

Circulation Over 10,000—Largest in Centre County.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1906.

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BLACK-HAND NOTICES TO BELLEFONTERS

Several Peculiar Postal Cards Sent From Portland, Oregon.

AWAITING AN EXPLANATION

Time is Up and no One Thus far has Been Harmed--Cridler & Son Were a Little Uneasy--Was the Talk of the Town.

There has been much talk in town over a few postal cards received by F. W. Cridler & Son, the lumber firm of this place. The cards were mailed at Portland, Oregon, and contained a black hand below which was written "you have 4 days." Next day a card came saying "you have 3 days." The third card said 2 days. Everybody has his own theory about the motive in mailing such cards and while there is no positive threat it has made Mr. Cridler a bit uneasy and the family rather so.

This week we interviewed Mr. Cridler and he said he had gotten four cards, addressed to the firm as above mentioned. He has no idea as to the meaning or who mailed them and frankly admits that it did give him some concern. When his attention was called to dust and cobwebs on his clothes he indignantly denied that he had been hiding in some old cellar or frequenting the attic. Some think that some imprudent drummer sent out the cards to announce his coming. If any such an individual should call at the Cridler offices he will be sorry for it.

The four days have already elapsed and as no harm has come to Mr. Cridler, the whole affair is considered the work of some joker. From the daily papers it is learned that persons in other parts of this state received "black-hand" cards of the same character the past week from Portland, Oregon, and invariably puts a whole community to guessing. Several societies supposed to be organized for assassinating public men have been discovered in this country recently and the black-hand with them was the emblem of death by assassination. That is why the black-hand on the postal card has a serious suggestion.

The black-hand may be a good idea as children will not venture out after dark, and many married men who stay out late at nights, may be home earlier with their families than otherwise. For that reason be good, and you will live long and prosper.

Crow-Lee.

A pretty wedding was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lee, near Hubersburg, at noon, Jan. 24th, when their daughter, Minnie A., was united in marriage to Jacob C. Crow, of Liverpool, Pa. Miss Beulah Wetzell, cousin of the bride, was bridesmaid and George Crow, nephew of the groom, was groomsmen. The ceremony was performed by the groom's brother, Rev. H. I. Crow. About twenty-five guests were present and partook of the sumptuous dinner prepared for the occasion. The bride was the recipient of handsome and valuable presents. The happy couple left on the evening train to the west. They begin life together with the best wishes of their many friends.

A New Way To Catch Rabbits.

Hunters in the region around Geneseo, N. Y., have discovered a new way in which to capture rabbits when they have taken refuge in their burrows. Instead of using a ferret they take a fish horn, attach to it a long piece of hose, place it in the hole and, blowing a blast, scare the rabbit out. They say this method brings good results, and is not violating the law. Besides it is a great deal more humane than using the ferret.

We Will Shine.

Forty thousand books of gold leaf, each worth \$7.50 have so far been used in decorating the new capitol at Harrisburg, and the end is not yet. Three hundred thousand dollars worth of gold leaf is an immense quantity but more is yet to be placed and this value will be considerably increased when all is put on.

Denmark's King Dies.

Christian, the Ninth, King of Denmark, died Monday afternoon in his eighty-eighth year. While quite feeble for several years, his death came suddenly at the last, and was due in part to general debility.

FIFTH COUNT. In The School Teachers Book Award in Centre County

Bellefonte, Pa., Jan. 31, 1906. The following is the total number of votes cast in the Teachers' Book Award in the various Institute Districts in Centre county to this date:

Table with 2 columns: District Name and Total Votes. Includes First District (Gregg, Haines, Miles, Millheim and Penn.) and Second District (Centre Hall, College, Ferguson, Harris Potter and State College).

Table with 2 columns: District Name and Total Votes. Includes Third District (Bellefonte, Benner, Spring and Walker) and Fourth District (Boyer, Curtis, Howard, Howard boro, Liberty, Marion and Milesburg).

Table with 2 columns: District Name and Total Votes. Includes Fifth District (Half moon, Patton, Taylor, Union, Unionville and Worth) and Sixth District (Burnside, Rush, Phillipsburg, Snow Shoe and South Phillipsburg).

