

The Centre Democrat.

Circulation Over 5,500—Largest in Centre County.

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21st, 1912.

Vol. 35, No. 46.

CASES HEARD IN ARGUMENT COURT

PRESIDED OVER BY JUDGE ORVIS THIS WEEK.

NATURALIZATION CASES UP

First Court of This Nature Ever Held in Centre County—Four Granted Citizenship and Two Held Over—Government Examiner Was Here.

Argument court convened on Tuesday morning and after hearing a number of motions and petitions the following cases were argued:

W. H. Gardner vs. J. A. Bitner. A motion for judgment notwithstanding the verdict. The court took the case under advisement.

At two o'clock a habeas corpus proceedings brought by Jesse H. Clark and Delbert B. Wicks, charged by Dennis McDonald with having taken money from him. After hearing of the case the court bound the defendants over to the December sessions of court.

The first naturalization court for Centre county was then held, being the first court under the new Act of Congress for the naturalization of foreigners to American citizenship. R. A. Weatherly, United States Naturalization Examiner of Pittsburgh, appeared for the Government, and the following applications were disposed of: George Hudak, an Austrian living at Cassanova, was first called, and after answering all the questions to the satisfaction of the examiner and the court, and showing that he was a married man of family, and a property owner, was sworn as a citizen. Philip Saul, from Germany, and a resident of Spring township, but in the absence of one of his witnesses satisfactorily, but there was some question as to the proper naturalization of one of his witnesses, Nels Nelson, but having shown that he was a married man and owner of property was sworn conditionally that if the examiner found that Mr. Nelson was duly naturalized citizen Mr. Berkman would be fully naturalized; but if Mr. Nelson was not an American citizen the application would fall. August Ossa, a citizen of Germany residing at Cassanova, being a married man and owner of property was admitted on the same conditions. John Sablosky, a citizen of Germany, residing at Cassanova, married man and owner of property, was admitted to American citizenship on the same conditions. John Nowak, a citizen of Germany, living at Cassanova, was then called, duly answered all the questions, showed that he was a married man and owner of property but had taken his first papers in Clearfield county, and was not in direct line for naturalization in Centre county and was refused citizenship. This applicant will have to start anew.

Nancy Baker, Sr., et al., vs. Catherine Harper Estate. A rule to show cause why plaintiff's statement should not be amended. Case argued and taken under advisement.

Mina R. Goheen vs. Alice Gensmore and Annie Nearhoff. Rule to plaintiff to show cause why a new trial should not be granted. Continued to a later date to be fixed.

J. W. Bruss vs. Roland C. Swisher and R. T. Comby. Rule to survive Austin W. Swisher, deceased. Rule to show cause why plaintiff's statement should not be amended. Amendments allowed on the payment of costs at September term of court.

Peter Mendis vs. J. H. Lingle & Company. Rule to take money out of court. Case argued and taken under advisement.

Frank Columbine vs. W. E. Hurley. Sheriff; motion on plaintiff to show cause why new trial should not be granted. Continued until a later date to be fixed.

John F. Harris, treasurer, now use of H. E. Zimmerman vs. J. D. Houser. Rule to take money out of court. Continued to a later date to be fixed.

Charles H. Lucas vs. William Kessler. Rule on plaintiff for judgment notwithstanding the verdict. Continued.

A. F. Bower vs. H. G. Hartline. Rule to open judgment. Continued to a later date to be fixed.

Edgar Sheffer vs. The G. L. Whitehead Coal Co.; rule on Sheriff A. B. Lee to make complete return and pay money into court. Improperly on the list.

The Township of Gregg vs. Catherine Walker and Isaac Walker, a Bill in Equity in relation to a public road in plaintiff's township, argued as to question of jurisdiction. In equity. Taken under advisement.

Lillie C. Etters and L. W. Musser and Catherine Musser vs. G. Frederick Musser, Boyd A. Musser, Nannie Handlog, Helen D. Duff and Lydia C. Bowman. This case argued previous to the convening of court on demurrer and the case taken under advisement.

In re estate of Mary Ellen Hepburn of Belleville, exceptions to Auditor's report. Argued and the case taken under advisement.

Shot by Reckless Hunter. Walter J. Dougherty, of Newberry, was accidentally shot while hunting for deer with a party in White Deer valley, near Loxanton, Monday morning. A bullet from a high-powered rifle hit Dougherty in the hip and went entirely through. The ball missed the bone by a narrow margin and as a result there is no fracture. As no one knows who shot the gun and the affair is quite a mystery to the party. On Monday afternoon he was taken to his home at Newberry.

