

The Centre Reporter

VOL. CVI.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1932.

NO. 48.

Teachers In Seven School Districts to Gather in "Substitute Institute"

FIRST OF ITS KIND SINCE ELIMINATING COUNTY INSTITUTE.—POTTER, GREGG, MILES, PENN AND HAINES TOWNS, CENTRE HALL AND MILLHEIM BOROUGHS COMPRISE THE DISTRICT.

A district teachers' institute will be held at Spring Mills in the High school building this coming Friday afternoon and evening, beginning at 1:30 o'clock, December 9, at which time the public school teachers of Potter, Gregg, Miles, Penn and Haines townships, and Centre Hall and Millheim boroughs will convene to fulfill the requirements of a substitute institute.

The committee appointed by the County Supt. of Schools, F. G. Rogers, consists of O. R. Wagner, chairman, J. F. Wetzel, C. M. Waits, and Mrs. Mary M. Abbott.

There will be a general session beginning at 1:30 P. M. at which time Supt. Rogers will outline the ten-year plan, after which there will be sectional meetings of the grade school and High school groups. The grade school sec-

tion will have a reading demonstration as arranged by Mr. Watts and a discussion of the non-resident pupil by Mr. Wetzel. The High school section will discuss extra curricular activities under the direction of Mrs. Abbott and Vocational guidance under the direction of Mr. Wagner.

The evening session beginning at 7:30 will consist of two addresses. Miss Mary Jane Wyland of Penn State College will speak on "Mastery Levels of Teaching." Hon. Lee Francis Lybarger of Millifield will speak on "The Power of Using Words."

Music will be furnished at the afternoon and evening sessions by the High school orchestra of Spring Mills.

Attendance at this institute is not compulsory, but it is expected that all of the forty-five teachers in this district will attend.

COUNTY LIVESTOCK TEAM BACK FROM CHICAGO SHOW

The Centre County 4H livestock judging team, under the direction of County Agent R. C. Blaney, returned from the National contest, which was held at Chicago, Friday of last week.

The Centre county team was made up of the following members: Samuel Stiver, Julian; Lee Homan, State College; and Elmer Stiver, Julian, who competed in the National contest which was held at the International Livestock Show as representatives of the State of Pennsylvania, having won the State contest which was decided at boys and girls' club week which was held at State College in August. The Pennsylvania team placed 14th in the national contest with a score of 1236 points out of a possible 1800 points. This was 236 points below the winning team which came from Minnesota and scored

ed 1472 points. The contest was very closely fought with only 60 points difference in the scores of the first nine teams. Samuel Stiver placed first as an individual in judging sheep with a score of 148 points out of a possible 150.

This is the first time in the history of 4H club work in Centre county that the honor of representing Pennsylvania at this national gathering has come to Centre county.

A forest fire broke out on Nittany Mountain, on the south side of Little Sugar Valley, in Miles township, Monday afternoon. The fire started at a point west of the high power electric line over the mountain on lands belonging to the Pittsburgh Coal and Coke Company; about 50 acres were burned over before forest fire-fighters, among whom were Ranger Brooks and others from about here, got the fire under control.

Brief History of the Gross Silk Mill at Spring Mills

An annual payroll of over \$2000 per month results from the operating of a silk mill in Spring Mills. The silk mill, the Sheffield Farms milk plant, and a like plant by the Dairyman's League are the three principal sources of pay envelopes handed out monthly to workmen—men, women and girls—nearly all residents of Spring Mills and environs.

This article is devoted exclusively to a brief history of the Gross Silk Mill, and the leading characters who made the industry possible and keep it in continuous operation.

The mill was built and completely equipped, in 1921, by F. Q. Hartman, now living in Millheim. Mr. Hartman is an unique character. He built a number of mills, much like that now operating in Spring Mills, in various sections of Central Pennsylvania. The plants were built and equipped and for a time operated by him without financial aid of the communities where they were located. Building silk mills is a business with Mr. Hartman, and with the recovery of the silk industry he will continue to prosecute it.