Sample sets of the 20th Century Encyclopaedia have been placed at the following points in the county where the teachers are invited to call and carefully inspect each of the six volumes:

- List of locations for encyclopaedia samples: Bellefonte, Millheim, Spring Mills, Boalsburg, Centre Hall, Blanchard, Phillipsburg, State College, Unionville, Howard, Moore's Drug Store.

Premium Ballots.

In addition, we issue Premium Ballots at this office to all who pay for subscription on the following basis:

- 50 votes for 1 year on arrears. 100 votes for 1 year in advance. 100 Votes for every \$1 worth of job printing, secured during the contest. 200 votes for each new cash sub. These votes have no time limit--can be held until the final count.

In any case where a transfer of subscription is made in the same family or household, during this contest, no coupons will be allowed.

Advertisement for The Centre Democrat Newspaper Ballot, No. 7, Feb. 1, 20th Century Encyclopaedia, One Vote For Name of Teacher.

Advertisement for The Centre Democrat Newspaper Ballot, No. 7, Feb. 1, One Vote For Name of Teacher, with instructions for use.

COURT PROCEEDINGS FOR SECOND WEEK

Continued From Last Week--Bert Delige Found Guilty

MURDER IN SECOND DEGREE

Jury Out a Short Time--Number Interesting Cases on Trial This Week--Number of Cases Settled or Continued.

(Reported by S. D. Gettig.) THURSDAY MORNING.

Wilson Ghaner was recalled for the purpose of proving statements made by the defendant when he first got to the place of the accident. John Curry, William Martoff, William Hartsock and the district attorney were then sworn and identified the gun and cartridge, after which the commonwealth closed and the case was then opened at 9:45 by E. R. Chambers for the defense.

Bert Delige, the defendant, called, who lives at Scotia, and says that he was home during the forenoon of October 20th, 1905, and that his brother, George Dixon, returned from hunting at noon. That in the afternoon he and his brother started to hunt, going down the road towards the school house, and that they passed Marilla Bottorf, but he had not threatened to shoot her and that he was not at the school house when the accident happened. That when they went to pass the school house Ralph Williams said something to him, and that he replied, "O, that old fogey," that the lad still kept on advancing and that he stopped and went to take the gun off his shoulder to set it on the ground, and when he was taking the gun down the cartridge exploded. That he did not know that the gun was loaded. That the gun went off and he dropped the gun and took hold of the boy's leg, and Miss Meek came and asked me for a handkerchief and I gave it to her, and Bndd started to Scotia for help. The other men then came, as well as Mr. Williams. Mr. Williams said, "Bert, how did this happen?" I told him and the boy said, "No, Bert, you said you would shoot." They brought a door and Mr. Williams and I put him on the door and took him home. I did not change off, but the others did. At the house I sat down in a rocking chair quite a while, and then went with Mr. Williams to the store for a suit of underwear, then went home and got another coat and went back to Williams'. They told me they were going to take him to the hospital. I said, "George, I will pay the bill, and that he could get the money at the office." I was arrested on the morning of the 21st at five o'clock. Did not know the gun was loaded and had no intention to shoot the boy. Had no discussion with Ralph or trouble with Miss Meek.

Miss Sarah Meek then testified as to hearing the report of the gun, the pupils running into the school house, and that she went to the relief of the boy. Bert said, "I did not mean to do it, before God, I did not know the gun was loaded." He gave me his handkerchief and a stick to twist it. Ralph said that he was cold and Bert gave him his coat. The boy screamed with pain. When I got out Bert was standing in the road, he looked to me as though he were in terror--did not see the shooting.

George Dixon--Was hunting in the forenoon of the day of the accident. I loaded the gun; it was brother Walter's gun, the firing pin in the gun seemed to be too long. Walter got it from Ed Markley, had a talk with Miss Bottorf, she said Bert said he would shoot her, and said that he was not at the school house when the shooting took place. Chambers was present. Cannot tell when I loaded the gun.

Daniel Daywalt and Ed Markley were then respectively called, and identified the gun as the gun sold to Walter. Daywalt swearing the gun had gone off on his shoulder at one time, but had his finger on the hammer. At 11:10 the defense closed. The commonwealth recalled Miss Bottorf, who denied the testimony of George Dixon relative to her saying that she had not been near the school house at the time of the shooting, and testified that she had gotten to Miss Meek's stable when the shot was fired. Verdict late Thursday afternoon of murder in the second degree, and recommending the defendant to the mercy of the court. Counsel for the defendant moved the court for a new trial, and rule was granted, which rule will be argued later on, after which court adjourned.

