

The Centre Democrat.

FRED KURTZ, SR. Editor. CHAS. R. KURTZ, Editor and Proprietor. A. C. DERR, Associate Editor.

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EDITORIAL.

The Machine men in Philadelphia profess their willingness to help Blankenburg give the city honest government. If they are able to do anything in the way of honest government, why didn't they do it before?

The Stanley committee, which is investigating the United States Steel Corporation, has positive evidence that American railroads have to pay about \$10 a ton more for rails than foreign roads do.

GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

New York Democrats suffered a defeat because Murphy and Tammy politicians violated their pledges to the people. In the leading cities of Ohio Boss Cox and his corrupt Republican machine went down.

Party organizations are necessary in our form of government, but when these organizations are controlled by corrupt, selfish influences, then every good party man does his party its best service by "smashing" the organization and the machine, even if he must vote, for the time, some other ticket.

That kind of voting meets with the hearty approval of "The Centre Democrat" at all times. We believe that in order to be a good Democrat you must first be a good citizen; and when it is manifestly plain that your political household has grown corrupt, by the money changers, take the shortest course possible and drive them from the political shrines they have betrayed and defiled.

ANOTHER SHELL GAME.

It is declared in Washington political circles that the Republicans are going to try to sidetrack the "tariff and increased cost of living" issue in the next campaign, and makes the party's "big appeal" for support on the currency question.

That Man Wilson.

The governor of New Jersey is a lucky man. It begins to look as if he was born under the Roosevelt star. At least, things come his way with monotonous success. Every apparent defeat turns out to his advantage.

UNIONVILLE.

The storm has again been in evidence in this part of the moral vineyard. He left a fine 10-pound boy and Mrs. Harmon Bird; a sweet little lady baby with Mr. and Mrs. William Eckert, and a pair of "buster" boys with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harper.

One time there was a very pretty, popular young lady lived in our town. Her name was Miss Lillie Keizer and was well known in Bellefonte. Along comes a young Doctor Davison, of Harrisburg, and the twain were made one by some Doctor of Divinity, and the happy couple at once left for San Diego, Cal., where they have prospered abundantly, and where they will make their permanent home.

The wedding of one of our most popular young ladies is on the tapis. Particulars later. There's to be something doing at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Hall on Thursday, Nov. 30th.

Miss Adaline Holland, of DuBois, arrived in town on the Monday noon train and on Tuesday she "kiddnaped" her grandmother, Mrs. Malissa Bing, leaving here on the noon train.

Leonard Watson and family visited Sunday at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Watson, up the pike.

Mr. William T. Neiman, we are glad to report that after about 6 weeks of serious illness with pleuro pneumonia, is convalescing nicely.

Mr. Almeda Thompson, of Johnstown, is visiting his friends in town. Everybody glad to see her.

Col. H. C. Huey, Gen. G. Dorsey Green's right hand man of Briery was seen promenading our streets on Tuesday.

Ed. Holt, of Pittsburg, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Holt, up the pike and incidentally trying to make a choice of a better half from among the many handsome young ladies of our town.

That great Bazzard that has been in preparation by the ladies of the Epworth League of the M. E. church for about a month, will mature on Friday and Saturday, Dev. 1st and 2nd. It will be a place to go to if you want to be happy and do good; don't miss it.

Here's a joke that isn't half bad on Tom Ingram. About a week ago, Thomas went out hunting with some of his neighbors and putting what he thought was a box of cartridges into his pocket, he started off singing "When Johnnie comes marching home" I'll have a turkey and a lot of other game, but what was his chargin, when he opened his box of cartridges and found that he had brought a box of horse shoe calks instead of cartridges. Just then too, a big fat gobbler came marching out of the woods towards him.

DOMINO.

Dissatisfaction with the Penrose-Republican Ring and the old Guffey-Donnelly annex of the Penrose machine, added eight to the list of Democratic counties in Pennsylvania, according to reports received at the headquarters of the Democratic state central committee.

The Amendments Carried. Full returns from the counties of Pennsylvania on the constitutional amendments voted upon at the recent election show that both amendments have been written into the constitution by the voters.

IMPORTANT OPINION ON THE SCHOOL CODE

GIVEN BY HON. D. F. FORTNEY TO CO. SUPERINTENDENT.

WHEN TO AUDIT THE ACCOUNTS

Audits Should be Held on First Monday in July—Of Special Interest to Our School Boards—Provisions of the New Code.

