

The Centre Democrat.

Circulation, 3500

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1903

VOL. 25. NO. 20.

UNIVERSITY INN DESTROYED

A Disastrous Fire Occurred at State College

VALUABLE HOTEL BURNED

Reduced to Glowing Embers in Forty Minutes—Much Personal Effects Lost—Owned by Co. Treasurer Phil D. Foster

Last Saturday, about 11 o'clock, a. m., flames were discovered bursting from the south side of the roof of University Inn at State College. An alarm was at once sounded and students, professors, employes about the college grounds and citizens of the village of State College, at once rushed to the scene of the fire. A strong wind prevailing from the south and the Inn being a frame structure the flames in a few moments, fanned by a high wind rapidly spread through the building so that there was little chance of saving any of the contents, much less the large building, and in forty minutes University Inn was in ashes with about all its contents, except a goodly portion of what was taken out from the first story. All furniture, clothing, etc., on the second and third stories was devoured by the flames. The fire seems to have originated on the second story and was not discovered until the flames had burst through the roof.

About a quarter of a mile to the north of the Inn stood one of the large college barns and sparks were carried thither by the strong breeze and fired the barn. Hose at once were hurried to the barn and with the heroic work of a bucket brigade of students, the flames that had started on the roof of the barn were conquered. Several times soon thereafter, however, the fire again started on the roof of the barn by sparks, but was arrested by the same efforts. Some of the buildings standing close to and belonging to the barn had taken fire, but the flames were put out by the persons who fought the fire at the barn. The large woods about one-third of a mile north of the barn were fired by sparks carried thither by the south wind, and a hundred fire fighters at once turned their efforts in that direction and by hard work prevented the fire from covering a wide field through the woods.

No one knows the origin of the fire, as we are assured there was no fire in any part of the south end of the Inn. There were five pianos in the building, of these two were saved and three were burned. One of the burned pianos belonged to music dealer M. C. Gephart, of Belleville, and the rest to private parties boarding at the Inn. There was no insurance on the Kephart piano and not likely on any other piano. Some 30 to 40 students boarded at the Inn, also several professors and their families. All who had rooms on the second and third stories saved none, or very few, of their belongings.

The Inn was the property of county treasurer Phil Foster, who bought it several years ago at sheriff sale, for \$11,600 dollars, the building having cost \$25,000, when erected some 11 years ago by a stock company. Mr. Foster has near \$12,000 insurance on the building, and furniture. He added improvements in furniture, etc., to amount of over \$2,000, after purchasing the Inn. He estimates his loss at \$14,000. The Inn lot contains 2 1/2 acres in the heart of the college campus, and is what is left to Mr. Foster. Mr. Kennedy, landlord since January last, had \$500 insurance on his part of the contents, which will not cover his loss.

Persons having intended to attend commencement at State College in June, 2nd week, need have no fears that accommodations will be short on account of the University Inn having been destroyed by fire. Superintendent Thomas contemplates to provide against that by running extra trains every day to and from Belleville, until late at night to enable visitors to obtain lodging at the commodious hotels of this place. Mr. Thomas will do all in his power to minister to the needs of the public going to and returning from the college from early morning until late at night, and persons from other parts of the state will need have any uneasiness as to obtaining good places for lodging during commencement week.

All the students, professors and workmen lost their belongings, including money and jewelry. One of the men employed on the chapel lost \$400. Other losses ranging in sums of from \$5.00 to \$275 are reported.

Will Brouse, son of R. S. Brouse, of this place, lost several suits of clothing, and a gold watch which had belonged to his grandfather, William Harper. Brouse's loss will amount to \$250.

An automaton manufacturer recently made a toy tramp—but it wouldn't work.

WHAT A LITTLE WANT AD. DID.

About April 1st M. S. Beck, of Snyderstown, sold a bunch of steers, which he had fattened during the winter, to a party from Phillipsburg. The cattle had been bought at east Liberty and were from the plains; among them was one steer which was rather wild and excitable, and when taking him out to weigh, a halter was put on him to lead him out. Several men took the rope but he broke the halter and at once struck for the ridge between Walker and Marion twp. Mr. Beck organized a party to bring him in, but he was so wild he could not be approached; the parties organized and went out with rifles to bring him in dead or alive, but could not get within shooting distance of him. Finally he disappeared and it was supposed he had started on a journey back to the plains. Mr. Beck was advised, as a last resort, to place an advertisement in the Democrat, offering a reward for his return or information. Now comes the strange part of the matter: The paper was only out a day or two until Mr. Steer came into Jacksonville, walked into a stable, and allowed himself to be tied. It is said he acknowledged that when he heard of that advertisement he realized that the game was up and that he might as well surrender, which he accordingly did, and will some day ere long become beef at the hands of Butcher Mauch.