Judge H. M. McClure, of Lewisburg came on Thursday morning to hear the equity case of the Nittany Valley Railroad Co., vs. the Empire Steel and Iron Co., lessees, and the American Bonding company of Baltimore, lessors, and Nittany Iron Co. Judge McClure sat in the arbitration room and after the case was called defendants moved the court to quash the bill on the ground that no jurisdiction the plaintiff having an adequate remedy at law. After some discussion the special court adjourned until Friday morning to give counsel more time to look into the question, and Friday morning court convened with Judge McClure on the bench. The question of jurisdiction was argued all forenoon, but just before the noon hour the court overruled the motion of the defendants and directed the parties to go on with the testimony. This is an action brought in the equity courts asking the restraining of the defendants from appropriating to their use certain railroad tracks, etc., at or near the yards of the Nittany Furnace Co., alleged to be the property of the plaintiffs and for an accounting for the use of this property as well as for terminal charges. The case is still on trial before the special judge.

All jurors for this week's court were discharged on Thursday afternoon.

MONDAY MORNING.

In the matter of the case of the Railroad Company vs. the Nittany Iron Company closed on Saturday afternoon and argu-

AN AWAKENING OF PUBLIC CONSCIENCE

Wrong Doers Gradually Being Exposed and Punished.

AFTER THE BIG SINNERS

The Penna. Railroad Being Prosecuted--The Standard Oil Company Under Fire--Insurance Grafters at Harrisburg.

The Penna. R. R. Co. recently abolished all forms of railroad passes, and as a result our lawmakers are proding the company in various ways. It looks as though the favors the railroads long enjoyed, will also be abolished--that of shaping and directing legislation to suit their interests. The old saying that the Penna. R. R. Company owns our legislature and make the laws to suit themselves, contained more truth than fiction, and it was by virtue of the pass that most of this was accomplished. The pass not only figured in state politics, but with congressmen and senators as well.

Since the pass has been abolished to these and their friends, retaliation is in order. First comes the State of Ohio which last week passed a bill making the passenger fare in that state two cents a mile. It went through like a jiffy. At this time the Penna. state legislature is in session, but there is universal sentiment for a two-cent rate here, and such a bill is almost a certainty at the next term.

The business men of the state have brought an action against the company for requiring all users of mileage books to give them a \$10 deposit. This is considered extortion, Tuesday was a hearing before Secretary Brown at Harrisburg, on the matter.

The next prod at the company is the complaint that too many employees of railroads are maimed and killed, owing to the lack of proper precaution, and safety devices. Public crossings are not properly protected.

The most severe thrust comes from congress. The allegation has been made that the Penna. R. R. has absorbed parallel lines in the south and west, leaving those sections practically at the mercy of this great corporation. If this can be proven, the company will be in the same plight as when the railroads in the northwest were merged under one corporation and the Government stepped in and saved the people from spoliation. Congress will investigate the Penna. R. R. Co. on this point at once.

The above is another indication of the healthy growth of reform sentiment, which means that the public conscience is being aroused.

The Standard Oil Company (the biggest lot of thieves on earth) are being hounded by legal processes in Missouri, Ohio, Indiana and New York. John Rockefeller, the richest man in the world, is in hiding, like a criminal, to avoid summons for appearance before court. Next comes the state of New Jersey which is preparing to annul their charter and drive them from that state.

Down in Philadelphia a lot of ballot box stuffers were sent to prison this week. In Durham and others of this gang are trying to escape arrest on former charges.

Next comes the exposures that the Insurance Department at Harrisburg has been extorting hundreds of thousands from the people in illegal fees. The Department will be thoroughly investigated.

Under these conditions there is occasion for all honest men to rejoice. It looks as though better days were coming.

In this connection let us say to our readers that when they go to the spring elections, join the reform movement. No matter if you be democrat, republican, or prohibition, when you detect grafting, corruption or boodling, strike it down--no matter where it appears. Be a good citizen first.

Snake's Heart as Medicine.

The following extraordinary case is reported from Watsonstown, where it is said, Mrs. A. D. Hess, living near that place, in order to cure herself of consumption, swallowed the warm heart of a large rattlesnake, and is now recovering, whether by mere coincidence or otherwise. Mrs. Hess contracted consumption several years ago, and of late was confined to her bed and given up by doctors. She was advised to take the rattlesnake cure, and her son purchased a large rattlesnake from a woodsman; the reptile was killed and the warm heart swallowed by Mrs. Hess. She is now able to sit up. Stories like the above should be taken with due allowance.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs--Selected and Original.