Sleeve Caught in Cog Wheels. Irvin Harry, an employee in the canning department of the Milk Condensary, at Mill Hill, met with a painful accident Monday while at work in that department. By some means his sleeve was caught in a set of cogs, and his right arm was drawn into the cogs and badly lacerated. His heavy clothing alone saved him from a worse fate, as they choked the cogs and caused the machinery to stop.

YOUNG PHYSICIAN ACCUSED.

It is Dr. R. P. Thompson, a Graduate of State College.

Saturday's Pittsburg Post published the following:
A bride of two weeks weeps in her Hazelwood home because of the termination of her romance, which began November 1 and ended Friday, when her young husband was held for court on serious charges preferred by his bride's sister. He is in the county jail.

The bridegroom is Dr. R. P. Thompson, 27 years old. He told Chief Deputy Jail Warden John McNeil that he is a graduate of State College and that he finished a medical course in the University of Pittsburgh.

The bride sobbed the story of the brief romance Friday before an alderman. October 29, she said, Dr. Thompson rented a room from her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Hunter, 5282 Second avenue. In the absence of patients he turned his attention to Edith B. Hunter, a daughter of the house and noted as one of the beauties of the Hazelwood section. Miss Hunter returned his affection and they were married November 1.

Mrs. Thompson has an attractive sister-in-law, Mrs. Agnes Hunter, a widow. Dr. Thompson told her glowing tales of a nurse's life, she says, and then proposed that she go to Butler with him and he would obtain a position in a hospital training school for her.

The couple went to Butler Thursday and Mrs. Hunter's version of Dr. Thompson's behavior toward her while there caused his bride's relatives to make information against the doctor, charging assault and battery and an attempt at a more serious crime.

THE END OF TURKEY.

By the time this issue of the paper reaches its readers the Turks may have surrendered Constantinople and the future map of Europe undergone a material change. The Turk in Europe has been a menace to the peace of the world. Their brutal religious persecutions and outrageous atrocities committed upon helpless Christians, was more than should have been tolerated for years. The jealousy of the leading nations of Europe permitted conditions to continue, and the Turk grew more insolent than ever. Finally Greece, Serbia, Montenegro and Bulgaria, the four small nations adjoining Turkey, joined in a common effort to bring the Turk to an accounting. War was declared a little more than a month ago and the swiftness with which punishment has been meted out to the cruel Turk is now amazing the world.

Never was a war more vigorously prosecuted. From victory to victory, fighting day and night, the victors have overrun Turkey and now are at the gates of Constantinople, where all eyes are turned. The Turks are demoralized and demoralized by defeat. Pestilence and cholera are creating havoc among the soldiers and the populace. The exulting and victorious armies are outside of the Sultan's sacred city, and when the assault is made, only a feeble resistance is anticipated.

The end of Turkish rule in Europe now can be predicted. The Ottoman dynasty will be removed from Europe and relegated to Asia where it belongs.

This means that there will be a partition of Turkey possibly before the coming Thanksgiving day. Such an event has been the subject of prayers and hopes for generations by the civilized Christian nations of Europe.

Thanksgiving Donations for Hospital. Friends of the Belleville hospital will kindly remember that the time for the annual Thanksgiving donations is Thursday, November 28th. The needs of the institution are many, while the revenues are limited. Therefore any contributions in the line of groceries, canned goods, meats, vegetables, furniture or lines of any character, or cash, will be gratefully accepted and used to good advantage. Paper bags will be distributed on Monday, the 25th, in Belleville and will be called for on Thanksgiving day.

During Thanksgiving day the hospital will be open to the public for inspection and to receive any gifts that may be offered. LAURA S. BELTZ, Supt.

Shooting Fatality at Lock Haven. John B. Gast, 14-year-old son of mailcarrier John R. Gast, of Lock Haven, was accidentally shot and killed Saturday afternoon by Sterling Eckert, a lad 7 years old, while shooting mark with a 22-calibre gun, in the yard of the Eckert home. Sterling Eckert, who was the youngest boy in the group who had gathered there, picked up the gun which had been placed against a post. As he raised the weapon it was discharged, the ball striking his playmate, who was only five feet away, in the head. The wounded boy yelled "I'm shot," threw up his hands and fell over unconscious. He died a half hour later.

