

## Two Small Boys Drown In Sink Hole Nearby Centre Hall

**John Lair, 9, and Marshall Sharer, 7, Fall Into 18 Feet of Water While Playing. LeRoy Sharer, Brother of Marshall, Attempts Rescue; Thwarted, Runs to Father for Help, But Bodies Had Disappeared.—Recovered Nearly 4 Hours Later With Grappling Hooks After Five Pumps Had Lowered Level of Water.**

... And then bubbles came up. That was the climax of the simple, but undoubtedly true, story told the writer of how "Marshall" and "Johnny" lost their lives.

Between sobs, within a few feet of where the bodies of his companions lay, LeRoy Sharer, 9, began his story by saying:

"One of the boys climbed on a roll of woven wire fencing lying close to the edge of the water. I called to him to come away, but just then the other boy climbed on it, and then the water began to move. It slid into the water and the boys with it. I saw them go down and the bubbles came up."

"Marshall" was Marshall Sharer, 7, a brother of the broken-hearted youth, and "Johnny" was John Edward Lair, 9, a companion. They were sons of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Sharer and Mr. and Mrs. Russell L. Lair, respectively. The former lived but a short distance from the scene of the tragedy and the latter in Centre Hall.

The trio had been playing ball at the Sharer home, but later conceived a fishing trip. Rods, lines and hooks were prepared, and soon they were at a sink and fishing. The outcome of the trip was graphically related at the scene and again at the hearing before the county coroner on Sunday afternoon at the Goodhart funeral parlor, where the two little bodies were viewed by a jury. After hearing evidence from a half-dozen witnesses among whom were LeRoy, companion of the unfortunate youths, Franklin Sharer, Lester Auman, W. D. Shoop, Irvin Shuey and L. J. Elder, a verdict of accidental drowning was rendered.

LeRoy, on losing sight of the bodies of his brother and Johnny, ran to his home to inform his father. The father accompanied the lad to the sink and made an effort to rescue the children, but soon found he was unable to do so. The father and son came to Centre Hall and related the sad incident and asked for aid. In a very brief time a large number of persons gathered, and soon the fire company pumper came upon the scene, laid down its line and began pumping.

Later the Pleasant Gap, Millheim, Bellefonte and State College pumps were on hand, each working feverishly to reduce the water level. At the same time men with poles, rakes and hooks tried to find the bodies from a hurriedly constructed raft.

At about 6:50 p. m. the water level had been reduced about three feet and at this time a grappling hook was fastened to a long rope was put to use and effectively so. Johnny was first found, and a few more casts resulted in bringing LeRoy to the surface.

Artificial respiration was resorted to by the men of experience belonging to the Pleasant Gap and State College rescue squads, but to no avail. Preparatory to reeling the bodies blankets had been procured, a five-bull and stones heated to aid in resuscitation.

A physician examined the bodies and declared them dead, whereupon they were removed to the Goodhart morgue.

By 7:00 o'clock not less than 500 persons had gathered at the scene, and on Sunday up to the time it began to rain and hail, a stream of motor cars found their way to the sink.

**The Actual Size of the Hole**  
The sink at the ground level was 32x36 feet; at the water level, 60x48 feet. At the time the bodies were removed the water had been lowered three feet, the dimensions of the water surface being 50x40 feet, with a depth of fifteen feet. These figures are from exact measurements.

The coroner's jury was comprised of Richard Brooks, J. S. Booser, Edward Dursi, Alfred Crawford, Paul Fetterolf and John Knarr.

From the questions asked at the hearing one would be justified in coming to the conclusion they were designed to make it appear the owner of the plot, John F. Treaster, was negligent in not having taken precautions against such a mishap. Exceptions were taken to this attitude and finally volunteer information to some extent righted matters.

The sink is located in a wooded section of a fenced plot, with no road or path leading to it. It is only at time of freshet that water accumulates there. It is not unlike hundreds of sinks along the south base of Nittany mountain.

Lester Auman, Richard Brooks, W. D. Shoop and Robert McClenahan were the first to reach the sink, constructed the raft and searched for the bodies.

The site of the tragedy is one and a half miles west of Centre Hall, along the Brust Valley road. The Sharer family live in the Harry McClenahan home, having moved there since the first of April. The sink is 500 or more feet west of their home.