TO BURN 700 SLOT MACHINES.

Gambling Machines Seized in Philadelphia to be Destroyed.

On Tuesday, May 19, there will be another big slot machine bonfire. The machines to feed the flames being the 700 seized by the city. The machines were taken from stores and club houses in different parts of the city. The money taken therefrom amounts to about \$1600. District Attorney Bell sent to each owner or lessee of the machines a notice in the form of a postal card, telling him to present himself at court and make objection, if he had any. There was no response, and Judge McCarthy then sentenced the machines to be destroyed.

Sheep Clipping Thief.

One year ago the farmers of Nittany valley were annoyed by some persons entering their farm yards at night and clipping and carrying away the fleeces of some of their best wool producing sheep and last week the miscreants renewed their peculiar kind of theft by entering H. M. Heard's farm yard and clipping and carrying away the fleeces of seven of his flock. The work of clipping was very hurriedly and bunglingly done and by comparison of the work done by local sheep shearers the farmers are about united in their opinion as to who the culprits are.—Clinton Democrat.

Farmers Need no License.

The full text of the new law approved by Governor Pennypacker to permit farmers to sell their own products without a license is as follows: "Be it enacted—That after the passage of this act it shall be unlawful for any borough or city of this commonwealth to levy or collect any money or tax, as a license fee, from any farmer who sells his own products in or about the streets of any borough or city of this commonwealth. Any and all acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed." The bill was approved by the governor April 22d, 1903.

Heavy Losses to Lumbermen.

The forest fires last week caused the lumbermen operating in this section heavy losses in having much valuable timber destroyed by fire. John F. Duncan on his tract on White Deer had about ten car loads of prop timber burned along with a lot of ties. The Kulp operation also lost heavily. Many acres of valuable standing timber were burned over, the large trees will have to be cut out as soon as possible, while the younger growth is likely killed by the fierce heat.—Lewisburg Journal.

New Road Bill.

On page 3 of this issue we publish the full text of the Sprowl Road Bill, for the improvement of public highways in this state. It is a very important measure to tax payers as large sums, appropriated by the state, will be used for improving our roads. We would advise our readers to save this issue for future reference.

Some Supreme Court Decisions.

Among the opinions rendered in Philadelphia on Monday by the supreme court were the following:

Miliken estate, Miliken, adm., appeal o. c., Centre. Judgment affirmed.

Brew, administrators of Jackson, vs. Hastings, et al., c. p., Centre. Decree affirmed.

A seven month old child of Alex Ingram died Monday at Greensburg. Interment in the cemetery at Unionville on Wednesday.

GOD SAVE THE COMMONWEALTH

Governor Pennypacker Approves the Grady Libel Law

PROTECTION FOR RASCALS

A Ridiculous Apology Accompanies the Endorsement of the New Law—Displayed Extreme Sensitiveness to Press Criticism

For the past month the people of Pennsylvania have read much about the Salus-Grady libel bill, passed at the close of the last session of the Pennsylvania legislature. It was prepared by what is known as the republican "organization" at Harrisburg, more commonly termed the "Quay-machine," the clique of corrupt political roosters who have made an infamous record for themselves by their spoliation of public funds, traffic in vicious legislation and loot in valuable public franchises. Their course has continually been exposed, and vicious schemes often halted by the vigilance of the newspapers of our state. To them publicity is odious. A fearless Press is a menace to their nefarious operations.

Having complete control of the legislative bodies, and elected a poor, silly, old man as governor who will do their bidding, they have determined to muzzle the newspapers of Pennsylvania. This libel bill was rushed through without observing the customary regulations, without opportunity for hearing or discussion, by a deliberate misrepresentation that it did not affect country weeklies, and under the party lash of Quay, Penrose, and the Executive. It was the worst case of "railroading" ever witnessed at Harrisburg.

A hearing was later given the newspaper fraternity, but the conduct of Governor Pennypacker then was offensive to common courtesy and the fate of the bill was readily seen.

