

The Centre Democrat.

Benner, Gen. J. A. 210

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ALL FISHERMEN SHOULD TAKE NOTICE

MEETING TO DETERMINE THE STATUS OF PENNS CREEK

WHETHER A TROUT STREAM

Testimony to be Taken at Bellefonte on December 16—If you are interested Attend—Will Determine Future Fishing Limits in that Stream.

The Board of Fishery Commission will hold a meeting at the Bush House, Bellefonte, on Thursday morning, December 16, at 10 o'clock, to hear testimony of fishermen concerning the status of Penn creek as a trout stream. This action is in consequence of a dispute among fishermen as to whether any part of Penn creek is a stream not inhabited by trout, and which dispute was referred to the Board of Fishery Commission under the provisions of Section 28 of the Act of May 1, 1909. W. E. Meehan, the Commissioner of Fisheries, and the other members of the Board who will hear the testimony are: John Hamberger, Erie; Henry C. Cox, Wellboro; Andrew R. Whitaker, Phenixville; and W. A. Leisenring, Mauch Chunk. The testimony will be taken in shorthand by a stenographer of the Department. The meeting is open and any one interested in the matter is entitled to appear before the Board and give it the benefit of his knowledge. Those who appear are heard in turn and from the testimony given the Board will render its decision, which, under the law, will be final.

Under the law streams inhabited by trout may not be fished with any device, excepting rods and lines, and under a decision of the Attorney General, where any part of a stream is known to contain trout, it is unlawful to erect a fish basket, use gigs or spears or any device, except rods and lines, unless the Board should determine otherwise. Under this decision it would be unlawful for the County Treasurer to issue licenses for any part of Penn creek from source to mouth. As the extreme lower end was unquestionably barren of trout and as the petition came in during the summer setting forth the dispute and a claim that the lower end of Penn creek had no trout, the Commissioner of Fisheries set a temporary line at Glen Iron in Union county, and all licenses above that point were refused. It would be well therefore that all fishermen interested in this matter to appear before the Board on the day and date mentioned, especially since the temporary line now ceases to exist.

The semi-annual meeting of the Board will be held at the Fish Hatchery on Wednesday, the 15th, to receive the annual report of the Chief Warden and to prepare the annual report of the Board itself. This meeting is not public.

HARD-LUCK HUNTER.

Mel Lingle, of Blanchard, who has a lame hip and leg since being hurt by a fall of clay while mining in the mines of the Pennsylvania Fire Brick company last spring was out with the Lingle party this season. He always hunted with this party and they took him along this year. One day they had him go with them and watch while they attempted to drive a deer out to him. The attempt proved fruitless, and he went back to camp on his crutches. He put his gun inside the camp and then sat down on a stool outside the door. After sitting down, it is with the greatest difficulty that the young man can arise. After sitting quietly and alone for some time, he saw a fine buck approaching. The big fellow came up to within 50 yards of the camp, but Mr. Lingle could not get to his gun. Had he placed his gun within reach, he would have undoubtedly drawn blood, because Mel, has proved himself one of the best rifle shots and successful deer hunters in these parts. There was deep chagrin in the camp that night when the crowd gathered around the camp fire.

Snow Causes Suffering.
A drifting snow storm that was sweeping over Kansas and Oklahoma and part of Texas is causing much suffering among unsheltered stock. Many telephones, telegraph and railroad companies have lost wire connections. No attempt is made to run trains on schedule time. Street car service was demoralized in Topeka. Many cars spent half an hour covering a single uphill block.

Favor Munson.

Vance McCormick, former mayor of Harrisburg, while passing through the Flood City, was asked about the rumors of his running for governor on the democratic ticket. He denied that he was thinking of gubernatorial honors and said that in the state capital all the opinion seemed to be centered around C. Larue Munson for that position.

Liquor Licenses.

Applications for liquor licenses in Centre county will be presented to the court on Saturday, December 18th. In the list there is but one new application, that of Frank Grebe, of Philipsburg, for wholesale liquor. The list embraces 28 applicants for tavern licenses, 6 for wholesale liquor and one brewer's license at Philipsburg.

