

# The Centre Democrat.

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BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1907.

Vol. 29, No. 50

## GEORGE C. BUTZ LEAPS TO DEATH

### Commits Suicide in a Horrible Manner Last Saturday.

## LEAPS FROM MAIN BUILDING

### Striking the Stone Steps in Front of the Main Building at Pennsylvania State College—His Neck was Broken and Body Otherwise Badly Injured.

Prof. George C. Butz, one of the faculty at Pennsylvania State College, met with a most tragic death on last Saturday morning about 7:15 o'clock. In a fit of mental despondency he went to the sixth floor of the main building and leaped from the window. He fell about ninety feet, striking on the stone steps, in front of the entrance; his neck was broken and his body otherwise badly mangled. The sad affair has cast a gloom, not only in his own town, but in Bellefonte and other portions of the state where he lectured and was well known.

Prof. Butz was subjected to stomach trouble which finally affected his mind and necessitated a rest. Several months ago he went to a private sanitarium at Battle Creek, Mich., where he received treatment under which he seemed to improve, so much that he finally left the institution, arriving at State College, Monday of last week. Apparently his mental condition was such as to cause his friends to think that in a short time he would regain his former health and strength. He resumed his position as professor of Horticulture, but while teaching stated to the class that he was not in the physical condition to render the best service, regretting that he had left the sanitarium. On Friday evening he attended a social function at Nittany Inn, and there was nothing noticeable about his actions that would indicate that anything was wrong. While this is true, his friends were concerned about his condition.

On the fatal morning, he got up and, after breakfast, started to the college, stating to his wife he was going to his office and would return shortly. He passed up through the campus talking to all he met, who failed to detect that anything was wrong with him. He also passed students on the stairway and conversed intelligently with him. When he reached the sixth floor he walked to the window and after taking off his coat and hat made the leap that sent him into eternity. As his mangled form lay on the stone steps below, it was first recognized by Jacob R. Kinnear.

Prof. George C. Butz was born at New Castle, Pa., Feb. 1, 1863, and was reared at the old home in New Castle, preparing for college in the High School there. He was the son of Paul Butz, a native of Switzerland. In 1880 he entered the Sophomore class at State College, taking the general scientific course and graduating in 1884. In '84 and '85 he taught the preparatory school, pursuing at the same time a course in botany and zoology. He then started on an extensive tour for the purpose of studying the flora of the United States. He spent some time in Southern California in landscape gardening. On his return to Pennsylvania in 1887 he accepted the position of horticulturist at the Experimental Station. In 1894 he was appointed assistant professor of Horticulture in the Pennsylvania State College. In 1888 his Alma Mater conferred upon him the well earned degree of Master of Science. In 1892 he was married to Miss Emma Robinson, of State College, who survives him with two children, Gerald R., and Charles A., aged about ten and twelve years respectively. He was a member of the Presbyterian church at State College in which he was a deacon. He was an honorable man who loved everything that was true, and abhorred that which was wrong.

The funeral took place Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock which was largely attended. A special train left Bellefonte at 1:30 o'clock containing a number of friends and his fellow Masons, the latter taking part in the service. Interment was made at Pine Hill.

## The Grangers' Mistake.

The Pennsylvania Grangers insist that the State surplus should be used in building good, hard roads rather than kept piled up in banks enjoying the special favor of the Republican Machine. The national Grangers likewise declare that our existing tariff schedules are an abomination and should be genuinely revised. It is to be observed, however, that in both cases the Grangers resolute one way and vote another. Without the support at the polls of the agricultural classes represented by these Granger associations neither could the Republican Machine long survive in Pennsylvania, nor could the Republican party continue to control the lawmaking and executive branches of the Federal Government. It's the votes and not the resolutions that count.—From The Norfolk Virginian, Dec. 15.

## Old Paper to Change Hands.

According to the DuBois Courier, the Raftsmen's Journal, one of the oldest of the newspapers in Clearfield county will change hands. The present owner, Hon. M. L. McQuown, has been the owner and publisher of the paper for over twenty years. Since the first issue of the paper was published over 50 years ago, the paper has changed hands but twice. From the founder it went into the hands of A. M. Rowe & Son and then to its present owner. It is understood that R. M. Reed, recently part owner of the Houtzdale Citizen, will have charge under the new management.

## State Highway Work Halted.

State Highway Commissioner Hunter has ordered work stopped on all highways being built under the direction of the department until next spring. The only work which will be done by the department during the winter is heavy grading and rock cutting.

