diem of maintaining and caring for a charity patient, such per diem cost not to exceed \$3.00 per day. The 1927 legislature appropriated \$18,000 to reimburse your hospital for charity service rendered during the two fiscal years beginning June 1, 1927. This allowed \$9,000 for the fiscal year June 1, 1928 to May 31, 1929. Of this \$6,750.00 have been received and the balance will be due at the end of the fiscal year. The cost of a patient per day is more than the amount allowed by the State in paying charity service, therefore the difference has to be paid by the hospital, which varies according to the cost per day of a patient. This cost per diem amount is only an aid in the expense of charity service.

The average cost of maintaining a patient a day was \$4.98 in 1927 and \$3.72 in 1928. This average is among the lowest costs in the State.

Even with the low cost and amount allowed for charity service by the State you will see that the hospital is doing a large amount of charity service. The hospital can become greater only by the efforts of the communities which it serves in contributing to its financial support from year to year. Every citizen and business concern must recognize the financial responsibility that rests upon them in contributing the best they can in service and help to the splendid institution they have at their door. It is through this great effort that the hospital will succeed.

The opportunity is given by the annual drives to all the citizens of the county to unite in their efforts and assume their obligations toward the hospital.

The drive of 1928 was carried on very successfully and amounted to a net total of \$7,214.64, of which \$1,148.00 went to the hospital maintenance, \$720.50 to Women's Auxiliary for membership and balance to Capital account. Much credit is due to all who so willingly gave of their time to bring the drive to such a successful close. The annual drive for 1929 will be carried on in much the same manner and should bring in greater results.

Among the many objects of the coming year is a fund for a new Nurses' Home to be built on the hospital grounds. This building is one that is greatly needed for the successful operation of the hospital and necessary to fulfill the requirements of the State. The capacity of the present home is greatly over-taxed.

Cash Receipts for Maintenance.

Table listing various expenses and receipts for maintenance, including operating room, delivery room, sale of meals, X-ray, laboratory, extra nurses' board, drugs, medical and surgical supplies, ambulance, sale of material, out patients dispensary, laboratory, X-ray, telephone, telegraph, postage, contributions, county appropriations, and state appropriations.

Total receipts \$41,675.99 [Note:—But \$1140 of the membership fund was paid to this department. The remainder went to the capital fund.]

The sums contributed in the Hospital Membership drive last year by the districts are noted as follows:

Table showing contributions from various districts: Bellefonte borough (\$2700.00), Centre Hall borough (411.60), Millersburg borough (83.85), Millheim borough (144.90), State College borough (733.25), Benner township (26.00), College township (105.00), Ferguson township (249.50).

(Continued on next column)

\$10,000 FIRE AT PLEASANT GAP THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Henry Noll Heaviest Loser, With No Insurance—Plane Motors and Garage Equipment Stored in Barn Total Loss—Noll Brothers Also Have Two Stables Burned.

A fire at Pleasant Gap, starting at 2:45 Thursday afternoon, destroyed property in buildings and movable property to the value of approximately \$10,000. The exact origin of the fire is unknown, and was first observed on the hay mow of a stable on a property occupied by Wilbur Saxton, and owned by Noll Brothers. The flames spread so quickly that before much of the property could be salvaged three large stables—two belonging to Noll Brothers and one to Henry Noll—a two-car garage belonging to the latter, as well as several smaller buildings were aflame and doomed to destruction. The Underline fire company was called into service, but the buildings were pretty well consumed before it arrived. A good service was rendered in keeping the fire within the original bounds.

The heaviest loser was Henry Noll, the aviator, who had no insurance on any of the property destroyed, and was away from home at the time of the fire. Besides the buildings three airplane motors were burned. One of these was on a truck in the original packing; the other two had been rebuilt recently. Two other motors of less value were removed. A Ford touring car, Ford ton truck, a Chrysler motor and four other-auto motors, and a large number of tools and equipment for repairing planes, were among the losses. Mr. Noll's loss is estimated, in his absence, at between \$5,000 and \$6,000.