GETTING NEXT TO DAD.

Everybody's working father, He's as soft as lard; May and Neil and mother Work him good and hard. Work him for new outfits, Everything they can-- Everybody in the family Works our old man--EX.

LOVE IS BLIND.

Love is blind, and it may also be a case of dumb luck. Brevity may be the soul of wit, but when a man is short it's no joke.

BOROUGH NOMINATIONS.

All nominations in our borough have been made and stand as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Democratic, Office, Republican. Lists names for various offices like School Director, Treasurer, etc.

NORTH WARD.

Dan Heckman, Judge of Election, S. B. Miller John Lane, Inspector, James H. Rine Oscar Wetzel, School Director, W. H. Crisman C. Y. Wagner, Councilman, G. Edward Haupt

SOUTH WARD.

Geo. Doll, Judge of Election, Thos. Donachy Homer Barnes, Inspector, James Fleming A. C. Mingle, School Director, W. T. Twintre Joseph Wise, Councilman, C. C. Sney

WEST WARD.

Michl Hess, Judge of Election, Isaac Thomas Sr A. Lokenbach, Inspector, James H. Rine Oscar Wetzel, School Director, W. H. Crisman C. Y. Wagner, Councilman, G. Edward Haupt

The primaries in all the wards were well attended showing that the people are aroused as to the importance of making proper nominations. It will be noted that the democrats gracefully conceded to Gen. John I. Curtin the nomination for Burgess, as it will be appropriate for him to be the borough's representative during the unveiling ceremonies of the Soldier's Monument. As a soldier Gen. Curtin has a most enviable record, and in the hope that the same exacting discipline of military life will be introduced in official duties, he has been chosen. The public appreciate the good work done by Burgess Walker, and are anxious that it will be continued. For council both parties named good men in the North Ward. The democrats have a man fully competent.

In the South Ward there was some difference, and party lines are getting broken. Charles Shuey, the groceryman, who is a pronounced prohibitionist, at the request of many, permitted the republicans to name him for council. He declares that, though nominated on a party ticket, if elected he will know no party or politics in the discharge of his duties. Joseph Wise has served one term in council, and was in the famous orphanage deal by which they hoped to get \$10,000 from the mouths of orphans to spend on street rollers, more new pipes and supplies for the water works; has been one of the Sam Ryan backers for years; and has a great many other things to his credit. He was advised by prominent men not to ask for another term, and was urged to stand aside and permit the unanimous nomination of Philip Beezer, but he refused and was given the democratic nomination in that ward. Certain influential interests that thrive off of Bellefonte, as well as strong political workers, are backing Wise; the Ryan gang, who don't want to lose their fat snap around the water work, want Wise--of course they do--as Joe has been their kind of a councilman.

In the West Ward the democrats named an excellent young business man, Curt Wagner, the miller, and it looks as though he will be the coming councilman. Other nominations attract little attention and will be a matter of personal choice. When the taxpayers of this borough realize the burden of debt being saddled on them, every good citizen will be aroused. We are assured that the next Auditors Statement will show that our total debt is beyond the legal limit--may reach \$150,000. For this reason the time has come to quit political chicanery and get down to practical economy. And spring is the time for housecleaning.

Railroad Rumors.

For some time rumors have been going that a deal is in progress in reference to the Central R. R. of Penna. The cause for this is the fact that a corps of civil engineers have gone over the entire line recently, for what reason we are unable to learn. It has been intimated that the N. Y. Central R. R. is anxious to secure this road as a part of their system, as well as the Bellefonte Central to reach Huntingdon, and connect with the Broad Top Railroad. Inquiry was made of different railroad men, and resulted in obtaining what was anticipated--nothing. All seemed to have a knowing look.

What is doing we do not know; if you think you can find out, try it.

"Old Nick" Has Been a Terror for Ages.

"Old Nick" has been a terror for ages; at present "Young Nick" Longworth is the most popular man in the country.

Fifteen Headaches Cured for 10c by using "Moyer's Headache Tablets."

Fifteen headaches cured for 10c by using "Moyer's Headache Tablets."