## DON'T FORGET IT.

Last week we sent all our patrons, who were in arrears, a fraction of a year or more, on subscription, a statement. A number have kindly remembered us by sending in their remittances, for which they have our thanks. Others no doubt intended to do so, but overlooked the matter, and then entirely forgot it.

We would deem it a special favor to hear from all, who are in arrears, before January 1st, 1908. Kindly bear this in mind and act accordingly. When you pay your paper in advance, you read your own paper and are happy, the publisher is happy, and all about the office are happy because they get their wages promptly.

With this little jolt we bid 1907 adieu, wishing one and all "A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year." THE PUBLISHER.

## A PANAMA VISITOR.

Monday afternoon we had an interesting call from Harry Homan, formerly of Zion, who has just returned from a three months' trip to Panama, where he was employed on the big canal. The young man is a son of Thomas Homan, of Zion; for several years he was employed in Philadelphia and later in New York as a machinist and from there went to Panama where he spent three months, connected with the engineering department of the government's operations.

Owing to the financial stringency the government recently found it necessary to reduce the working force and he returned two weeks ago. The trip back was made direct to New York by boat in seven days.

Mr. Homan related many interesting incidents and data concerning that country, and the big ditch which this government is cutting across the isthmus that will cost many millions and require possibly over ten years of strenuous work to complete.

While the government has adopted extreme sanitary measures, there are many dangers to be encountered such as deadly fevers from the malarious positions that come out of the soil, and so deadly in that humid tropical district. There are poisonous spiders underneath the stones and deadly scorpions in the vegetation. The mountain jaguar lurks in his lair, while beneath fallen trees perils are ever present.

Accommodations along the canal for American visitors are the wood for the canal country. Sightseers who go there don't remain long; engineers and workmen who go there anticipating a picnic in the tropics at Uncle Sam's expense, invariably are disappointed.

The length of the big ditch is 48 miles with a railroad running parallel to it. The route is a fine one for scenic beauty. Mr. Homan expects to return to Panama next year, and has in view an extended trip through parts of South America.

## Pig With Nail Through Its Jaws.

Buton Litz, who resides at Lock Haven, had a butchering recently, and like many similar occasions, was made quite an event with Mr. and Mrs. Litz, who invited a number of friends to participate in the frolic. They had four hogs to slaughter, three of which were nice large fine porkers. The fourth was small and puny and at first was thought, not worth killing. Upon second thought, however, it was concluded to make a clean job of it so the little fellow was soon on the dissecting table along with the three large pigs. In cutting up the small hog they discovered why it had not grown to maturity, as had the other. A large iron nail had pierced the upper, and lower jaws, thereby locking them to a considerable degree. This made it impossible for the pig to eat as did its three companions and while the trio grew and waxed fat the little fellow almost starved to death. Its sufferings must have been terrible and an effort to eat with both jaws fettered by the nail was genuine torture.

## Surprise to Pastor.

At the close of the revival service in the Bellefonte United Brethren church on Thursday evening the entire congregation marched to the ladies' sewing room, adjoining the church, where each person deposited a package containing some article which would be useful to Rev. D. Barshinger and his family. The contents of these little bundles amounted to about \$18. In addition to these the pastor was presented with a purse of money. Rev. Barshinger and his family were greatly surprised at this outburst of generosity on the part of his congregation, and the pastor can consider it as testimony that his work here is appreciated.

J. Ammerman, one of the party, made the presentation speech, and Rev. D. Barshinger responding in fitting terms, returning the sincere thanks of himself and family. The balance of the evening was most agreeably spent in a social way. At a seasonable hour the guests departed for their various homes well pleased with the evening's entertainment.

## Beech Creek High School.

At a meeting of the Beech Creek borough school board held Wednesday it was decided to establish a borough high school, to be started immediately following the holidays' vacation. The senior department of the grammar school will be merged into a high school which will be run that way until the close of the school year, when a room will be fitted up specially for the high school.

## Double Operation.

J. B. Poorman, formerly of Romola, Curtis twp., on Dec. 12, had two operations performed in the Lock Haven hospital, the one a large tumor on the right arm and a small operation on the face. He is getting along as well as can be expected.

## TEN-MILLION ESTATE FOR DISTRIBUTION

### Number of Centre Countians Expect to Obtain a Portion.

## LOCATED IN NEW YORK CITY

### A Favorable Decision Recently Rendered in the Courts Gives Them Assurance of Success—Some of the Heirs in this Locality.