Meeting for Farmers.

Prof. H. E. Van Norman, head of the Dairy Department of the Pennsylvania State College, will be at Aaronsburg on Tuesday evening, December 14th, and give a lecture on "The Dairy cow and the care of milk." All persons interested in dairy work are requested to be present. Admission free.

WATER WORKS AFIRE.

Pumping Station Should be Better Protected.

On Sunday evening shortly after 8 o'clock the fire alarm sounded and it did not take long to reduce the number of worshippers at the various churches. The fire was located at the Water Works, at the spring, and for a short time it looked as if the entire building would be destroyed. All that saved it was the prompt and excellent service of the fire department. The damage done was the burning of part of the roof above the boilers which will amount to a couple of hundred dollars. It evidently caught from a spark as no one was in the building at the time and the origin of the fire is unknown. It appeared to start under the roof over the boilers.

Warning for the Future.
When this fire broke out the building was locked. Some of the first parties on the scene found rather a small blaze that easily could have been extinguished with a garden hose or portable chemical tank. Neither was available. Timely discovery and prompt service of the fire departments averted destruction of the plant.

This leads to another timely thought. Suppose the plant had been destroyed. It would have meant the dismantling of the boilers, serious damage to the two steam pumps, water pump and other machinery which might have delayed their operation for several weeks. That would have left the borough dependent for its water supply on the pumping station at the Reynolds mill. With Logans Branch at its low ebb this would have been insufficient to supply the town and then in case of serious fire a calamity might have befallen us.

For that reason it behooves the Water and Fire Departments to take immediate action. The frame building covering the pumping department should be promptly replaced by one of brick and structural steel. Until that is done the plant should be equipped with several lines of fire hose, accessible and easily put in operation for just such an emergency.

Another uncomfortable feature was that when the flames were roaring out of the top of the roof, there were two inmates in the lockup which is built up close to the rear of the pumping room. These fellows could see the glare of the light, hear the crackling of the flames, and knew from the rush that they were uncomfortably close to danger and were liable to be roasted alive. It was a good healthy scare, but fortunately the police were on the scene early and the fellows were assured that no danger would befall them.

"GOING SOME."

All the "reading matter" in this edition of the Centre Democrat is the product of our Mergenthaler Linotype, which was installed last summer. In addition, we had several columns more than we could use. Most of the matter is set "solid minion" or "T-point" and the machine was working on job printing two days of the week. On Monday, on a continuous run there was an output of nine full galleys—about what six compositors would set and distribute in the same time.

We now are putting up this matter with only one operator, Miss Anna Slooy, who has had but five months experience in our office as an operator. Formerly we had five hand compositors with no end of confusion, and not near the output.

Our machine is working so smoothly now that all are delighted over the change, which has made the production of the paper a delight.

The public generally is cordially invited to call at our office any time during working hours to see this wonderful piece of mechanism in operation.

December Court.

December session of court convened on Monday morning, before the Hon. Ellis L. Orvis, President Judge of said court. Owing to the repairs going on in and about the Court House no court could be held there and no traverse jurors were called for this term. The Court heard the constables return of the County at the Prothonotary's office and at the offices of J. A. B. Miller. The grand jurors were called and sworn and W. L. Foster, a retired merchant of State College Borough, selected as foreman thereof. The grand jury was in session at the offices of J. A. B. Miller, which were rented for this purpose by the County Commissioners. The petitions and motions presentable at this term of court are being presented at the office of the Judge and in the office of Mr. Miller as occasion suits. Your reporter has not been in position to know what the grand jury has done but will try and give a report in the next issue.

Gifts for Paper Mill Employees.

The New York and Pennsylvania company will procure a car load of turkeys to be distributed among the many male employees of the mill in Lock Haven as Christmas gifts from New York state. It will require 325 turkeys to go round, where there are more than one male employe of the same family a pair of gloves will be given. The girls and women employed a year's subscription to the Ladies' Home Journal or a four-pound box of fine chocolates and bon-bons.

Opening Cook's Records.