The mill at Spring Mills erected in 1921 was purchased by Claude G. Aikens, of State College, shortly thereafter and during his ownership was superintended by Jay Eiden. It was only about a year later when the mill passed into the hands of W. F. Gross and an associate in business, Mr. Bloom, both of whom were experienced men in every detail of the work done in plants of the kind they purchased. Mr. Bloom became the manager of the plant.

The interests of Mr. Bloom passed to Mr. Gross, January, 1924, and became known as the Gross Silk Mill, and carries that name at this time. Mr. Gross being sole owner of the plant, together with two other similar plants—one at Selmsgrove, the capacity of which is about three times as large as the one in comparison, and one at Port Trevorton, twice as large. These two plants employ 125 and 65 persons, respectively.

Upon acquiring the Spring Mills plant, Mr. Gross transferred John C. Robinson from Selmsgrove to his new mill holding at Spring Mills, and made him superintendent of it. Mr. Robinson learned every detail of the work in mills like he was placed at the head of, and consequently was able to manage with such skill that the plant has been operated without a shut-down except for repairs during his administration. He is not only a skilled mill operator, but has the faculty of getting the best services from the employees without losing their respect and affection. This is emphasized when it is stated that for a period of almost two years there were no changes in the personnel of the mill—high or low—and the change then made was among new workers. A further evidence of the efficiency of the present superintendent is the fact that during his administration the number of employees has been more than doubled, increased from eighteen to thirty-eight at present, and the output from 500 to 600 pounds of raw silk per week to 1400 pounds of raw silk in the same period.

It is the optimism of silk mill owners that is keeping the mills in operation. The silk industry, by the way, is seeking legislation, Mr. Robinson said, that may prove a boon to those most progressive and original. They are asking that they may be privileged to patent their designs so that duplication of them in which inferior silks and workmanship are employed may be avoided.

Mr. Robinson is a native of Danville, and is not only an ideal silk mill superintendent, but also a pleasant gentleman to come in contact with. He has adopted Spring Mills as his home, and is interested in every move that aims to further the varied interests of his people. The Robinson family consists of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson and four daughters—Barbara, Rebecca, Dorothy and Bettie-Jane. The latter, eight years old, is with her parents, and is attending the grade school. Misses Barbara and Rebecca are in training in the school for nurses in Avington Hospital, Philadelphia, and Miss Dorothy is a freshman in the William Penn High school, Harrisburg.

The work done at the mill in a manner is simple, although rather intricate machinery is in use and produces a humming distinctive to mills of its kind. The labor requirements of the employes is near nil, yet there is necessary a constant watching, and when attention is needed, skilled hands and fingers play a large part. The operations consist of producing a thread of 2, 3, 4 or 5 strands, as is desired, from skeins of raw silk, winding it on bobbins, and later taking the excess twist out of it by a steaming process.

The raw silk comes from Japan and is in the form of skeins, thirty to a pack or book, and thirty to a bale of 140 pounds. The first operation at the mill is termed "soaking." The skeins are placed in a sack and immersed in a solution, which at the same time colors it, the coloring being only for the convenience of designation. Before woven into cloth this coloring is washed out.

Sixteen winding machines are operated ten hours each day by girls and young women. The winding is from a reel on which the skeins are placed to bobbins. The four 5B spinners, with 104 bobbins to a machine, are operated by men, and the thirty twisting machines with 104 bobbins each, by girls. In order that the twist and spinners keep pace with the other operators, the spinning and twisting is a continuous operation, day and night, except for the greater part of Sundays.

The present working force is thirty-eight. The day men are all married, and but three single men are on the night force. Three of the oldest employees in point of service are Jacob Sharer, who has had charge of the winding department for eight years, Clayton Snyder, who for an equal length of time has been night superintendent, while John Albright, in the spinning department, has been on the payroll since the advent of Mr. Robinson.

DEPUTY SHERIFF FATALLY WOUNDED BY ATTORNEY

Beaver County Hunter Shot Through Body—Mill Hall Man Held for Hearing—Blair County Hunter Is Also Killed.