**Drowning Accident of 46 Years Ago Recalled.**

The last previous accidental drowning of a Centre Hall youth was also on a Saturday, in 1892, on the 5th day of August, and was Walter Kurtz son of Hon. Frederick Kurtz, the founder of the Centre Reporter. The youth was 19 years, 4 months of age. He met his death in a deep hole in Pennsylvania creek at a bridge on the east side of Paddy Mountain tunnel. He was seized with cramp, surrounded by companions, among whom was a brother, J. Fred Kurtz, but no one sufficiently trained to swim near him. The brother, unable to swim, was dissuaded from going to the rescue. Later, mill hands dived into the twelve feet of water and brought the limp, lifeless body up.

The young people had gone to the site for a week-end camping, leaving here on the Saturday morning train. The life of the youth was snuffed out after the pressure seekers had had their first supper in camp. The body was conveyed to Centre Hall on a hand car, while the remainder of the campers walked to Coburn where they were met by busses.

**BELLEFONTE TROOP TO BECOME BATTERY**

Orders were issued from the Adjutant General's office, in Harrisburg a short time ago, changing a number of National Guard Cavalry units into artillery, and Bellefonte's Troop 1 mounted machine gun unit of the 162d cavalry, will be one of them. It will be changed into Battery E, 164th field artillery. The change is scheduled to become effective June 17.

As one of the purposes of the change is to do away with horses, the battery will be motorized. 75m guns have been designated as the equipment to be furnished. Just what will become of the horses stabled at troop headquarters east of Bellefonte has not yet been announced.

**EXAMINATION, HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE, MAY 13TH**

Pupils from the eighth grade in the Centre Hall and Potter township schools will present themselves in the Centre Hall-Potter high school building on Saturday morning, at 9:00 o'clock, May 13th, for examination for entrance to the Centre Hall-Potter high school for the 1939-1940 school year. The examination will be conducted by Prof. J. F. Wetzel, supervising principal of the Centre-Hall Potter school district.

The candidates number forty-eight, all of whom reside in Potter township except fourteen.

The names of the pupils, the schools they attend and the names of the seven teachers recommending their admission, are appended:

Center Hill school, Lilia Brooks teachers—Ruth Hackett, Albert Decker  
Pium Grove school, Bertha Share teacher—Robert Puff, William Puff  
Potter school, George W. Sweeney, teacher—June Wagner, Marlin Fye  
Lewis Zimmerman, Ebbon Stricker  
Centre Hall Grammar, Russell W. Bohn, teacher—Martha Spicker, Dean Ross, Miles King, Geraldine Rockey, Jack Garbrick, Helen Miller, E. Rue Brooks, Glenwyn Goodhart  
George Ralston, Dean Weaver, Jan Hanna, Ernest Frank, Barbara Potter, Isabelle Emery, Norman Crater  
Anna Faye Stover, William Booser  
Maditha Mowery, Guy Faust, Betty Seaton, Betty Slack, Sara King  
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Without a change the James Administration reenacted the Earle Administration tax laws, and Governor James signed them. They were "horrible" tax measures during the campaign of last fall, but now very gladly accepted.

## COUNCIL INVITES POTTER TO DISCUSS FIRE TRUCK

At a regular meeting of the borough council on Monday evening the question of purchasing a new fire truck was brought to their attention by J. S. Booser, who was largely responsible for the fire-fighting equipment now in use. Mr. Booser explained that the present outfit was light to become useless at any time and probably might occur at a most critical period. The present pumper had been purchased by funds almost exclusively procured through efforts of the fire company, while the hose and connections were purchased by the council.

The question was shown some interest by individual councilmen, and finally it was decided to arrange for a meeting with the Potter township board of road supervisors and school board on Monday evening, May 8, in the council room.

The fire company has given most valuable service at fires in various rural sections, and saved from destruction much valuable property.

Concrete evidence of this may be had by referring to the fires at the George Sharer farm, the Brooks fire, the Hensly fire, the Decker fire, the Grove fire. In each case much valuable property was snatched from destruction by the fire elements.

Other matters brought before the body, besides paying a grist of bills, were a request for street lighting in the Hollywood section; the extension of the main water line to the new dwelling house being erected by Lewis Garbrick in the north section of the borough; complaint of Mrs. N. C. Kryder of annoyance by children and young people.