In 1657 Peter and Isaac Van Horn settled on land which is now the principal part of New York City, and is said to be worth \$10,000,000. After the death of these gentlemen the heirs began, through the process of law, to look up the matter. Generations have since grown up and passed away and yet they received no title to this vast estate. It began to look as if it was nothing but an idle fancy, as all other such fortunes, it would pass away like the dew before the morning sun. It is now claimed that a recent decision has been handed down in the courts of New York which gives these heirs this large fortune, and in a short time the money will be collected and distributed.

There are three hundred and fifty heirs which means that each heir will get about \$30,000. Among these heirs there are about twenty in Bellefonte and Centre county, consisting of the Aikeys, Barnharts and Strubles. To particularize we would just mention that William Aikey, of Roland; Herman Aikey, of Lewistown; Mrs. James Gregg, Edward Struble, William and Thomas Barnhart, of Bellefonte, will come in for a share of the long green. Mrs. Gregg is the mother-in-law of John Sornbeck, Jr., who is now making arrangements to return by boat in seven days.

Mr. Homan related many interesting incidents and data concerning that country, and the big ditch which this government is cutting across the isthmus that will cost many millions and require possibly over ten years of strenuous work to complete.

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## GRANGERS MEET.

The five prime objects which it is announced that the State Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, in session at West Chester, will strive to attain, are the absolute prohibition of the sale of colored oleomargarine; the establishment of a parcels post in connection with the rural free delivery; a thorough going improvement of country roads; to make farm life more attractive and thus draw population from the over-crowded cities and unhealthy tenements; and the introduction in every county of a system of Grange National banks, Grange fire insurance.

The legislative committee's report was read by Wm. T. Cressy, of Columbia county, and it was adopted. The committee lamented the fact that the farmers of Pennsylvania have not received more legislation. The committee felt that the farmers were entitled to more legislation and they hoped the coming Legislature would recognize their claims. Governor Stuart was severely censured by the committee for vetoing the Watson bill which gave local school boards the right to enforce the compulsory vaccination law.

The report of the committee on Temperance, reported a resolution on local option, here it was adopted. The committee reported a resolution on local option, here it was adopted.

## Lend a Helping Hand.

Capt. and Mrs. J. Heather, who have charge of the Salvation Army in Bellefonte, are making arrangements to give a dinner, on Christmas, to the poor people of town. This is a most worthy object and to make the enterprise a success they need the co-operation of the merchants and other citizens who are able to contribute to a cause of this character. The following articles are needed: meat, bread, butter, coffee, sugar, milk, potatoes, apples, rice, beans, canned goods and money. All articles whether to be called for or delivered should be in the Salvation Army hall not later than Monday, Dec. 25. All baskets will be filled at the hall and delivered Christmas morning.

## February Election.

According to the uniform primary law the spring election of 1908 will be held on the third Tuesday in February, which is the 18th day of the month. The nominations for the local offices to be filled must be made on or previous to the fourth Saturday in January, preceding the election, which will be the 25th day for the month.

## IMPROVEMENTS AT HOSPITAL.

On Friday a representative of the Centre Democrat visited the Bellefonte hospital for the purpose of noting the progress of the improvements now being made on hospital hill. We were cordially received by Miss Calderwood, the trusty and faithful superintendent, who has bent all her energy to make the institution one of the best in the state. We found it to be a beehive of industry as the carpenters, painters and electricians were busy at their respective work. In the old building a number of important changes have been made. The office, which was located in the centre of the building, on the left hand side of the main hall, has been changed to the front room on the same side of the hall. This has been fitted up with electric chandeliers, telephone racks on the desk, a railing to keep the office private from the public and a number of other conveniences that are found necessary. The authorities will now be able to transact business as it should be done. Best of all a door opening into the main hall there is another leading into the stair parlor in which is located a handsome stairway leading to the second and third floors of the new building, and from which entrance can be had to the second floor in the old building. What was formerly used as the office is now the study for the nurses which has been fixed up for that purpose. There are quite a number of young ladies in the training school, all of whom are getting along nicely and in time will make the very best of trained nurses.