The signing of this bill was therefore no surprise. But with it came a lengthy apology from the Governor that is not only ridiculous, but displays an ugly, vindictive motive. In parts, it is libelous itself in the face of the law enacted; many of his allusions are pronounced untruthful. His unnecessary praise of Senator Quay's character shows him to be a shameless apologist for a notorious political brigand who has disgraced his name, his family and his state. He is his cousin's pliant tool, for which he was chosen over Elkin, and now is rendering service. His wail over the cartoons aimed at himself and Representative Pusey, of cartoon bill fame, is small; shows him a thin-skinned, old granny, and just what was predicted when he toured the state in the last campaign when his friends often were compelled to hang their heads in shame at his foolish, silly, childish comments.

This libel law is declared by good jurists to be unconstitutional in many features and ere long a test case will be made. We believe the Press will not be shackled by political ringsters, and that the higher courts will declare for free speech and the Liberty of the Press. If they do not, in face of criminal deeds so common in public life in Pennsylvania, and the Press in danger of spoliation and prison bars, we can only exclaim: "God save the Commonwealth."

These are the rewards of "Ring Rule" in Pennsylvania. It is the result of public morals being dormant, conscience deaf to notorious evils, and political slavery due to blind party zeal and prejudice.

Time and space will not permit us to point out the drastic features of this new libel law which makes the profession of journalism hazardous and unprofitable from the prey of slyster attorneys who will seek to persecute the publishers. Neither have we space for the Governor's remarkable utterance. Herewith we append some comments from leading state papers which in a general way expresses public sentiment:

Charles Emory Smith, ex-Postmaster General under President McKinley, and Editor of the Philadelphia Press, republican, denounces Gov. Pennypacker, from which the following extracts are made:

"We are profoundly grieved, for Governor Pennypacker's own sake, that he has made the irrevocable mistake of signing the Grady-Salus libel bill, and of adding to that wrong the still greater folly of an unspeakable shallow, silly and wrong-headed message of attempted justification. But we could not believe that he would permit his personal grievance to blind him to all other considerations so far as to betray him into a grave public wrong, into open disregard of solemn constitutional obligations, into unworthy methods and artifices and into a disingenuous extenuation which in many parts is so puerile as to be beneath contempt.

"The Press" takes back nothing of what it has said in these respects. It has sometimes, indeed, remained silent where it could not commend. Before and during the campaign Judge Pennypacker,

amid much that was right, said things so inexpressibly foolish that his judicious friends could only turn their faces and hang their heads in shame. His present attitude shows the same strange intellectual waywardness and perversity; but unfortunately here it concerns the most vital public interest, and it compels a recognition of the lamentable truth that an honest man, under the smart of a personal sting, has proved himself so narrow, so jaundiced, so pitifully small, as to share in a great public wrong and destroy what might have been an honorable fame.

"It is painful to say, but it is none the less a fact that his whole argument is a distortion of the truth. At other points it is so grotesque as to be simply ludicrous. It is full of shallow reasoning and of false analogy. He is so amazing in his littleness that he actually refers in his public paper to a cartoon in which, in his own language, he is represented as 'an ugly little dwarf.' But suppose it did, what of it? It was personal only, and it is an illustration of the strange misconception and curious conceit which run a seam of weakness through all his fabric that he confounds his own personality with law and government.

"The message is misleading in statement, unsonorous in reasoning, childish in temper and unworthy in purpose—enough to justify the judgment which must be pronounced on the act. Think of a Governor descending in a State paper to the level of calling names! His parolled weakness has led the Governor into a suicidal mistake which every right-minded friend must deeply deplore.

"The Gang played on the Governor's weakness for its own purpose, and the Governor sanctioned the Gang's methods of passing the bill for his own ends. The act is distinctly designed to gag the press in the interest of the plunderers and against the interests of the people. It was plotted in secret, withheld from the knowledge of all whose rights and interests were at stake, sprung upon the Legislature at the last moment, rushed through in defiance of the constitution, all opportunity of hearing and amendment denied, and forced on unwilling legislators under lash and spur. Even then it was passed only by deception as to its intent and scope. The inextinguishable stain which will ever rest on the name of the Governor is this: that because of a petty personal grievance, he stifled his own record, sanctioned these public crimes, and joined in the enactment of a law aimed at the liberty of the press. A hundred years from now when our children's children shall speak of the great struggle which has been going on for three centuries between the advance and the repression of free speech and free printing, they will associate the Pennypacker of Pennsylvania with the Cobys of New York and the Berkeleys of Virginia in the unworthy line of those who have sought to shackle a free press, and by his effigy they will turn to the cartoons which will chiefly perpetuate the memory of his Administration.