The council a few days ago was notified that work on the School Parkway, a WPA project begun last fall, would be resumed in a short time. Councilmen present at the meeting were Wm. F. Keller, Dan S. Faus, D. W. Bradford, D. M. Bradford, Geo. H. Stover, W. A. Alexander, also, the secretary, F. K. Frank.

## BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR PASTOR'S WIFE AT M. E. PARSONAGE

The parsonage of the Penns Valley Methodist church at Spring Mills was a scene of enjoyment on Thursday night when members of the Centre Hall congregation gathered to do honor to the pastor's wife, Mrs. Ivan L. Miller, on her birthday. The evening was most pleasantly spent, a portion of the time being devoted to the consumption of elegant refreshments.

Members of the Methodist congregation from Centre Hall present were Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wagner, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lindsey and daughter Patti, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Zellers, Nancy Zellers, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Wert, Jr., Joanne Wert, Ruth Spicker, Marjorie Emery, Omer Michael John Michael, Marion Michael, Nancy Michael, Elizabeth Bartholomew, Jean Bartholomew, Mrs. Anne Bartholomew, Isobel Emery, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Spiker, Alice Spiker, Jane Spiker, Mrs. A. L. Emery, Myra Confer, Mrs. G. L. Emery, Mrs. C. F. Emery, Mrs. G. L. Goodhart, Chickie Goodhart, Robert Smith, Doris Moltz, Mrs. Margaret Goodhart, Mrs. Hattie Meyer, Mrs. Helen Bitner, Mrs. Marion Osman, Mrs. Annie Brooks, Jeanne Meyer, Estella Hoosterman, Mr. and Mrs. Elaine Lelster, Janet Lelster.

## Will Attend Musical Festival

The Girls' Chorus in the Centre Hall-Potter high school, some forty in number, expect to attend the Centre County Musical Festival to open in the Phillipsburg high school auditorium today (Thursday) at 1:00 p. m., and participate in the program. The chorus will be accompanied by Miss Fisher, instructor in music, Prof. J. F. Wetzel, and David I. Graybill.

## Celebrate Golden Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Wellington E. Yearick of Mill Hall, R. D., celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last Friday, by entertaining seventy guests at their farm home. They were married at Madisonburg on April 21, 1889 and lived in Miles township and later on the Daup farm in Potter township until moving to the Mill Hall section eight years ago. They have four children: H. O. Yearick, of Parvins; Fred L. and Mrs. John Kline of Clinton, and Mrs. Hamill Kline, a teacher in the Centre Hall grade schools.

## HUNTINGDON COUNTY RANCH RUN ON WESTERN STYLE

There is one 275 acre tract of land in Central Penna. that, typographically speaking, looks as if it might have been lifted bodily from Sen. William E. Borah's state, Idaho, and set down again near Neff's Mills, Shavers Creek Valley, Huntingdon county. This is the stock ranch of Wm. Gregory Moore, author-rancher, where western stock methods are followed almost exclusively. Last season 80 head of cattle ranged over this ranch from spring until fall. The owner follows the custom of pasturing young cattle from the herds of Central Penna. dairymen which are supervised closely along with the animals belonging to him. Nearly all of his 275 acre tract is well-cultivated in bluegrass. A saddle horse is available for round-ups. Much of the hay is stacked in the fields western style. When a young man the Shavers Creek Valley writer spent a year on cattle ranches in the West, observing first-hand the methods in vogue there. One specialty followed at the ranch is the production of veal or a wholesale plan.

## EXTRA FARM HELP AVAILABLE FOR CENTRE CO. FARMERS

Farmers of Centre county may obtain any extra help they need for planting and other farm work by writing or telephoning the Pennsylvania State Employment Service at Bellefonte, according to W. Ernest Brown, manager of the office.

"Our function," Mr. Brown stated, "is to bring workers and employers together so as to save them both time and expense. No employer needs to hire any of the men we send them unless they suit his needs; however, we make a practice of sending only the kind of workers who fit the job, and thus save the employer the bother of talking to a number of men who have not had the required experience. At the present time we have about 700 applicants for farm work registered with us. These men are qualified to work as farm hands or agricultural laborers, as shown by their past work records. If farmers need help now or later on in the season, they can telephone 1921 or drop us a card saying what kind of work they want done. We will get in touch with the workers and refer them without delay."