Deputy Sheriff Charles E. Spring, of Lycoming county, and William A. Swisher, of New Sheffield, Beaver county, were both killed while hunting, on Friday, the former near Laurel Hill Game and Forestry Club house, about two miles from Buttonwood, Lycoming county, and the latter outside of thence surrounding Otziaschson game preserve, sometimes known as Sunnyside Park, Clinton county.

Deputy Sheriff Spring was hit in the abdomen by a bullet fired by M. E. Haggerty, a Lock Haven attorney, at a deer as it was leaping over a fence. He knew nothing of Springs' presence until he heard his cries for help.

The Beaver county hunter lost his life through having been mistaken for a deer by Clyde B. Mauck, of Mill Hall, as was found by a coroner's verdict.

Alfred D. Aurandt, 66, of Williamsburg, was found dead at the top of Canoe Mountain Friday afternoon at about 2:30 o'clock in the first fatal hunting accident in Blair county. It is not known who is responsible for the accident. His own gun was completely loaded.

FOSTER BREON PURCHASED BUNGALOW IN SPRING MILLS

The pretty new bungalow erected during the past year by Dan Smith on the hill south of Long's Store, Spring Mills, was recently purchased by Foster Breon, of that place. The bungalow is one of two very similar properties erected on adjoining lots by Mr. Smith, the one to the north being occupied by Mr. Smith's son-in-law and daughter. Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Confer. The Breons are now occupying the place. Mr. Breon is employed in the Sheffield Farms milk plant in Spring Mills.

ONE-ACT PLAY CONTEST.

Enthusiastic followers of the Centre County rural dramatic tournament will be interested in the final elimination contest to be held between the winners of the Centre county group and the winner of the Huntingdon county group in Progress Grange hall at Centre Hall, on Monday evening of next week, December 12th.

The Centre county winner will be selected from the following four organizations: Victor Grange, Logan Grange, Penn State Grange, and Halimoon Grange, at the tournament held in Centre Hall this (Thursday) evening.

In order to defray the expenses of the tournament the same charges will be made for the Centre county tournament, 25c for adults, and 15c for children.

REV. ERNEST MOYER ELECTED PASTOR BELLEFONTE CHURCH

Sunday morning at an election conducted by Rev. Harr. of Lock Haven, in the Bellefonte Reformed church, Rev. Ernest Moyer, of Perkasie, Bucks county, was elected pastor to succeed Rev. Robert Thena. The charge has been vacant since the latter part of July.

Learners Given Licenses.

Those who received permits to drive a motor vehicle at the test given at Bellefonte, last week, were: Martha E. Overholts, State College; Alden R. Gates, State College; Luther M. Lindemuth, Bellefonte. One applicant failed.

NAMING THE P. M.

AT STATE COLLEGE

State College residents are discussing the question of who will be the postmaster when the next head of the office is named. Before the election only Republicans were under consideration, and among them were Guy Z. Stover, Fred Harvey, Wilbur Leitell, George Glenn, the incumbent, Donald Wieland, A. P. Wieland, Scott Wieland and Harry Womer. Of course, after the election this list was scrapped, and possible selections include Robert J. Miller, who was the Democratic candidate for the Assembly, Ray D. Gilliland, Diemer Pearce, Cleve Snyder, and N. E. Hess.

The present postmaster is George Glenn, whose salary is \$3500. The office is the only one of the first-class rank in the county, Bellefonte having dropped from first to second-class during the past year.

President Hetzel says so far as he knew there were no irregularities in connection with the granting of these scholarships at Penn State.

Jack Montgomery, ace pitcher of the Bellefonte team in the Centre County League, whose star twirling carried his team to the top in the pennant race, and now student at Villa Nova College, will furnish batting practice for the Philadelphia Athletics at the close of his college year next spring. It is understood that he will travel with the club from city to city and toss 'em up for the A's big hitters. This assignment is looked upon as an opportunity for "Monty" to "make" the big leagues, his stay depending altogether upon his ability. Already we can see our local ball tossers throw out their chests and say, "I used to-ould hit that guy; he was a clench." To which we reply, "Oh, yeh?"