The Noll Brothers were more fortunate in that their property was partially insured. Their loss consisted principally in the two large stables and other smaller buildings.

The site of the fire was rear of the well known Noll Bros. store building, two of the barns bordering on the "Hornstown" road.

49th Wedding Anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Geiss Wagner celebrated the forty-ninth anniversary of their wedding on Thursday evening. Their marriage took place in Bensburg where the ceremony was performed by Rev. William H. Groh. Mrs. Wagner before marriage was Miss Emma Smith. A few years after their marriage the couple went to Manhattan, Illinois, where they engaged in farming for a period of twenty-two years. On coming back to Pennsylvania they first located in Gregg township and later purchased the Wagner homestead south of town, which place was farmed by them until retiring from active work. This was twelve years ago, which is the length of time they have lived in Centre Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Wagner have not been endeared to any appreciable extent by age, and there is every reason to believe they will be able to repeat these anniversaries many times.

The guests present on the occasion included their children and families and a few friends, namely: Mr. and Mrs. J. F. McClellan and children, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Ishler and children, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Miller and children, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Fink and son, and Alfred Grove. Mrs. Fink is a sister to Mr. Wagner, and celebrated a birthday at the same time.

Scott's Road Bills.

Senator Scott's road program was completed recently and resulted in including two routes in Centre county. The one route, in Senate Bill 547, is that leading from Old Fort west to Lemont, by the way of Linden Hall and Oak Hall. The other route is a link beginning at Runville thence to Yarnell, Komola to Esleville. These routes are in addition to the Bald Eagle road mentioned heretofore, which begins at Millersburg and leads to the Centre-Corning county line, and on through to Mill Hill.

Bake Sale and Bazaar.

On the afternoon and evening of Saturday, April 13th, the Ladies' Aid Society of the Spucetown M. E. church will hold a bazaar and bake sale in the basement of the church. Bonnets, aprons, and caps; pop corn, cakes, cookies and home-made ice cream will be for sale. In the evening a "grab bag" will be one of the main features. Come one and all, and take a grab.

(Continued from previous column.)

Table showing additional contributions: Gregg township (160.00), Harris township (102.00), Huston township (154.00), Howard borough, Marion, Curwin and Liberty twps. (151.25), Half Moon twp. (40.00), Haines twp. (45.00), Miles twp. (145.00), Port Matilda boro, Worth and Taylor twps. (67.00), Patton twp. (36.25), Potter twp. (144.00), Penn twp. (81.50), Snow Shoe boro and Snow Shoe township (197.25), Spring twp. (1072.25), Unionville boro and Union township (134.00), Walker twp. (128.75).

A Bill Providing \$10,000 for Two Years Has Been Introduced in the Legislature.

It is probable, however, due to the ever watchfulness and interest of Manager Brown, that this may be increased by a few thousand dollars.

BASEBALL SCHEDULE FOR CENTRE CO. HIGH SCHOOLS

The Centre County High School Baseball League has been organized and the schedule arranged as follows:

- April 19—Centre Hall at Boalsburg. Boalsburg at Port Matilda. April 24—Centre Hall at Howard. Rebersburg at Port Matilda. April 26—Howard at Centre Hall. Rebersburg at Boalsburg. May 1—Boalsburg at Centre Hall. Howard at Rebersburg. May 3—Port Matilda at Howard. Rebersburg at Centre Hall. May 8—Centre Hall at Boalsburg. May 10—Boalsburg at Howard. Centre Hall at Port Matilda. May 15—Boalsburg at Rebersburg. Howard at Port Matilda. May 17—Rebersburg at Howard. Port Matilda at Boalsburg. May 24—Port Matilda at Centre Hall. Howard at Boalsburg.

Local I. O. O. F. Installation.