Recor Torp of the University of Copenhagen extended an invitation to Dr. Maurice F. Egan, United States Minister to Denmark to be present when the North Polar records of Dr. Cook are received, and also during the subsequent examination. The Cook records are expected on the Steamer United States, due there about Dec. 8.

THE NEW ROAD LAW TO BE VOTED UPON

BY THE CITIZENS OF BENNER TOWNSHIP IN FEBRUARY

DECIDE IMPORTANT QUESTION

Whether They Will Pay a Cash Road Tax or Permit the Farmers to Work It Out in Old Way—They Should Reason Well.

Enough of the residents of Benner township, Centre county, have signed a petition and presented it to the Court, which has granted the residents of that balliwick the privilege to vote at the February election upon the question as to whether they will pay their road tax in cash, or continue to work it out on the road. The last legislature passed an act to the effect that if the road taxes of a precinct or county were paid in cash, the State would add fifty per cent. to the amount. For instance, if Benner township was to collect \$1,000 taxes they would be entitled to \$500 from the State fund, which would increase the local fund to \$1,500. The general impression among farmers is that the road tax is easier paid by working it out than laying down the cash. In one sense this is true, but whether it is the most economical method is the question. If a farmer's time is worth \$1 a day working on the road why should it not be worth just as much to him by doing seasonal work on his farm? If by having good roads, one-third of which is paid by the State, the farmer can save fifty per cent. on the wear and tear of his wagons and other conveyances, and get his produce to the market quicker and easier, why shouldn't he favor the plan devised under the new law? Good roads mean money to the farmer, and if he can get the State to assume one-third of the expense to make them, isn't he standing in his own light if he objects to co-operate with the plan that will bring this about? If the taxpayers of any township vote for a work tax they receive no state appropriation and it is a serious question, in many instances, whether the road isn't in a worse condition after the taxes are worked out than before. If the farmers are after good roads they should consider the question well. In many of the counties, say Franklin and York counties, the new plan was adopted and the results have been that more roads have been put in good condition than ever before and at less expense to the taxpayers.

Quite a number of townships in Centre county have voted on the question and the cash plan was voted down. Gregg, Harris and Rush townships have adopted the cash system and it will be but a short time until these sections of the county will give a practical demonstration of the advantage the new system of collecting taxes has over the old system.

FOR CHARITY'S SAKE.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the "Centre County Fair," the entertainment which was given in Garmann's opera house on Friday and Saturday evenings for the benefit of the Elk's charity fund. It was directed by Miss Annie Sara Bock whose ability cannot be questioned as to producing an entertainment. The audience was as large as the second night as the first. The cast of characters was the best the town could produce, everyone taking their parts almost to perfection for which the Elks hereby extend their thanks. When everything is squared up there will be about \$225 to be divided with the Bellefonte Hospital, and distributed among the deserving poor of Bellefonte. Everything that is purchased will be at a substantial nature, thus not a cent will be spent in trifles. If a half of ton of coal is needed the probabilities are it will be granted, and it will not be noised all over creation who got it, or gave it. In this, and many other ways, the local Benevolent Protective order of Elks have become a public benefactor in the community. It is due Mr. Linn Harris to say that this entertainment was largely his proposition, and under his direction.

Small Margin.

Armstrong county's Democratic candidate for judicial honors claims his election by a plurality of one vote.

FIFTY-TWO GIFTS FOR ONE DOLLAR

Nothing Could Please Your Friends More Than the Centre Democrat.

Fifty-two Christmas gifts for one dollar hardly seems plausible, but that is just what a year's subscription to the Centre Democrat would mean to your friends. Nothing could be more appreciated by former Bellefonters and Centre County folks, as well as those who reside here now, who do not get the Democrat, than a gift of this kind. It gives all the news all the time, and will keep your friends posted as to what is daily transpiring in good old Centre County. Do this and don't bother your brains any further about this gift business. And when the paper puts in its appearance every week for fifty-two weeks, your friends will have fond memories of the donor and appreciate your thoughtfulness.

TELEPHONE DIVIDENDS.