Deer Being Killed. During the past week the deer hunting parties over the county have met with success. Over forty hunting parties are camped in and about the mountains of Centre county. From all points reports come in of success among the hunters. In some instances parties killed their limit while others have from one to three and four.

At the close of the season we will make an effort to compile a list of all the deer killed. With no tracking snow conditions have not been as favorable as some seasons. The reports indicate that deer are plenty this season.

Hospital Notes. Gilbert Lutz, Axemann, Paul Wiltmer, Belleville; Gehra, Fielders, Woodward.

Admitted for treatment—Anna Martin, State College; Ira C. Antin, Unionville.

Discharged—Mrs. Etta Horner, and Mrs. Malinda Weaver, Belleville; Miss Irah Myers, Milesburg.

Born—A son to Mr. and Mrs. James Haupt, of Belleville.

A fracas was pulled off on east Bishop street Saturday night, in which two white men and a colored man were said to have figured. The latter used a knife with slight injury to one of the combatants.

A FINE TRIBUTE TO PENNA. DEMOCRACY

HAD A MOST EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION.

THE INTERESTS OPPOSE WILSON

Gave Orders to Support Roosevelt—Democracy Made Gains Under New Leadership—Its Record at Baltimore—One Who Knows.

We herewith publish an interesting article on Pennsylvania Democracy and the part it played in electing Woodrow Wilson. The article was written by Joseph Daniels, who occupies the important position of chairman of the National Democratic committee, and is one of the foremost editorial writers in the country. Mr. Daniels therefore was in a position to have inside information as to the Baltimore convention, and other important party events.

It will pay you to read Mr. Daniels' article for the important information it contains. It also may clear up some points on which some are inclined to differ owing to a lack of information.

The Democrats have so much cause for rejoicing over the results of Tuesday's election that there can be truly said to be no reason for any regret. With forty states giving their electoral vote to the Democrats and with a large majority in the House and a majority in the Senate, the Democratic party now has the opportunity to carry its policies into effect. In every portion of the Republic not only are the Democrats rejoiced but there is almost equal rejoicing in the ranks of the real progressives who call themselves Republicans. By real progressives we mean such men as Senator Works of California, and Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, and not such sham progressives as Flinn, of Pennsylvania, and Perkins, of New York. It is those who are in close touch with the progress of the campaign a deep regret that the electoral vote of Pennsylvania is not landed in the Wilson column. This, not because Pennsylvania was needed or because it is a Democratic state, but because the Democrats of that state deserve to win and made so large a contribution to the general victory. The truth is that they had won their state until it was taken out of their grasp at the last moment by a coterie of men who for generations have been opposed to the best interests of the Republic through government privilege. Up until Saturday night Pennsylvania was as securely Democratic as Massachusetts or Maine.

The three cornered fight, which had been made, had resulted in an assured Democratic plurality if the people voted in accordance with their convictions. But, between Saturday and Tuesday, in Western Pennsylvania captains of the hosts of privilege made some sort of combination with the Third Term party and they knew that the electoral vote to Roosevelt. Most of the big protectionists in Western Pennsylvania, as in Eastern Pennsylvania favored Taft, and if they had voted for him in Pittsburgh and surrounding country as they did for him in Philadelphia Wilson would have carried the state. Those captains, who held 50,000 votes in the hollow of their hands, seeing that Taft could not carry Pennsylvania, resolved to put their vote where it would do most to continue the policy of privilege through protection. They therefore left Taft at the last moment, after having supported him during the whole campaign, and voted in a body for Roosevelt. This news was sent in to the Democratic headquarters at New York Monday night and early Tuesday morning from the highest authority and it was known that above everything else, the Protectionists of the Pittsburgh section would not get it from Wilson and the Democratic party, and they knew that notwithstanding Roosevelt's talk about putting the protection graft in the pay envelopes, if he could be elected, the protection graft would go under his administration exactly as it went during the seven years he was President. Therefore, although having committed themselves to Taft, in the last moment they deserted him and gave the state to Roosevelt. A victory for Roosevelt in truth was the same thing as a victory for Taft, so far as the tariff and Democratic party are concerned. Both of them stand for the use of the taxing power for the enrichment of private individuals and Pennsylvania protectionists in the Pittsburgh section, when they were face to face with the alternative of seeing Pennsylvania go for Wilson or desert their candidate whom they had pledged to support, rushed over to Roosevelt because they thought that in so doing they were helping to keep up the doctrine of protection and personal enrichment.