On Saturday evening, D. D. G. M. H. M. Hosterman, of Boalsburg, installed the following officers in Centre Hall lodge I. O. O. F. No. 895:

- Noble Grand—John H. Burkholder. Vice Grand—George H. McCormick. Warden—W. E. Homan. Conductor—John Delaney. Inside Guard—W. S. Walker. Outside Guard—Roy Dutrow. R. S. to N. G.—V. A. Auman. L. S. to N. G.—Fred Slack. L. S. to V. G.—C. A. Spyster. L. S. to V. G.—Clarence Miller.

- Chaplain—M. I. Emerick. R. S. to R.—Wm H. Homan. L. S. to R.—Samuel Cross. Trustee—W. H. Homan. Representative to Orphans' Home, Sunbury—Roy Dutrow. Representative to Grand Lodge—J. Wm. Rendford.

Visiting members were present from Boalsburg, Lock Haven, Millheim and Spring Mills lodges. After the business session refreshments were served and all enjoyed a social time.

McCool—Ulrich.

John L. McCool, of Millroy, and Miss Mary J. Ulrich, of Spring Mills, were united in marriage at the Lutheran parsonage, on Sunday.

"THE VEILED LADY CAVERN" IS NOW OPEN.

"The Veiled Lady Cavern," the new cave opened along State Highway Route No. 95, east of Centre Hall, has been opened for business. The official opening, however, will be about May 30th, with a band concert and other attractions. The new cave is owned and has been developed by G. E. Hauret, of Bellefonte, who is now permanently located on the farm on which the cave is located.

Noll's Garage at Pleasant Gap Sold.

Henry Noll, the garageman and aviator at Pleasant Gap, sold his garage to Millard Shreffler, who will come the same. Mr. Shreffler has been associated with Ray Noll in the sale of automobiles.

The sale of the garage necessitated the removal of a large variety of plane equipment to the place nearby where it was totally destroyed by fire a few days later.

Fire Near State College.

The home of Homer Wieland, about a mile out of State College on the Waddle road, was destroyed by fire Monday afternoon when wind-blown sparks from the chimney ignited the roof shingles.

Valuable antiques, some of which were sold to be nearly 300 years old, and worth thousands of dollars, were lost with the other house furnishings when the ancient log home burned down.

A bucket brigade, organized almost immediately after the blaze was noted, saved the adjacent buildings but was useless against the flames in the home. The State College Fire department, which was called soon after the discovery, was handicapped by lack of water and the high wind.

Insurance to the amount of \$1000 was held in the Centre Hall fire insurance company, E. M. Fisher, secretary.

BOROUGH SCHOOL REPORT.

Report of 7th and 8th Grades, for seventh month: Per cent. of attendance, boys 87, girls 95; perfect attendance, boys 6, girls 1. Pupils making 100 per cent. in tests: Arithmetic—Betty Eberhart, Beula Meyer, John Sykker, Hugh Morrow, Bruce Hartley, Harold Dunkle, Reuben Rickett, English—Muth Bailey, John Sykker, History—Hugh Morrow, Lawrence Hartley, Geography—Muth Bailey, J. E. N. Sykker, Hugh Morrow, Jack Coldron, Franklin Meyer, Harold Dunkle, Spelling—Hugh Morrow, Jack Coldron.

Wm. H. Haney, teacher.

Letter from Minnesota.

Osseo, Minn., April 4, 1929. Editor Reporter: You will find enclosed money order for my paper. I get it on Friday of each week.

Last year we had a good crop of wheat, corn and potatoes, but got nothing for potatoes. The "best" crop here is moonshine; you can get that on the sidewalk.

We had the coldest weather here from the first of January until the first of March in all my 23 years living in Minnesota. We are now working in the fields. Yours truly, G. M. SMETZLER.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Look at the label of your paper this week. If you paid on subscription, credit should be shown. If the figures indicate indebtedness to us, we would appreciate a remittance.

It's spring time but we are having summer weather.