The State Employment Service has been operating in Bellefonte since January 1938. It is tax supported and makes no charge to either workers or employers.

## TRI-VALLEY B. B. SEASON OPENS SATURDAY, MAY 20

The Tri-Valley Baseball League schedule opens at Pine Grove Mills and Rebersburg on Saturday, May 20. Lemont will play at Pine Grove Mills Centre Hall at Spring Mills and Pleasant Gap at Rebersburg.

The first game at Centre Hall will be on Thursday, May 25, when Pine Grove Mills will play here. Spring Mills will meet Pleasant Gap and Rebersburg, Lemont.

The last May games are on May 29, Memorial Day; Pleasant Gap at Lemont; Spring Mills at Pine Grove Mills; Centre Hall at Rebersburg.

## P. O. S. OF A CLASS INITIATION HELD AT LEWISBURG

Last Friday evening the very efficient P. O. S. of A. degree team of Mill Hall camp conferred the initiatory degree on a large class of candidates from the various camps of Union county in the large hall of Lewisburg camp.

Before the regular session, because the speaker had another engagement, Judge Albert W. Johnson delivered a thirty minute talk on world affairs as they affect this country. Judge Johnson is a member of the Winfield camp.

Following the initiation Elmer F. Keller of Etna, State President of the State Camp of Pennsylvania, delivered an instructive talk that was well received.

Attendance was quite large and came from a wide area. Camps represented were Etna, Lewisburg, Winfield, New Berlin, Millmont, Allen, West, New Columbia, White Deer, West Milton, Milton, Loyalsock, Carroll, Salona, Millhill, Beech Creek, Lock Haven and Centre Hall.

Those who attended from Centre Hall camp were P. H. Luse, A. H. Shoyd, P. C. Spayd, and E. W. Burkholder of Centre Hall; Homer Walker, A. J. Zimmerman and J. B. White of State College; George A. Reed of Pine Grove Mills; Norman Duck of Millfistburg and Byers Ripka and E. S. Ripka of Millheim.

## "NITTANY NINE" ORCHESTRA AT G. T. V. FRIDAY NIGHT

The benefit dance sponsored by the Junior class of the Gregg Township Vocational School will be held in the gymnasium at Spring Mills on Friday, May 5th. The "Nittany Nine" orchestra from State College will furnish music for the round dances, and the Strake Fiddlers from Mill Hall will play for the square dances. Dancing will start at 9 p. m. and continue to 1 a. m. Admission 25c. Refreshments will be sold by members of the sophomore class.

## Attend Missionary Meeting

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Northern Conference met in Loc's Haven on Wednesday. Among those from Centre all to attend the gathering were Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Frank, Mrs. Kryder Frank, Mrs. W. W. Kerlin, Mrs. Ray Marker, Mrs. Fred Hom, an, Mrs. Paul Fetterolf, Mrs. Fred Luse, Mrs. Clayton Homan, Mrs. John B. Wert, Sr., Mrs. Anna Roessman, Mrs. Alveda Bitner, Mrs. W. A. Alexander, Mrs. L. A. Wagner, Mrs. Roy Dutrow.

## P. S. C. COW COMPLETES NEW OFFICIAL RECORD

A new record, exceeding the average of the Guernsey breed for her age and class has just been completed by a two-year-old cow, Kenahy Doldarder 489228 of State College, tested and owned by the Pennsylvania State College. Her official record supervised by the Penna. State College and announced by The American Guernsey Cattle Club is 16485.2 pounds of milk and 472.3 pounds of butterfat in Class GG.

## Play by Woman's Club

The Woman's Club will give a play on Friday evening, May 5th, in the high school auditorium, entitled, "Fun on the Podunk Limited."

## GARDNER GROVE BARN AND CONTENTS BURNED WEDNESDAY

Three head of cattle, grain, feed, and implements were consumed on Wednesday afternoon when the large barn on the B. Gardner Grove farm, in the Penns Cave area, was totally destroyed by fire. A herd of seven cows and an old horse were removed from a large shed with much difficulty and only due to the persistent efforts of eleven-year-old Steryl Grove, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guyer Grove, tenants on the place.