The Board of Directors of the Nittany Telephone Company declared another semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent. upon paid capital of the Company, payable February 1st, 1910, to the stockholders of record January 1st, 1910. Checks will be mailed. This is the second dividend to be paid, and the Company has not been in operation quite a year. Pole and wire lines are being constructed in the east end of Nittany valley and near Mill Hall. When these are completed, it will add about fifty more telephones to the Mill Hall exchange, making more than 200 telephones operated from Zion and Mill Hall exchanges.

In the course of another year, there will be at least 300 telephones in operation. Many of the farmers are realizing more every day, the value of having a telephone.

The company is owned by the people living in Nittany valley, but are receiving applications for stock from outside investors, which is very evident that it is a very good paying proposition.

The Board of Directors of the Bald Eagle Telephone company declared another semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent. upon paid capital of the company, payable on January 1st, 1910, to the stockholders of record December 18th, 1910. Checks will be mailed. This makes the seventh semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent. paid by the company. The company recently installed a switchboard at Beech Creek and added about seventy-five more telephones. This company is in a very prosperous condition. The stock of the company is owned principally by living subscribers to telephones and others living within the territory developed by it.

The above companies are connected with the Commercial system.

Memorial Service.

The annual memorial service of the local Benevolent Protective Order of Elks was held in Petrikin Hall on Sunday afternoon and well attended. The exercises were according to the ritual of the order, in which they were assisted by a male quartet consisting of Rev. Platts, Russell Blair, Henry Brown, and John Bullock with Miss Mary Bradley at the piano. The address was delivered by Rev. John Hewitt, rector of the Episcopal church, and was appropriate to the occasion. In his discourse many truths were brought home to the members of the order, and the audience assembled. It was filled with choice thought and appropriate sentiment throughout.

There are 22 patients in the hospital.

Hospital Notes.

Miss Besse Bryan, of Milesburg, operation for appendicitis on Wednesday, getting along nicely.

Arthur Loesch, of State College, who fell while at play injuring left elbow, was admitted yesterday.

On Monday, Edward Nelson, 2 years old, of Bellefonte, fell while at play on glass jar, striking right lung cavity.

Clyde Kreamer, of Bellefonte, was admitted on Sunday; was taken ill while at work.

Mrs. Julia Dippary, of Centre Hall, operation for appendicitis.

Hotel Men Fined.

Charles S. Middagh, proprietor of the Hotel Ashton of Millin, and James G. Stewart, proprietor of the National hotel of Millintown, were arrested last Saturday. They were charged with serving oleo to their guests without having placards displayed in their houses warning their guests that they were using the substitute for butter and also using it without a State license, as required by the law. The defendants appeared before the justice of the peace, submitted to the charges and paid a fine of \$100 each and the costs of the prosecution.

F. M. Waring's Loss.

F. M. Waring, one of Tyrone's prominent contractors, was an extremely heavy loser in a fire at his lumber job in Shavers Creek valley, six miles from Pittsburg, on Monday, 26th. The lumber was piled for drying, and presumably caught from a spark from the engine in the mill. The wind drove the sparks right into the midst of the high piles of lumber, and all that the men could do was to direct their efforts towards the mill, which was saved. The loss will reach at least \$12,000, with out a cent of insurance.

Rev. Confer Hurt.

On Tuesday of last week, just before noon, Rev. E. I. Confer, of Millmont, was very badly hurt by getting his foot into a planer running 5000 revolutions a minute. In trying to pull a board out of the planer his foot slipped, and he was kicked into the rapidly revolving knives. Mr. Confer is a young man, a native of Millhelm and a son-in-law of Elmer Catherman. On account of ill health he had to give up the ministry. On account of wishing to be at home he accepted a place in the Box Factory at Millmont where his father is also employed.

Store Closed.

On Monday morning the shoe store conducted by Henry Kline, on High street, was discontinued. This course was a general surprise to the public as the store was well kept and appeared to be doing a nice business. Mr. Kline stated to the writer that he found some time ago that the business was a losing venture and he decided to quit in time. Arrangements were made to ship the stock back to the original manufacturers and same is now being packed up for that purpose.