As there is some difference of opinion and uncertainty in interpreting the new school code by many school boards over the county, they naturally often are at a loss as to what they shall do. The question of holding audits appears to have bothered some, and for that reason, I will make an opinion given by Hon. D. F. Fortney, Esq., on the subject, who has given the various details of the new code much attention.

Dear Sir: I should like your opinion on this question, "When under the new School Code and the Act of June 9th, 1911, must the accounts of the school board be audited?"

DAVID O. ETTERS, Supt., Centre County.

Dear Sir: In answer to the question you have submitted to me, which is set out above and on which you desire my opinion, I would say: That by the provision of section 2807 of the School Code the first school year and the fiscal year in all school districts of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th class terminated on the first Monday of July 1911.

In Section 2825 of the Code we have this "In every school district of the 4th class in this Commonwealth, the proper auditors, herein provided, to audit the accounts of the school district, shall meet annually with the board of School Directors, on the first Monday of July, at the time of organization, or within five days thereafter and carefully audit and adjust the financial accounts of the school district for the preceding school year."

It will be noted that the word "organize" is used in Section 391 and is the time the new directors elected in the preceding November assume the duties of the office to which they were elected. In December they only elect a president and a vice-president excepturer are to be elected to serve until the first Monday of July 1912, at that time a secretary and treasurer must be elected who will serve for one year.

Section 1. Be it enacted, etc., That hereafter the auditors whose duty it shall be to audit the accounts of the officers of any borough, township, poor-district, or school district, created or incorporated by any general or special law of this Commonwealth, shall meet annually, on the day following the day which has been or shall be fixed by law for the organization of borough councils, township supervisors, or commissioners of any township, directors of any poor district, or school district, respectively, and shall forthwith proceed, in the regular manner, to audit, settle, and adjust the accounts.

The time for the organization of the school board is by Section 2825 of the code fixed for the first Monday of July of each year, and indeed all through the code the first Monday of July, beginning with the first Monday of July 1911, is fixed as the termination of the school year, the organization of the board, and the settlement of the accounts of the school district.

The Act of June 9th, 1911, fixed the day following that fixed for organization as the time for the auditors to begin settlement. And the code requires that they meet on the day fixed for organization or within five days thereafter.

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In full harmony no special attention was given to the fact that so far as school accounts were concerned, the time for this settlement had been fixed by the code.

It is true the word "organize" is used in Section 391 of the code, while Section 393 specifies how far the organization shall go. They shall elect a president and vice-president on the first Monday of December, 1911, and shall annually on the first Monday of July elect a secretary and a treasurer each of whom shall serve for one year.

The election of the officers of the board is all the organization required by other Section 391, 393, or of the code. When you go to Section 2825 there are many things to be done. The board must elect a secretary and treasurer on the first Monday of July. The auditors must meet with the board, or within five days, and the accounts must be audited, at the time of the organization, the next day, or within five days.

If the Act of June 9th, 1911, means anything, so far as the settlement of the accounts of the school board is concerned by the expression "on the day following the day which has been or shall be fixed by it for the organization of Borough Councils, or school districts" it clearly refers to the organization on the first Monday of July, 1912.

There is one peculiar thing about the Act of June 9th, 1911, that should be noted. It contains no repealing clause. There is therefore nothing in it, that in any manner, conflicts with Section 2825 of the code which fixes the audit of the school districts of the 4th class on the first Monday of July of each year or within five days thereafter.

It is therefore clearly of the opinion that there is only one audit of the accounts of school districts of the 4th class and that takes place on or after the first Monday of July of each year; the time set for the organization, under Section 393 and Section 2825 of the code.

Very respectfully, DAVID F. FORTNEY.

RECENT DEATHS. GRUVER.—John L. Gruver, a well known citizen of Mill Hill died at his home in that borough on Saturday morning after an illness of six weeks with typhoid fever, aged 46 years and 10 months.

HOLLINGSWORTH.—As the result of a stroke of paralysis which she sustained a few weeks ago Mrs. Mary C. Hollingsworth aged 65 years, died on Sunday evening at the home of her daughter Mrs. Lena Gross, at Mill Hill. Mrs. Hollingsworth was a woman possessing many excellent traits and was a most consistent member of the Methodist church.