The second and third floors of the new building are completed, the ward on the second floor is now being occupied by the lady patients. It is quite roomy and well ventilated, making it much preferable to wards in the old building. The occupying of this ward, to a certain extent, relieves a congested condition of the hospital, although additional room could be utilized. The third floor, in the new apartment, is occupied for the present, by Miss Calderwood. This room has been furnished very neatly by the ladies of Howard who deserve considerable credit for their untrusting efforts to give to the hospital such a handsome gift. On the first floor in the new addition, in which most of the work is now being done, will be located the etherizing, sterilizing and operating rooms, together with the medicine closets and a room which will be fitted up by the Bellefontes Elks as a ward. It will contain two beds and everything necessary for the comfort of the patients. "Whenever the Elks do anything they generally do it right, and they will here. The operating room, when completed, will be the finest in the state. Francis B. Gibson, of Lock Haven, an expert in work laying the white tiling which will cover the floor and the sides of the ward, thus this apartment will be free from all kinds of microbes. Mr. Gibson will give the Bellefonte hospital something along this line of which they can be proud of. The operating room will be well lighted by a large side light and a skylight from the east side of the building. The Andrew G. Curtin heirs have set aside \$2000 for the equipping of the operating, sterilizing and etherizing rooms. It will not require that sum to purchase the necessities for these apartments and the money that is left will be put on interest for the purchase of new instruments when needed. Taking it all in all the day will come when Bellefonte will have a hospital which the citizens of the town and Centre county can feel proud, and where most any kind of an operation can be as successfully performed as in any other institution in the country.

## Sold Land to Bickfords.

The Phillipsburg Journal says: J. M. Edwards, of Osceola, was a business visitor at our office Saturday evening. Mr. E. was fortunate enough a few years ago to get hold of some lands beyond Curwensville, on which there were discovered large deposits of valuable fire clay, together with large quantities of excellent sand stone suited for bridge building and similar work.

Recently he disposed of his clay interests to the Bickfords, who a few days ago purchased the Curwensville fire brick plant, reserving the sand stone. In addition to a cash consideration, Mr. Edwards took stock and bonds in the Bickford concern in the disposal of his clay interests. The clay from the Edwards land will be used chiefly at the Curwensville plant.

## A Merry Straw Party.

A merry party of Rockviewers left for Pleasant Gap, with what is called a "straw party," on Friday evening, Nov. 29, 1907. They landed at their party place in safety, and all reported having a good time. The wagon was filled with nice yellow straw. Those present were: Mr. Scholl, Pearl Hoy, Eddie S. Saxon, Grace P. Hoy, Jinks K. Saxon, Ruth C. Benner, Allie L. Hartie, Kathryn M. Hoy, Duffie Dugan and Mrs. Keller. They were chaperoned by Fidelity Fleck and his lady friend, Miss Nobody. Just ask Mickie and Neddie, why they didn't go, and they will say, "Cause we know."

## No Paper Next Week.

This being the Christmas season no paper will be issued next week. For our readers we wish a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. May 1908 have in store happiness, prosperity, and good health for all. Printers need a week off, same as other good people, for rest and the festivities of the season that commemorates the greatest event in the history of the world. We ask the kind indulgence of our patrons. No paper next week.

## Hog Slaughters Himself.

A large porker weighing slightly over 400 pounds, was killed in a peculiar manner at the home of its owner, Joseph Martino, at Blackwells, near Williamsport on Thursday. A dynamite railroad signal cap was carelessly thrown into the pig pen, and one of the largest hogs attempted to eat it. As the animal's teeth pressed against the cap, the dynamite exploded, tearing the head nearly off.

## WHO WILL BE THE NEXT PRESIDENT

### Some Lively Movements Among The Leading Politicians.

## THE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

### Will be Held in June and July—Roosevelt Will Not Accept Another Nomination—Wall Street Wants to Name The Republican Nominee.

The past two weeks have been filled with stirring events by the doings of prominent republican leaders. The stake in the next presidential nomination, and it will be pulled off, June 16, at Chicago. The time is growing short, and since congress assembled there has been more politics about the National Capitol than consideration of important legislation. The corporate interests, the Standard Oil Company, the big railroads, and Wall Street, have been after Roosevelt; and many think they caused the present financial flurry in order to discredit the president and prevent his nomination for a third term, or destroy his influence in naming a successor. For that reason it is possible that there will be much friction in congress, and direct opposition to the wishes of the administration. The positive re-iteration of President Roosevelt that he cannot accept another nomination eliminates an important element. Roosevelt wants Secretary Taft as his successor, as he is in sympathy with the president's policies. Of course the president's enemies are against Taft.

Another sensation of the week was the boom for Cortelyou that cropped up suddenly and with strong support. The Wall Street gamblers got special favors right along from this Secretary of the Treasury, who supplied them with many millions with which to continue their stock speculations. He is the man who got the boodle from the corporations in the last presidential campaign and frequently confers with J. Pierpont Morgan and other big grafters. Cortelyou's boom was helped by patronage from the Treasury and the Postoffice department; he was secretly concocted and in direct opposition to the President, who, when he learned the facts, called Cortelyou and his henchmen to time at a cabinet meeting, and some vacancies are expected in consequence. "Teddy" got hopping mad and, it reports are correct, all is not lovely in administration circles.