Two bull calves, Holsteins, and eight pigs for registry, were recently born at the F. C. Mensch dairy barn, at Millheim.

The shower on Thursday forenoon of last week was accompanied with peals of thunder and flashes of lightning, the first of any note this spring.

E. M. Huyett had his front porch rebuilt and made more modern in appearance. The carpenter work was done by H. H. Mark and painting by J. M. Coldron.

With the idea of producing broilers for the market, Grover C. Musser, of Millheim, is growing nearly a thousand barred Plymouth Rock chicks and may increase the number later.

The Women's Home and Foreign Missionary societies of the northern conference of the Synusquehanna synod, Lutheran church, will meet in Millheim, St. John's Lutheran church, on Thursday, May 9.

A bronze turkey hen was received by express by Earnest Treasurer, of near Potters Mills. The hen will replace one of two hens of the same breed shipped to him some time ago that became sick and died.

H. H. Decker, accompanied by Mrs. Decker, drove here from their new home in Nippenose Valley. Mr. Decker related that up to Saturday he had not done any farming, but having purchased a new tractor, he is now ready to do so.

Another quilting party was held at the home of Mrs. V. A. Auman, in town, on Thursday. The sewing was done by the Senior Service class of the Lutheran Sunday school, who have quilted seven or eight covers for parties in various sections.

Bellefonte has again been assured of being provided with funds from the National treasury to build a post office building. The bill is to be presented to Congress at the next regular session beginning in December. \$95,000 is the sum named in the measure.

Mrs. Richard Gelin and little daughter, Jeanne, of Greensburg, were arrivals here Thursday of last week, and went on to Nittany Valley to visit among relatives. Mr. Gelin was scheduled to come to Centre county Saturday and a few days later accompany them home.

Harry Hill, long engaged as a plasterer and living at Pleasant Gap, is building the foundation for a new home in that town. The location is a short distance north of the Noll garage, on the west side of the highway. The house will be a frame structure of the bungalow type.

The W. H. Cummings home in Millheim, bid in by Mrs. Daley Evans for \$1250 at the public sale recently, was rejected by her and fell to the next highest bidder, John M. Boob, whose bid was \$1200. Mr. Boob intends making some repairs and improvements and will probably occupy it himself.

Gilbert Hancock, one of the faculty of the Rebersburg High school, is the proud father of a son, born recently in the McGillir sanitarium, Philadelphia, where Mr. and Mrs. Hancock were reared. The father is the son of Squire R. E. Hancock, a prominent justice and business man in Philadelphia.

The High school building about to be jointly erected by Millheim borough, Halnes and Penn townships, and the High school to be conducted by the three districts, will be officially known as the Penn Valley High School, Millheim. The location of the site selected for the school is midway between Millheim and Aaronsburg, on the south side of the State highway.

The four glass-lined milk tank cars used on the local branch railroad by the Sheffield Farms Company, are being improved and are being sent one at a time to New York City for that purpose. The cars are equipped with electric motors to facilitate loading and unloading the milk. One of the improvements introduced is the installation of an air line that prevents milk entering the air system.

At the recent box social held by the Manor Hill school, Miss Frances Brooks, teacher, \$25.42 was realized. Miss Brooks asks the Reporter to convey her gratitude to the patrons who contributed articles used in filling the boxes. A feature of the program of special interest was an old-fashioned spelling bee between pupils of the Manor Hill and Pine Stump schools. In the contest, Manor Hill emerged victorious.

While in Reading recently, Rev. and Mrs. D. R. Keener had the pleasure of a treat at the Strand theatre, Rathafel, known to the public as Roxey, director of the Roxey theatre in New York City, was guest director of the Reading Ringold band of which R. D. Schlegel, father of Mrs. Keener, is a member, which organization furnishes music at the Strand. The director brought with him several of the Roxey Gang, each of whom gave solo numbers. The Roxey Gang is well known to radio fans.