There was no state in the union in which the Democratic leaders had done more to deserve success than Pennsylvania. Indeed, it may be truly said that there was hardly a state in the union where Democrats in spite of the greatest odds waged so much of a successful campaign as the Keystone state. The Democrats of Pennsylvania for a long time had been under a cloud because some of their leaders had been acting in concert with the Republican machine. After the last gubernatorial election, in which the Democratic leaders threw away the opportunity to elect a Governor because of some understanding with Penrose and his machine, the Democrats decided to reorganize the party from top to bottom in Pennsylvania.

They did so under the inspiring leadership of A. Mitchell Palmer, member of the Ways and Means Committee and of the National Democratic Committee. George W. Guthrie, of Pittsburgh, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee; Vance McCormick, of Harrisburg, and hosts of other young and patriotic Democrats, supplementary to the above, were the ones who did so.

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PENNSY'S BEST BRANCH.

Line Between Lock Haven and Tyrone A Great Feeder.

When the improvements that are being made on the Bald Eagle Valley branch of the Tyrone division of the Pennsylvania railroad are completed it is estimated that it will be possible to haul 4,550 tons eastbound, as compared with 3,000 tons, the present rating. With this increased tonnage rating, the Bald Eagle Valley branch, pretty surely will soon have a greater freight traffic density than any other single track line of equal or greater length in the United States. When B. A. Worthington was receiver of the Wheeling & Lake Erie he pointed out that for the month of July, 1910, the number of ton miles per mile of road on the Wheeling & Lake Erie between Brewster and Pittsburgh Junction was at the rate of 6,368,232 tons per year. From Pittsburgh Junction to Brewster is 47.6 miles, and there are three scheduled passenger trains each way a day.

The Bald Eagle Valley branch is 87.5 miles long, of which, however, but 54.2 miles is main line and on this 54 miles there are four scheduled passenger trains each way a day. During the first eight months of the calendar year 1912 the average tons one mile per mile of road on the entire 87.5 miles per month was 504,444, or at the rate of 6,053,228 per year. If the tonnage eastward in this connection is increased by 20 per cent, which would give a freight density of over 7,000,000 ton miles per year. If there is any other single track line in the country of 75 miles or more that has as heavy a tonnage as this connection, we do not know of it.

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CHESTNUT TREE BLIGHT COMMISSION

A STATEMENT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER.

REVIEWS THE BIERLY CASE

Points Out What the Commission Did in the Controversy—Worms Have Nothing to Do With the Disease—Infected Trees Were Destroyed.

Considerable sentiment has been aroused for and against the work of the Chestnut Tree Blight Commission by reason of the attitude taken by Hon. W. R. Bierly, of Rebersburg, who expressed himself through the columns of the Centre Democrat several weeks ago. As stated before, this paper does not intend to take sides in the controversy, but is willing to give publicity to the views of each, and to this end the following article from M. A. Carleton, general manager of the Commission, is published at his request. Mr. Carleton says:

Recently there has been certain criticism in the press of the work of the Chestnut Tree Blight Commission in Centre county, which is both ridiculous and without foundation. A field agent had examined a tract of timber supposed at the time to belong to Mr. W. R. Bierly, of Rebersburg, and on finding certain chestnut trees infected with the blight disease, had given him the usual twenty days' notice to cut down the diseased trees and destroy all infected material around the stumps, as is the usual procedure. Mr. Bierly refused to cut the diseased trees and wrote a formal protest, which the Commission was somewhat surprised to find was intended to be the nature of an appeal, based on the contention that the tract did not belong to him.

At the same time various incorrect and absurd statements were made as to the effectiveness of the Commission's work, the cause of the chestnut blight disease, etc. Because of these things it seems only fair to present here a correct statement of the whole matter from the standpoint of the Commission itself, and afterward pay no further attention to the matter, as the whole thing is really a very simple affair.

In accordance with Mr. Bierly's so called appeal and because of the requirements of the Legislative Act, experts were instructed to make a second investigation of the tract and the fact appears to be that it was not technically in his possession at the time, though payments had been made, showing that he expected to be the owner.