OUR BEST MATERIAL FOR CONGRESSMEN

THIS DISTRICT SELECTS TOO MANY OLD BOODLERS

OF NO USE TO THE DISTRICT

Republicans Should Name Better Candidates—Had Two Nonentities at Washington—A Change is Needed—Barclay Wants Third Term.

Charles E. Patton, of Curwensville, Clearfield county, has announced his candidacy for the republican nomination for Congress in this district. He is a son of the late General John Patton, who was one of the founders of the Republican Party and who years ago ably served two terms in Congress. Last week Mr. Barclay, of Sinnemahoning, announced his candidacy in this district for a third term. It may seem to some to be none of the Centre Democrat's business who the republicans nominate. We think differently and deem it eminently proper to "nose in" to a certain extent, to express a few opinions.

According to recent elections, this district is considered a republican stronghold. All good citizens, irrespective of party, are equally interested in good government and desirous of being "represented" at Washington by a man of some ability, dignity and force. Heretofore the nomination was given to old Dresser, and then to another weakling, Barclay, because they had fortunes in the neighborhood of millions, and were willing to buy a little political prestige, by opening up their barrels.

Dresser and Barclay in Congress were simply nonentities. They never were able to do more than vote as they were directed—mere automatons, with strings attached to them; while the latter, Barclay, was frequently made the target for ridicule by the public press, as a man whose only accomplishment was to display a luxurious "bunch of whiskers." We deem such comment extremely personal, and refer to it only to show the respect he commanded, and the manner in which he served this district, for the past four years.

In both of these instances it simply was a case of "money vs. brains," in which the public unfortunately accepted the boodlers. There is an abundance of good material in Central Pennsylvania, that, if recognized, would render not only the citizens of this district eminent service, but the nation as well.

It is a discredit to Central Pennsylvania to send feeble old men—weaklings like Dresser and Barclay—to congress. We have had enough of this kind of material representing us at Washington and it would be refreshing to have a change, as we deserve something better.

For these reasons we appeal to the thoughtful, patriotic republicans of Centre county, who believe that "public office is a public trust," to carefully consider this situation. Can you afford to sell your representation to a set of "money bags" who seek only a little public preferment merely as an honor in their old age? Have you not twice honored Mr. Barclay in this way and is it not enough?

For that reason we deem it the duty of every republican, who wears no political halter, to inquire into the qualifications of Mr. Patton, or any other in the district seeking the office, and see if you can not find a man, for once, fit for this important position. As the same time refuse to support local Centre county republicans who may capture the local conferees in order to use them for "political trading stock" and thereby hope to capture or control the appointment of post offices and other federal positions in the county, as was done recently, to the great disappointment and disgust of our people.

Our republican friends should inquire into the qualifications of Mr. Patton, in the hope that he may measure up to the full standard of the high position to which he aspires.

If the democrats are unable to elect, let us hope then that our Republican friends will, this time, nominate a man who will be a credit to the district.

Is this asking too much? We hope not.

Since the above was written, from reliable sources we learn that Hon. Lewis Emery, of Bradford, contemplating being a candidate for congressional honors on the same ticket. He has been in public life heretofore and always made a good accounting. Gangsters, treasury looters, ringsters, hate this man, because he hates them all the more.

Indications are that other good men in the district meant to aspire, showing the general sentiment that our district needs a better, and stronger representative than we have had for some time.

Award Scholarships.

Five Freshmen scholarships are awarded each year by the Pennsylvania State College to the five counties of the state showing the highest ratio of students attending the college to the population of the county. Beginning September, 1910, the following counties will be entitled to one scholarship each:—Centre, Dauphin, Franklin, Lycoming, and Wyoming. The board of award in each county is made up of the principals of the high schools with the county superintendent of schools as chairman. Due notice will be given of the competitive examination in which the appointment will be determined.

It is doubtful if even the baker will get to heaven on fluffy beds of ease.

AN OLD TIMER.

Word From an Old Time Brushvalley Son Now in Alabama.