"It has not been pleasant to write these words, but they are written in soberness, with a deep sense of the Governor's sad mistake and with keen sorrow that he has thus clouded his name and fame."

From the Philadelphia Inquirer, a leading republican daily, of Wednesday: "We believe it to be thoroughly unconstitutional, an attempt at such utter despotism that it might even be carried before the Supreme Court of the United States if necessary.

"Under the law that did exist until the Governor attached his name yesterday to this new one there was every opportunity for libel suits and the collection of damages.

"With all due respect to the Governor we cannot but feel that the spirit breathed by this law is that which might have been expected in the dark ages, a spirit opposed to freedom of discussion, to liberty and independence."

From the Pittsburg Times, republican: "Gov. Pennypacker lends his name to this act, which is the most drastic measure of its kind that has ever gone upon the statute books of any state.

"Gov. Pennypacker is so fond of the study of history that one would suppose it to be his ambition to occupy a dignified and worthy position in the annals of his Commonwealth. But by his own act he has made this impossible. Instead he will take his place among those lonely and forbidding figures in history that are recalled only by reason of some act of shame, or folly, or treachery to their fellow men. Nothing that he may do in the almost four years more of his term will ever regain for him the public confidence and esteem. He has put a blight upon his own name and fame, upon his state and upon the statute books. While in office he will be sneered at, and when he goes out he will be forgotten. It was a bad day for Pennsylvania and a sorry day for Pennypacker when his cousin picked him out for Governor."

From Philadelphia Record, independent: "The Record" confesses a sense of disappointment almost reaching the point of dismay in making the announcement that Governor Pennypacker has approved the Salus-Grady Libel act. It is a woeful error.

New Rifles Next Week.

The new Krag-Jorgenson rifles for the National Guard have arrived at the State Arsenal at Harrisburg, and will be distributed some time this week. Guardsmen have been waiting for information for some time and the arrival of the guns has been undoubtedly longed for, as the opening of the rifle range and the beginning of practice has been much delayed.

Ostend—Is it true that woman was made out of a rib bone? Paw—That's what they say, my son, but I believe it was a jawbone.

SMALLPOX AT PINE GLENN

A Number of Families Contract the Disease

CAME FROM JERSEY SHORE

It is Pronounced a Mild Form by Health Authorities—Rigid Quarantine Established With Proper Medical Attendance

Smallpox has been lurking in this section of the state for some time. Jersey Shore had quite an epidemic and we are not sure that it is free from the contagion. Lock Haven has had several cases which were successfully handled without spreading. Williamsport was infected for a time. Altoona seems to have cases continually. Throughout Clearfield county there are continual outbreaks of the disease. Thus far Belleville has had only one case and that was successfully handled.

OUTBREAK IN BURNSIDE TWP.

The latest epidemic is reported in the vicinity of Pine Glenn, Burnside township this county about six miles north of Snow Shoe. By telephone, on Tuesday morning we learned the following particulars: Evert Daugherty is a fireman on the N. Y. C. R. R., and was stationed at Jersey Shore, but his home is at Pine Glenn, Pa. He was taken ill about three weeks ago, and soon others were stricken with the same ailment in that community. The local authorities and the attending physicians took action and after pronouncing the disease smallpox, all patients and homes infected were quarantined. At this writing the following places are quarantined at Pine Glenn: A. V. Daugherty, Reuben Eiters, Geo. Bows, Benner Walker, F. T. Hoover and Cowans lumber camp. In some places there are several ill.

Up to this time there have been no deaths as the disease is in a mild form, and the best of medical attention is being given patients.

Wednesday evening a message from Pine Glenn stated that there were no new cases in that section and all were getting along very nicely, many being able to be up and anxious to go out. There are over twenty cases in and about Pine Glenn. The attending physicians are from Karthaas. There are a number of cases across the river at Frenchville, in Clearfield county, where one death has occurred.

A POSTAL SENSATION.

A. W. Machen Relieved as Superintendent of Free Delivery.

The investigation of the affairs of the postoffice department, which has been dragging along for two months, took a sensational turn, when, by order of Postmaster General Payne, August W. Machen, general superintendent of the free delivery system, and one of the most widely known government officials in the United States, was relieved from his duties, and Postoffice Inspector M. C. Fosnes was designated to take charge of that service. The change took effect Saturday morning, when Mr. Fosnes assumed charge of the free delivery service and at the same time that service passed under the control of the office of the fourth assistant postmaster general.