At the meantime the actual owner, Mrs. Anna M. Greninger, who resides on the tract and holds the deed, had done a part of the work of removing infections as a result, curiously enough of a letter from Mr. Bierly himself, in which he stated, "The best way is to have them cut down and made into firewood at once." On October 29th, after reinspection of the tract by the experts specially detailed for that purpose, Mrs. Greninger was informed that the previous inspection was correct, and that the completion of the work of removing the infections must be done. The work was completed October 30th.

So far as this particular tract is concerned, therefore, there is nothing to be done. Everything has been carried out just as the Chestnut Tree Blight Commission expected it would be at last report no infections have yet been found on land actually owned by Mr. Bierly. If such should be found, however, on his or any other tract in that vicinity or anywhere in the county, it is expected that the removal of diseased trees will be made promptly and exactly within the twenty day period allowed. The disease is so destructive and spreads so rapidly that no time can be lost and the Commission cannot afford to give a single day of leeway after the expiration of a twenty days' notice.

As to the theory of worms causing the disease, nothing has been better established than the fact that it is caused by a parasitic fungus, in which worms are in no way concerned whatever, except that after the disease is once established, the larvae (worms) of certain insects may carry the disease from infected to healthy portions, but the disease itself is in no way connected with any kind of insect or any other animal. It will occur in young trees with smooth bark where there is no indication at all of the work of any kind of insect. It is a worker, however, that inspects in the low disease, working in the dead portions of the tree which have already been killed by the fungus parasite.

The Commission has been pleased as a rule with the hearty co-operation given chestnut tree owners generally throughout the state. On account of this co-operation, there is little doubt now that over one-half of the entire state will be rid of this disease by January 1, 1913.

M. A. CARLETON,
General Manager.

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At the meantime the actual owner, Mrs. Anna M. Greninger, who resides on the tract and holds the deed, had done a part of the work of removing infections as a result, curiously enough of a letter from Mr. Bierly himself, in which he stated, "The best way is to have them cut down and made into firewood at once." On October 29th, after reinspection of the tract by the experts specially detailed for that purpose, Mrs. Greninger was informed that the previous inspection was correct, and that the completion of the work of removing the infections must be done. The work was completed October 30th.

So far as this particular tract is concerned, therefore, there is nothing to be done. Everything has been carried out just as the Chestnut Tree Blight Commission expected it would be at last report no infections have yet been found on land actually owned by Mr. Bierly. If such should be found, however, on his or any other tract in that vicinity or anywhere in the county, it is expected that the removal of diseased trees will be made promptly and exactly within the twenty day period allowed. The disease is so destructive and spreads so rapidly that no time can be lost and the Commission cannot afford to give a single day of leeway after the expiration of a twenty days' notice.

As to the theory of worms causing the disease, nothing has been better established than the fact that it is caused by a parasitic fungus, in which worms are in no way concerned whatever, except that after the disease is once established, the larvae (worms) of certain insects may carry the disease from infected to healthy portions, but the disease itself is in no way connected with any kind of insect or any other animal. It will occur in young trees with smooth bark where there is no indication at all of the work of any kind of insect. It is a worker, however, that inspects in the low disease, working in the dead portions of the tree which have already been killed by the fungus parasite.

The Commission has been pleased as a rule with the hearty co-operation given chestnut tree owners generally throughout the state. On account of this co-operation, there is little doubt now that over one-half of the entire state will be rid of this disease by January 1, 1913.

M. A. CARLETON,
General Manager.

Considerable sentiment has been aroused for and against the work of the Chestnut Tree Blight Commission by reason of the attitude taken by Hon. W. R. Bierly, of Rebersburg, who expressed himself through the columns of the Centre Democrat several weeks ago. As stated before, this paper does not intend to take sides in the controversy, but is willing to give publicity to the views of each, and to this end the following article from M. A. Carleton, general manager of the Commission, is published at his request. Mr. Carleton says:

Recently there has been certain criticism in the press of the work of the Chestnut Tree Blight Commission in Centre county, which is both ridiculous and without foundation. A field agent had examined a tract of timber supposed at the time to belong to Mr. W. R. Bierly, of Rebersburg, and on finding certain chestnut trees infected with the blight disease, had given him the usual twenty days' notice to cut down the diseased trees and destroy all infected material around the stumps, as is the usual procedure. Mr. Bierly refused to cut the diseased trees and wrote a formal protest, which the Commission was somewhat surprised to find was intended to be the nature of an appeal, based on the contention that the tract did not belong to him.

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