Some months ago the Centre Democrat published a sketch concerning a once well known native of Miles township, Gen. Jonathan Wolf—a genial, wholesome sort of fellow, full of fun and a lover of innocent mischief, who left the place of his birth after the close of the war and settled in Alabama, where he has resided since. Not hearing from the General, it was surmised that he had passed from this mundane sphere. Not so, however, we are pleased to note he is still among the living and fondly recalls some of his old-time adventures, as the letter below proves, and which will be read with eagerness by the hosts of his home-friends in the county. The letter was received by one of his chums, Jonathan Shaffer, now in Lock Haven, and was handed to us through the kindness of W. B. Shaffer, of Zion, and in part reads as follows:

Pratt City, Ala., Nov. 10, 1909.

"J. Shaffer: Dear Sir:—I must confess I ought to be ashamed for not answering your welcome letter, as I am getting up in years and am more forgetful than I was in my younger days—but must ask to be forgiven. I am glad to know that you are still in the land of the living, which will not be very long any more for us. You are getting up in years too; I am in my 55th year since June, but old times still come in our minds—not forgetting the campmeeting at Woodward, when we got hungry and I hunted for something in Stover's house. I suppose you are aware of getting your fingers in the lard. Such times are past—we can not enjoy such things anymore as we did in our younger days.

We have at the present time the greatest excitement that ever was in Alabama. Two years ago the legislature passed a prohibition law to rid out the saloons. It appears it is no good. Now that party, after they found that it was worthless, they went it in the Constitution that no liquor could be sold in the state or kept in any house, and not allow to make wine of any kind of berries, and if found the violators are liable for \$50 to \$100 and six months in the penitentiary.

A HORRIBLE ACCIDENT.

Jay Johnson, Young Engineer, Falls Nearly Fifty Feet at the Viaduct.

Jay Johnson, of Jersey Shore, a well known young New York Central railroad man, who had just been promoted from fireman to engineer, is lying at the Cottage hospital, at Philipsburg, at the point of death. He was doing some work about his engine as it was crossing the big iron bridge at the Viaduct, on Saturday morning, and if some unaccountable way missed his footing and fell to the ground below, a distance of 48 feet, badly fracturing his skull. No hopes of his recovery are entertained.

Scarcity of Water.

Hauling water for home uses has been engaging farmers, in many parts of Centre county, and is becoming a necessity in other parts of the county. The rains since about mid-summer have been unusually light causing wells, springs and streams being low and some going entirely dry. Nothing about a premises is so sorely felt and inconvenient as a lack of water during a drought. Water is wanted every hour in the day, and to go long distances—even as far as five miles—is a labor of no small matter by any means.

Wedded on Sight.

Several years ago, while Miss Nell Bowers, of Blandburg, was a student at Birmingham Seminary, she made the acquaintance of John Seeds, a lumber merchant. She graduated and the pair drifted apart. On Friday they met accidentally on a street in Altoona, and they determined to be married immediately. A marriage license was procured and Miss Bowers became Mrs. Seeds, the Rev. William S. Miller performing the ceremony. Seeds was on his way west to look over some timber lands, and his bride accompanied him.

Building a Little Town.

McNitt and Huyett, the well known lumbermen of this county, are busy just now erecting a number of houses at Waddle, where they have put a saw-mill plant recently, and from all accounts mean to put a little town there, having about a dozen houses under way. They have all the push needed to make a saw-mill a success, and are well enough fixed to build a town.

Another Industry.

James Pierpoint, of Philadelphia, who has been a frequent visitor in this place, feels pretty confident that in the near future his proposition to locate a cement mill in Bellefonte will take definite shape. He says that cement from furnace slag can be made here cheaper than any place in the country. Should it come here it would give employment to a large number of men.

Clinton County Hunters.

Seventeen bucks were killed in the Otisnashon game park in Clinton county, this year. This park is in the widest part of the county and is a fenced in section about twelve miles around. Eighty-six deer were killed in the county this year, as compared with 124 brought down in 1908. Last year twenty-three were killed in the game preserve.

Program Next Week.

The complete program for the annual meeting of the Penna. State Grange at State College, on December 21st to 24th, will be published in our next issue, which is one week prior to the gathering. Prominent speakers will address the gathering and some fine exhibits will be made.