The barn was partially insured, but no insurance was held by the tenant. The insurance had expired and the desire to change companies proved a costly delay.

The losses included three wagons, manure spreader, corn binder, side-delivery rake, hay loader, hay tedder, ensilage cutter, sheaf carrier, two harvesters, ten to twelve tons of hay, 100 bushels of wheat and 300 bushels of oats, and many small tools and farm equipments.

The Centre Hall Volunteer fire company arrived in time to save several small buildings—milk house, corn crib and implement shed.

It appears the fire originated at a straw stack on the west side of the barn, at 4:30 o'clock, according to a statement made by Steryl, the only person about the barn at the time the fire broke out. The lad was in the act of putting down hay for the evening feed for the cattle when he saw the flames coming from the stack outside. He also tells he saw a stranger running in the direction of the woods at about the same time.

Eddie Shoppe, a farm hand was in the field plowing, and hurried to the barn to assist Mrs. Grove and the youth in removing the cattle and horse. After that was done it was too late to save any of the farming utensils.

Mr. Grove had left home at noon for Juniata county where he was engaged in sexing baby chicks.

The barn was one of the largest in this section. The main structure was 45x55 feet, 16 feet to the square with 15-foot sheds at each end, and at the front a mature shed 40x40 feet. The timbers were massive. The whole structure had been roofed with iron within the past few years.

No estimate of the loss was made by the elder Grove.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Guyer Grove are the fifth generation of the Groves to live on the farm. James Grove, the grandfather of Gardner Grove, acquired the farm from Jacob Arney, father of Mrs. Laura Lee of Centre Hall. The elder Grove's wife, Tenna, was a sister of Jacob Arney. James P. Grove, father of Gardner Grove, acquired the farm from his father, James Grove, about 1860, and Gardner Grove came into possession of it in 1900, tilling the farm until 1921 when he located in Centre Hall.

It is not known who built the original barn, its unusual size being accounted for by the fact that the present Jacob Sharer, Jr., farm was a part of the farm when Mr. Arney purchased the place. It was during his ownership it was divided.

When the farm passed to the Groves, Mr. Arney purchased the present Dutrow farm, further to the west along the same road, now State Highway No. 95. Later Mr. Arney purchased the place now occupied by Mrs. Ziegler, along the east boundary of Centre Hall boro, from Dr. Peter Smith and erected the splendid buildings now on it.

## Celebrates 80th Birthday

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Heckert, in Millheim, a dinner was served Sunday noon, 23rd ult., in celebration of the 80th birthday anniversary of Mr. Heckert.

Guests who enjoyed the roast turkey dinner were Benjamin F. Heckert Jr., Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Moore and four children of Pittsburgh; Sister Zora Heckert, of Baltimore, Md., Katherine Moore, Mrs. A. E. Bartges and Jean Hoosterman, Millheim.

## KURTZ-TALLHEIM

Frederick Kurtz, son of Mrs. Chas. R. Kurtz, of Bellefonte, and Miss May Jane Tallheim, daughter of John F. Tallheim of Fleming, were married in Bellefonte on Sunday morning, April 23. The couple went on a wedding trip to Buffalo, N. Y.

The bride is a graduate of Bellefonte high school in the class of 1932. For a number of years she has made her home with her grandmother, Mrs. Walter G. Tallheim at Julian. Mr. Kurtz attended the public schools in Bellefonte and the Bellefonte Academy at Penn State. He is now employed by a construction firm on a road building project in the vicinity of Zion.

They have made no definite plans about going to housekeeping at present.

## Hardware Stores in Selling Event.

Beginning Thursday, May 4, and continuing through Saturday, May 13 thousands of independent hardware stores throughout the United States will participate in a great National Wide Selling Event.

This event, better known as National True Value Week, will take place at the Hosterman & Stover Hardware store in Millheim. Those who trade at the Hosterman & Stover Hardware store know it to be a friendly, pleasant place where personal interest in assisting customers to select the best merchandise at the right price makes shopping a pleasure.

## TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS

### HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

The Past Grads Association of Old Fellows of Centre county met with Millheim lodge No. 955, on Tuesday.

Dr. T. G. McQueen, of Millifburg, formerly of Millheim, due to eye trouble was obliged to cancel office and visiting practice for the present.