DEER-KILL IN SEVEN MTS. VERY LIGHT THIS YEAR

All the "ginger" has been taken from the Seven Mountains as a prolific field for deer. Once seen in droves, almost every day in the year, during the present hunting season many hunters have made the "drive" for the day without having come across a single doe or buck. A large number of long-established hunting camps are idle, and many of those occupied have only a remnant of the club in them.

In Forest Ranger McKinney's district there have been but few violations. Four does and a spike buck were discovered. A young buck with a broken back was brought in and sent to the hospital.

The McAllinterville party killed a fox. Four bears were seen in Treaster Valley. Wild turkeys seem to be plentiful, whole flocks having been discovered.

Following are given the camps successful in taking bucks up to Tuesday evening, the total for the McKinney field being but thirty-three. To this must be added about ten killed by individual and group day hunters.

Big Chiques Hunting Club, Manheim, head of Treaster Kettle, 1; Mexico Gun Club, Treaster Kettle, 2; Pleasant Gap Club, at Bechtel Gap, 1; Bradford Hunting Club, at Pole Bridge, 1; Slack Hunting Club, Stone Creek Gap, 1; Thompsonston Gun Club, at Sassafras, 2; Camp Evergreen of Morgantown, at Stave Field, 1; Lebanon Gun Club, at Gentzels Field, Decker Valley, 1; Sweetwood Club, head of Poe Valley, 3; Spring Garden Club, of Lancaster, in Big Poe Valley, 1; Camp Shawnee, of Paxanix, Wild Cat Gap, 1; John Blauser party, of York, 1; Decker Gun Club, Spring Mills, at Logan Decker, 1; Union Hunting Club, of Red Lion, 1; Gap school house, 1; Gentzel Club of Shamokin, in Decker Valley, 1; Maner Hunting Club, of Maner, in Ripka Fields, Decker Valley, 2; Long Mt. Hunting Club, of McKeesport, at Garry Dam, 4; Morning Glory Club of Potters Mills, 3; Schuykill County party, at Bruce Weaver's in Nevil house, 1; Camp Gray, of Somerset county, on Bald Mt., 1; Earl Smith's day hunters, Potters Mills, 3.

Successful Deer Hunters In and About Town.

Below are noted hunters from town and nearby who were successful in killing a buck. In some instances the hunter was a member of a regular party, in others in a day group, while a few were out as individuals.

Fred Slack, with the Slack party on Grass Mountain.

John Ream, an individual hunter, early on the first day of the season.

Mrs. Robert Mullen, of Pittsburgh, on Nittany Mt. She was hunting with her husband with a Top of Nittany Mt. camp.

Harold Bohn, with the Bradford party.

H. L. Ebricht, with a party in the Alleghenies; likewise W. E. MacMorran, Bruce Knarr, Ray Decker, Ernest Homan and Ralph Homan.

Franklin Moyer, a High school youth, shot a buck near the Centre Hall reservoir.

Ray Mark, with a party in Poe Valley.

Clarence Walker, at Sand spring, Nittany Mountain.

Mr. Moyer, Lester Auman, Gilbert Riegel, of Pleasant Gap, one each, on Nittany Mt.; Perry Light, of Palmyra, on Nittany Mt.

Lee Brooks Gets 200 Lb. Buck.

What local hunters declare to have been one of the finest specimens of the deer tribe, was taken off the penitentiary grounds, not far from Centre Hall, by Lee Brooks, farmer of near town, last Friday afternoon. The animal had a rack of wide-spreading antlers, numbering 13 points, and weighing 200 lbs. Jerry Smith was hunting with Mr. Brooks when the kill was made.

The head and entrails of a doe deer were found lying on Hoffer street, in the heart of Centre Hall borough, Sunday morning, evidently dropped from a car Saturday night. A bullet through the head tells the story.

TURKEY BREAKS THROUGH WINDOW AT MILLFENBURG

While he was reading a book and sitting in the kitchen of his home near Millfenburg, Ted Wagner, a son of Roy Wagner, was quite surprised when a turkey crashed through the window near where he was sitting and skidded across the floor. He captured the turkey and a short time afterward a neighbor, Roy Arbogast, came to the Wagner home to claim the turkey.