In New York a desperate effort is being made to boom Governor Hughes. Senator Knox, from our state, has the reputation of being the best teacher. He is the one of the common people as when he runs for office.

There are women who wear themselves out thinking of what they will wear when they go out.

He (sentimentally)—May I hope to see you pretty soon? She (jestingly)—I rather think I'm pretty now.

A woman may not believe all her husband tells her, but she listens with both ears when he talks in his sleep.

"If my general is the best teacher," asks the cynical bachelor, "how does it happen that Solomon had so many wives?"

Rather hard to suggest, to be sure, but do you know the belle of the bary? She might beller and bawl if you told her she wasn't.

Even when a fellow commits suicide by going over Niagara Falls someone will say there was a woman at the bottom of it.

Magistrate—You gave this young woman such a hit on the face that she can't see out of her eyes. What have you to say for yourself? Accused—Well, she often told me she didn't want to see me anymore.

"Thought you said you had ploughed that ten acre field," said the first farmer. "No; I only said I was thinking about ploughing it," said the second farmer. "Oh, I see; you've merely turned it over in your mind!"

Next year Washington's birthday, Memorial Day and Fourth of July fall on Saturday, giving the public three double holidays. Ordinarily these do not fall on the same day, but by the intervention of February 29 next year, Washington's birthday falls just fourteen weeks earlier than Memorial Day, which regularly comes five weeks before the Fourth. If a baker's dozen of the quarter of a hundred legal holidays were repealed, it would meet the public approbation. Quite a per centage are a nuisance.

## Tuten and the Safe.

Editor and Register Earl C. Tuten locked the safe in the Daily News office the other day in which he had placed \$1000 more or less. He needed the money in his business on Monday and when he went to unlock the safe he found that he was up against a pretty stiff proposition, as he had forgotten the combination. He had to have cash or bust so he commenced turning the combination at 8 o'clock in the morning and kept it moving until noon. He went home feeling something like the fellow who had been out among the boys the night before. He searched the house from cellar to attic and finally found a little red book which he thought contained the secret. He returned in the afternoon, and with the assistance of Al Dale they played with the combination like Earl's boy would play with his rattle, and they accomplished about as much. During the afternoon the fifth commandment was smashed into fragments and laid scattered all over the sanctum, but that didn't open the safe. After eating something to strengthen his nerves the young Register returned after supper and by some supernatural twist of the wrist the bolts adjusted themselves and in the twinkling of an eye the large iron door flew open. The face of the young scribe was wreathed in smiles, and we shouldn't wonder that after he recovered his money he went out and took a smile.

## About Your Sale.

If you are having sale this season it is the time to announce your date in our Sale Register to prevent others in the same locality from interfering. This is the best paper in the county for that purpose as it has over two thousand more subscribers than any other—is read by everybody.

We also print the best sale bills in Centre county, and you need not fear our prices.

## FACT, FUN AND FANCY

### Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

Pie naturally makes the dyspeptic feel crusty.

Don't give advice and you won't be blamed.

Say little and you will gain a reputation for wisdom.

One of Adam's sons was the first Able-bodied man.

To be successful you must be a comer before you are a goner.

An ounce of hard work is worth a pound of physical culture.

An idle rumer is really about the most industrious thing in the world.

Some people harp on one string until they actually talk with a twang.

A casual inspection won't convince you of the age of an egg or a woman.

It's better to be brought up on a bottle than be brought down by one.

Misery loves company, but it's a rule that doesn't always work both ways.

Many a young lawyer fails to make good because he practices at the wrong bar.

Many a man has found the real riches of life by looking into the faces of the poor.

Occasionally you hear of a good fellow being transformed into a model husband.

While some men put a lot of steam into their work others are content with hot air.

It seems as though some men's characters are never formed until they are reformed.

The bill collector, at least, may be justified in thinking that the world owes him a living.

Some people make a mountain out of a molehill, while others are satisfied to put up a bluff.

When a man wants an excuse for meanness he usually begins by criticising the churches.

The only opportunity many a fellow is quick to grasp is an opportunity to make a fool of himself.

A man is never so willing to admit that he is one of the common people as when he runs for office.

There are women who wear themselves out thinking of what they will wear when they go out.

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