William H. Brown has announced himself a candidate for commissioner of Centre county. He needs the endorsement of the Republican party at the September primary.

Sister Zora Heckert, Lutheran deaconess in charge of a hospice in Baltimore, Md., was a guest recently of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Heckert, in Millheim.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Brown, who for several months have lived in the former Straum home, on Friday moved to the home recently purchased by them from William Fetterolf, in the Keller district. Mr. Brown is employed in the Titan metal works.

Mrs. Nettie (Love) Campbell of Drifling, Clearfield county, celebrated her 85th birthday anniversary recently. Mrs. Campbell was long a resident of Linden Hall during the lifetime of her husband, the late Elmer Campbell. She is a native of Potter township.

Letters testamentary on the estate of Blanche V. Mullinger, of Gregg township, deceased, and being published by Charles F. Bartges of Spring Mills, Mr. Bartges is a railroad express agent between Washington, D. C., and Philadelphia, but will find time to settle the estate in a businesslike manner.

Persons placed in private jobs by the Pennsylvania State Employment Service during 1938 now total more than 25,492. Secretary of Labor and Industry Lewis G. Hines indicated in a report which showed an increase of nearly 14 per cent or 1,829 in private placements by the State agency the week ending April 14.

Cars operated by William E. Bechtel of Centre Hall and Dr. Fred Jones of Tyrone, a former Millheim dentist, sidedrew near Millheim on Sunday, but none of the drivers was injured. Mrs. Bechtel, a passenger with her husband, and Thomas Ulrich, in the Jones car, also escaped without injuries, although the Bechtel car turned over completely.

At the last meeting of the year, held at the home of Miss Orpha Gramley the Ladies' Literary club of Millheim relected all old officers to serve for another term. The president is Mrs. A. H. Stover; vice-president, Mrs. Lida McCloskey; secretary, Mrs. C. E. Musser; assistant secretary, Mrs. E. P. Shreckengast; treasurer, Mrs. S. L. Hubler; pianist, Mrs. W. J. McMullin.

Mrs. Willbur Henney, a few days ago, received a message from Philadelphia that a cousin, Townsend E. Young, Jr., had received a fracture skull and died in the Bryn Mawr hospital. The youth, 13, son of Townsend B. Young, Sr., was struck on the head by a ball thrown by a companion on the Lower Merion Junior high school grounds.

Rev. L. A. Wagner, accompanied by his son, Donald, met with a motor accident on Saturday morning on Route 45 in Union county in the vicinity of Ray's Church. It appears a truck made a left-hand turn, resulting in a crash of the two vehicles. Rev. Wagner walks with a slight limp and the youth carries a few marks as a result. The car was pretty badly damaged.

Mrs. Tressie McClellan is taking x-ray treatments at the Lewistown hospital, having gone there on Thursday for ten successive daily treatments. She is staying with a cousin, Mrs. Crozier, during the meantime. The treatments now being administered being more of a precautionary measure. W. F. Keller, always generous in cases of need, conveyed Mrs. McClellan to the hospital.

C. M. Smith of Millheim has resigned from the sales department of the Andrews Stove company which he represented for a number of years, to accept a position as sales supervisor for the Majestic Manufacturing Co. of St. Louis, Mo., makers of the Majestic range. Mr. Smith, who will begin his new work this week in a territory consisting of Pennsylvania and New York, was in St. Louis last week getting acquainted with his new job.

Charles Weiser of Sharon was in town for a short time last week on his way to Hartleton, where Mrs. Weiser and Mr. Weiser's mother are at the present time. Mr. Weiser has been employed at the Sharon plant almost long enough to be retired. He and Mrs. Weiser were in Centre Hall for the day on Sunday on their way home, and called on a number of old friends with whom they keep in touch by reading the Reporter.

Two U. S. Marshals from Covington, Kentucky, transported four prisoners to the Federal Penitentiary at Lewisburg and on passing through Centre Hall took a noon lunch at the Coldron restaurant. The prisoners were escorted by pairs. At the Hagan Garage a stop was made for gas, the prisoners going to the toilet. On returning to the car, one of them displayed a cuffless left wrist to the Marshal in charge, grinning and informing him there was a "back door." The slipping of the cuff created a chuckle among the group. Before leaving the cuff was unlocked and replaced more tightly, spectators protesting.