While out hunting for racoon one night, Arbogast found one of his turkeys perched in a tree, and climbed the tree to catch the bird. As he was about to take hold of the turkey it flew out of the tree and struck the window of the Wagner home.

AIDS HIGH SCHOOL PAPERS.

Editors and advisers of High school papers in Pennsylvania may receive suggestions and criticisms through the School Press Exchange, a mimeographed bulletin issued by the department of Journalism of the Pennsylvania State College. High school papers will place Prof. H. M. Hoffer, editor of the bulletin, on their exchange list will receive the publication free, he said. "The purpose of the service is to enable High school students to improve their paper and to gain a greater appreciation of the value of newspapers and the services they perform," Hoffer said.

ACTION BY NATIONAL GRANGE AT WINSTON-SALEM

The 66th annual convention of the National Grange, which has just completed its work at Winston-Salem, N. C. was significant because of the outstanding action taken on many important public questions and for its far-reaching scope as representative of the alert farm people of the United States. Thirty-two different States were represented, with an attendance of approximately 3,000 members, of whom 1655 received the highest degree of the organization in a climax ritualistic event of great impressiveness.

Among the outstanding pronouncements of the session were vigorous support of cooperative marketing and a unanimous demand that the energies of the government be directed toward the extension of cooperative activities among farmers, with necessary Federal assistance to finance same. The session denounced the proposal to curtail rural mail delivery and to raise parcel post rates, and demanded immediate return of 2c letter postage. Its declarations in behalf of monetary stabilization, an effective taxation program and sweeping reorganization and economy in government will meet widespread approval; while its pronouncements on the Soldiers' Bonus, and sound credit facilities for the rehabilitation of agriculture will appeal to thoughtful rural people everywhere. A demand for the introduction of the Export Debenture or similar plan into the nation's tariff policy was reaffirmed.

The National Grange opposes: Any general sales tax that will levy a tax upon the necessities of life.

Repeat of the Eighteenth Amendment, the Volstead Act, or the enforcement legislation covering national prohibition.

Establishment of a national bureau or department of education.

Advance payment of the Soldiers' Bonus, or compensation to World War veterans, whose disability was contracted since the close of their war service, except in case of dire distress.

Any consideration of the Federal Government of the cancellation of the World War debts due from foreign nations.

Any movement to extend the immigration quota to Asiatics the same as European countries, or any weakening of Federal immigration regulations.

Any diversion of gasoline taxes to other purposes than the construction and maintenance of public highways.

All forms of corporation or chain farming.

Reduction of Federal support of the Land Grant Colleges.

The use by chain stores or others of farm products as "leaders" in order to break prices.

The introduction of advertising or propaganda into the public schools.

Use of the radio for advertising any article whose sale is forbidden by national law.

LETTER FROM SUBSCRIBER.

Chicago Heights, Ill.

Editor Reporter—

We are back home again after having spent a very pleasant fall in Pennsylvania; found things at home just about the same as there. The depression has a grip on everything here—times dull and work scarce, and no one has any cash.

I was a Hoover woman, and am now waiting to see what the Democratic party will do for this country which is needing help so much.

Very truly yours,
MARY K. DAVID.

WHY NOT A NEW SYSTEM FOR AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS?

The revelation that there has been trafficking in the scholarships which have been allotted to State senators for distribution among worthy boys in their districts, that such educational privileges have fallen into the hands of unscrupulous persons who have sold them for their own profit, call of course for investigation and for punishment where guilt is found.

But beyond this it calls for inquiry into the wisdom of the system which permitted it. Why should these scholarships be allotted to political officeholders, some of whom may consider them plums to be distributed in reward for services rendered. They are based upon the State's aid to the institution represented. Their purpose is to open the door of opportunity to boys suited for higher education in intellect and character, but lacking the financial means to enter college. Why not see that they go to those most worthy of them by placing their distribution in the hands of school officials who are in the best position to choose such boys?

A Gift That's Sure to Be Appreciated.