CHAPMAN.—Henry Chapman, a former resident of Centre county, died in the Philadelphia hospital last Tuesday several hours after an operation had been performed. The remains were removed to Patton where he had lived for several years. Interment was made in Roswell cemetery. Sarah, his wife, a daughter of Jessie Jordan formerly of Milesburg, and seven children survive him.

GATES.—Mrs. Mary R. Gates died on Tuesday afternoon at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Laura Pifer, of Lock Haven, of the infirmities of age and pneumonia, she having passed her 84th year September 7th last. Deceased had been a resident with Mr. Lock Haven for two years. She is survived by three daughters and one son. The remains were taken to Pine Grove, where funeral services were conducted and interment made.

BOOB.—Mrs. Eliza Jane Boob, wife of James Boob, of Tyrone, died Sunday last in the Hahemann hospital at Philadelphia, where she had been undergoing treatment. She was born Jan. 9, 1865, at Penna. Furnace, and was the daughter of the late H. Lemuel and Harriet Scudder. Surviving are her husband and one daughter, Mrs. Bertha Rymer, of Ohio. She also leaves seven brothers and sisters. Deceased had been a member of the Methodist church since childhood.

MISS MCGOWAN.—Miss Stella Daley, of this place, for several years, returned to her home at Snow Shoe on Saturday.

RICE.—Henry C. Rice, a one-time successful lumberman of Centre county, died at the home of J. C. Nason, at Julian, at 5 o'clock Monday afternoon, aged about 84 years. Deceased was a native of Pen Yan, N. Y., and so far as is known, has no surviving near relatives, his death marking the passing of the last of his family. He came to Centre county with the late John Ardell in 1865, and opened up the latter's lumber job on Six Mile Run, where he has since resided with Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Nason. He was a kindly disposed man and made many lasting friendships. Funeral services were held at the Nason home on Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock, conducted by Rev. Gilbert, following which the body was taken to Pen Yan for interment.

DETRICH.—On Saturday, November 18th, Lewis C. Detrich was engaged in plowing up potatoes at his home at Hubersburg. His son Leslie was leading the horse and the father guided the plow. The boy heard the father give a peculiar call or moan and, in looking back, saw that he was hanging to the handles of the plow with his feet dragging in the furrow. At once the young man summoned help and Mr. Detrich was removed to an unconscious condition to the house, but expired soon after. Dr. Fisher, of Zion, arrived later and pronounced the cause of death due to heart failure. This sudden death was a great shock to that community, as no one was prepared for such a sudden visitation, because Mr. Detrich had always enjoyed good health. The deceased was a son of John H. and Sara Ann (nee Markle) Detrich who were residents of Walker township. He is survived by a widow and the following children: Gertrude, of Pittsburg, Pa.; Lantia, wife of William Clevenstone, of Zion; Earl, of Salona; Leslie, Amanda, Myrtle, and Leo at home. Also the following brothers among whom he was the oldest: John, now of Cleveland, Ohio; Henry, of Minerva; David, of Hubersburg; Jacob, of Madisonburg; and B. Frank, of Bellefonte. The interment took place at Hubersburg, on Tuesday morning, services being held in the Reformed church of which he had long been a consistent member. The funeral was largely attended which attested the high esteem in

which the deceased was held throughout that valley. By occupation he was a farmer, and in winter time he engaged in lumbering, being always actively engaged, and was a most useful and highly esteemed citizen of that community. He came from German ancestry and in him there were truly instilled the elements of industry, frugality and integrity so characteristic of those people. Truly a useful life has ended.