Mr. Machen has been under fire ever since the investigation began. Charges of various kinds have been preferred against the administration of the free delivery branch of the postal service. They included allegations of collusion with letter box manufacturers in the furnishing of boxes to postoffice patrons, particularly on the rural mail routes, the furnishing of advance information regarding the selection of routes and the appointments of carriers, etc.

Williams-Weomer.

A very pretty wedding occurred at the home of J. W. Woomer, in Boggs township, at high noon, May 7. The contracting parties being Samuel T. Williams, of Phillipsburg, and Miss Bella O. Woomer, of Yarnell, by the bride's pastor, Rev. G. A. Sparks. William Hoffman, of Phillipsburg, was best man and Miss Anna Wensel, of Yarnell, was bride's maid; there were about fifty guests present; after congratulations were received all were invited to the dining room to partake of an elaborate dinner; all enjoying themselves very much. The bride and groom are both efficient school teachers, both having taught very successfully in Boggs township and elsewhere in the county. They will make their future home in Phillipsburg. The bride was the recipient of many handsome and useful presents; may their pathway be strewn with many flowers over the sea of life—they have the best wishes of their many friends.

The wise man lays by his dollars when he is prosperous. The dark days of need come only too surely.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

CONTRADICTIONARY.
The "angle" worm is full of curves.
"May" apples come in June;
"Lead" pencils are not made of lead
And "spooners" have no spoon.
"Black" berries are, as well we know,
Quite green when they are red;
And boys must always go "afters"
When they walk up "ahead."

A STATE OF MIND.
In the State of Mass.
There lives a lass
I love to go N. O. I
No other Miss.
Can'er I wis.
Be half as dear to Me.

R. I. is blue
And her cheeks the hue
She is where waters wash;
On her pink-white phiz
There Nev. Ariz.
The least complexion Wash.

La! could I win
The heart of Minn.,
I ask for nothing more.
But I only dream
Upon the theme
And Conn. it o'er and Ore.

Why is it, pray,
I can't Ala.
This love that makes me ill?
N. Y., O. Wy.
Kan. Nev. Ver I
Propose to her my will!

I shun the task
'T would be to ask
This gentle maid to wed;
And so, to press
My suit, I guess
Alaska Pa. instead.

Many an honest man cats pie with a knife.
Undertakers are always prepared for death.

Indians are occasionally troubled with red ants.
Lots of men are very popular until they get home.

If you would take pains try the early cucumber.
The more wisdom a man has the less he boasts of.
All things come to those who wait—even poverty.

The man who marries for money certainly earns it.
Money makes the mare go; likewise the automobile.

Black seems to be the swell color for eyes this season.
When a man snores he ought to be rapped in slumber.

Satan shuns the home that owns a well thumbed Bible.
Two court junciors are equivalent to a pair of suspenders.

The devil never worries about the man who gives nothing but advice.
If love could be bought with money this would be a cheerless world.

Few girls would improve their intellect at the expense of their shape.
Loaning money strengthens the memory; borrowing it causes forgetfulness.

When a man gets his salary raised he often runs into debt trying to live up to it.
One swallow doesn't make a summer any more than it makes a drink in Kentucky.

There isn't much choice between giving advice and pouring water on a duck's back.
Some men are like wheelbarrows. They won't accomplish much unless they are pushed.

A woman cured her husband of staying out late at night by going to the door when he came home and whispering through the keyhole, "Is that you, Willie?" Her husband's name is John, and he stays home every night now, and sleeps with one eye open and a revolver under his pillow.

Drink water and get typhoid. Drink milk and get tuberculosis. Drink whiskey and get the jimjams. Eat soup and get Bright's disease. Eat oysters and acquire taximia. Eat vegetables and weaken the system. Eat dessert and take to paresis. Eat rare meat and suffer with rheumatism. Eat oranges and get heart trouble. Smoke cigars and get catarrh. Drink coffee and obtain nervous prostration. Drink wine and get the gout. In order to be entirely healthy one must eat nothing, drink nothing, smoke nothing, and even before breathing one should see that the air is properly sterilized. By and by much learning will be a dangerous thing. We shall know too much for our own good.

Madame Theodore Davis Boal is entertaining a real live Prince at her beautiful country home at Boalsburg. He is Prince Delcoron, of Belgium. She is also entertaining Mrs. Osgood, wife of J. S. Osgood, President of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Co., of Denver, Col.

Friday and Saturday evenings, May 29 and 30th, a strawberry festival will be held in St. Mary's Hall at Snow Shoe.

A full line of the latest mohair skirts, at Mrs. Aiken's.