Thinking of a Christmas Gift to some dear one living some distance from the old home? Then spend \$1.50 for a year's subscription to The Reporter and have that one receive 50 letters from home, which will be more appreciated than you can ever know.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

At the present time there is more "boloney" than bologna.

Mrs. A. M. Riegel, of town, is spending a few days with her daughter in Salona.

When your neighbor begins to tell you his troubles, chip in with a few of your own and he'll soon wander on.

A. M. Harter, a Coburn lumberman, while cutting wood, struck his foot with the axe, almost severing the small toe from it.

The State Emergency Relief Board, at Harrisburg, allotted to Centre county \$684.37 for the month of December.

The Reformed church school will have their Christmas service, entitled, "Come to the Manger," Friday evening, December 23rd.

During the month of October \$119,000 in bounty claims were paid to persons in Centre county. The predatory animals taken were two wild cats, 15 gray foxes and 29 weasels.

W. E. Allen, of Williamsport, an extra P. R. B. agent, took care of the station business here while W. F. Bradford, the regular agent, was off on a week's hunt at the Bradford hunting camp, in Seven Mountains.

Elmer Frederick Witmer, editor and publisher of the Osceola Leader, passed away at the Phillipsburg State Hospital. He was almost 67 years old, and was a native of Selmsgrove. He acquired the Osceola paper in 1921.

We hope for enough checks between now and January 1st, on Reporter subscriptions to make us think the depression we hear and read about is a myth, so if you want to join in bringing about his disillusionment you know now what to do.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rearick, of Ladmar, were in town on Sunday, guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. V. Goodhart. Mr. Rearick is a salesman for a furniture manufacturing firm, and a former resident of town, always welcomed on his brief returns here.

The Rebersburg High school soccer team, champions of Centre county, who won a contest game from Iredelsville, the Millifield county champions, must win another game Saturday from the Tioga-Snyder county champions before they can claim the cup in Centre Pennsylvania.

Rev. Morton Parsons, pastor of the Salem Lutheran church, Williamsport, and Swedish church, Jersey Shore, died at the age of 65 years. He was born in Skone, Sweden, but studied for the ministry in this country, graduating from Augustana college and Augustana Theological seminary in Rock Island, Ill.

The contract for the erection of the new Federal post office building in Bellefonte will likely be awarded to Tremaglio Brothers, Waterbury, Conn., whose bid of \$59,900 was the lowest of twenty. The bids ranged from \$54,702 to the lowest one given above. The bid of Dunlap Brothers, Bellefonte, was \$54,819.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Wagner and son Vernon, of Potters Mills, and Mrs. John Eckel, of Bellefonte, were at the home of Mrs. Harriet J. Ulrich, in Centre Hall, for a day to visit Mrs. George Clements, sister and daughter, respectively, of the latter two ladies, who was here from Philadelphia on a visit.

If "Monty" makes good with the Athletics it will be the second "Monty" coming from Bellefonte to go to the big league baseball clubs. Fifty years ago so history has it, "Monty" Ward left Bellefonte to join the New York Giants, and made good in a big way. This late "Monty" is Jack Montgomery.

The proposed "anglers' paradise," along Spring Creek, in Benner township, is an absolute necessity; we must have it or perish. It will be built with the State's money, and since the money spent by the State comes from no one and from nowhere, what's the difference. Fish must live and they can't live on land, so build dams for them.

Before doing your Christmas shopping, look over the ads in your home paper, and see what merchants who are soliciting your business have to offer. And remember that the merchant who advertises is a safe man to do business with. He wants your trade and in endeavoring to merit its continuance, will do its utmost to please you with good merchandise at honest prices.

State College appeared before the Public Service Commission in Harrisburg through its attorney, N. B. Spangler, to show that it was not involved in any way financially that would interfere with taking over and operating the State College Water Company, providing the Commission granted the request to do so. James C. Furst represented the Water Company at the hearing.

Drainage on the Brush Valley road west from Centre Hall to Linden Hall was completed last week. The road was oiled and chipped several weeks ago, which process completed the drive way proper, leaving the drainage and cutting down of the banks at the sides for later work, and now this work has also been accomplished. Work of a similar nature is now being done on the Old Fort Boalsburg road.