CURTIN.—Colonel Austin Curtin, well known in Centre county as one of its oldest and most highly esteemed citizens, and a soldier with a splendid and national war record, died at his winter home in Vicksburg, Mississippi, on Friday last, aged about 76 years. While the announcement of his death came as a shock to his friends in this vicinity, yet those who had observed the Colonel's physical condition during the past few years had seen a gradual decline in his health, although his mental faculties retained their usual vigor. Mr. Curtin's home was at Curtin, this county, where he lived the greater portion of his life, but the severity of the northern winters had compelled him, as on this occasion, to spend the colder season in the South. Deceased was a son of Roland and Margery (Gregg) Curtin and was born March 19, 1835. He was twice married, his first wife having been Miss Rachel Frazier, who died Jan. 29th, 1862, after forty-eight years of married life. In 1896 Colonel Curtin was appointed treasurer of the Pennsylvania-Vicksburg National Military Commission, and it was while attending the dedication of the National Soldiers' Monument at Vicksburg in March of that year, that he met Miss Lillie Fletcher and the romance ended in their marriage on Oct. 20, 1896. She survives her husband as does also one brother of deceased, James Curtin, of Bellefonte. Colonel Austin Curtin had an enviable war record, and after the strife had ended, devoted much of his time to organizing Grand Army Posts in Centre county, and looking after the welfare of the old soldier in particular. At the opening of the Rebellion he was chosen Captain of Co. D, 45th Penna. Regt., and served with distinction and honor. Later he was appointed acting quartermaster, in which capacity he was said to have been one of the best officials in the service. After the war he was instrumental in organizing nearly a dozen Grand Army Posts in Centre county; this was in the early 80's. In politics the Colonel was a staunch republican, and supported the principles of the party with fidelity. For many years he was engaged in the iron business at Curtin, until his age compelled his retirement. The remains were brought to the home of his brother, James Curtin, in Bellefonte, and on Tuesday funeral services were conducted by Rev. R. S. Taylor, of Howard, pastor of the Methodist church at Curtin, where the deceased worshipped. Rev. Taylor was assisted by Rev. Hewitt, of the Episcopal church of Bellefonte. Many sorrowful friends had gathered to pay their last respects to the aged soldier, among whom were Gregg Post No. 95, of Bellefonte, and Geo. L. Potter Post No. 261, of Milesburg, both organizations attending in a body. Interment was made in the Union cemetery.

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IN OTHER COUNTIES. When the Pennsylvania train between New Castle and Stoneboro arrived at the latter place the other night a 350-pound hog was found dead on the pilot.

His zeal in attempting to raise a brood of young chickens resulted in the death of Martin O'Neill, of Ashland. He slept in the basement of his home to be near an incubator, which caught fire during the night, and O'Neill was suffocated by the smoke. When the other occupants of the house awoke the basement was a mass of flames.

Little Caroline Hall, the four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hall, of Fairfield Centre, Lycoming county, was frightfully burned Monday forenoon, by her clothing catching fire in an unknown manner, during the temporary absence of her mother. Nearly all her clothing was burned from her body and she is badly burned from her knees up. The worst burns are about the neck.

A remarkable family record has come to public notice in the celebration of the 97th anniversary of the birth of Mrs. Emeline Johnson, of Lock Haven. She was a playmate in childhood of James Fenimore Cooper, the famous author. Her husband, David Johnson, was the first man to carry mail from the Philadelphia and Erie station to the Lock Haven post office. He died in 1862. Mrs. Johnson is the mother of twelve children, all of whom are living. The oldest is 78 years of age and the youngest 50. Six of them were at the birthday party, together with a number of grand children. The record seems still more remarkable when it is noted that four of the sons served in the Civil war and only one was wounded.

Scores of applications have been made for each of the numerous positions that will be filled under the newly elected county officials. They come, not only from Bellefonte, but all portions of the county. Up to this time none of the officials have made or announced any selection, for the reason that they want to consider carefully and will take time to do so.

The circulation of the Centre Democrat is 5,500 each week and has been up to that high water mark for years past. That means that it is a substantial circulation—the people want the paper and will not be without it, even if they must borrow it from a neighbor, and that makes it do double duty.

PUBLIC SALE REGISTER. SATURDAY NOV. 25.—1 mile west of Runville. Henry T. Irvin, will sell: 2 work horses, 2 coach horses and a lot of farm implements. Sale at 1 p. m. sharp. S. K. Emerick, auctioneer.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25th 1911.—Mary E. Vonaca will expose to public sale at her residence in Hubersburg, farm stock, implements and household goods.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27.—2 miles northwest of Farmers Mills, M. C. Stover will sell: 4 horses, 10 milch cows, 5 young cattle, 4 bulls, 1 heifer, 4 brood sows with pigs, 7 shoats full line of farm implements.

TUESDAY NOV 28.—One mile north of Unionville, C. W. Bridge will sell: 1 horse, 2 milch cows, 2 young cattle, 10 pigs, farming implements and other articles. Sale 1 p. m. S. K. Emerick, auct.

"NEW GOODS" advertisement for Sechler & Company, featuring "Good Baking" and "The Glenwood Range". The ad includes an illustration of a range and text describing its features and benefits for household use.