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The Centre Democrat

Best Advertising Medium In Centre County Everybody Reads It

Circulation 5,600—Largest in Centre county.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16th, 1913.

Vol. 36. No. 41.

ATTEMPTED KIDNAPPING STIRS HOWARD CIRCLES

THE OLD STORY OF SEPARATED PARENTS.

A CASE FOR SQUIRE SCHENCK

Two Children Involved and Each will Now Live in Different Homes—Court Must Make Final Disposition of Case.

We are indebted to our Howard correspondent for the following account of a mild sensation occurring this week in that usually well-behaved town: Early in the afternoon of Tuesday of this week, an ordinarily well dressed man of rather pleasing appearance, appeared on our streets, loitering about in a seemingly aimless sort of a way. He inquired where he could find a police officer and was told of our good natured constable, Thompson Allison, with whom he evidently came in contact, as they were seen with each other in the neighborhood of the school house not long before the closing hour. About the time the children would likely appear the man who was then standing near the Kline and Wolf corner, was observed to grow restless, rolled and lighted a cigarette and walked toward the school house, a short square away. As the children appeared he threw away the cigarette, walked rapidly toward them and attempted to lay hold of little Charles Fisher, a newcomer in the town and bright, handsome child of eight years. The child ran screaming away but the man caught him, spoke kindly to him, and finally stooped over, putting his arm about him and whispering in his ear. The child suddenly stopped crying, gave an inquiring look at the man, then flung his little arms around the man's neck, kissing and caressing him earnestly. In the meantime constable Allison had laid hold of the boy's sister, Kathleen Fisher, a beautiful well-mannered little miss of ten years, bringing her with him toward the corner of Main and Walnut streets. The girl struggled to break away from Allison, and soon succeeded, speeding up Main street, outrunning and evading both parties, the man retaining the boy, who seemed to stay willingly. Going back to Wednesday, June 25, a man and woman, representing themselves as man and wife, with the two children referred to and giving the names of Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Westerland, took boarding with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Strunk, and in a short time arranged with F. S. Dunham, of the Hustler, to open a picture show in a large tent which they brought with them. The picture show failed to materialize to any great extent. Dunham secured possession of the tent, and Westerland got out, moving up Main street to the John W. Beck house and taking employment with the Centre Electric Company, assisting in wiring houses, in which work he seemed to have some experience, and has made himself useful to the Company until now. At the home of the attempted kidnapping on Tuesday Westerland was at work at the lighting plant, and the mother of the young lady, Mrs. Lena Lansberry, at Unionville, on Saturday evening, was the occasion for a good time, the event being in honor of the young lady's twenty-first birthday. It was planned as a surprise, and to that end was a decided success. Miss Lansberry was playing the piano when the guests arrived, and was taken completely off her guard. Many beautiful and useful presents were tendered the young lady, and in return the guests were served later in the evening with delicious refreshments consisting of ice cream, cake and candy. The following were present: Mrs. Blaine Reides, of Tyrone; Miss Lucy Spotts, of Bellefonte; Clarence Gable, of Kylertown; Misses Malissa and Celia Way, Eloise Buck, Margaret Brugger, Mary Snoke, Kezia Calhoun, Mary Lansberry, Ruth Gentzel, Boyd Irwin, Paul Clancy, Ralph Holt, Irwin Holt, Clark Eminck and Harry McEwain. All left with the happy wish that Miss Lansberry may live to enjoy many returns of the day.

CHRISTENING ENDS IN QUARREL

Two Foreigners Jailed for Making Threats to Kill Brother.

The usual sequel of a foreign christening was enacted in Squire Brown's office on Monday morning, when E. B. Benzy and Wash Benzy, brothers who are employed at the Chemical Lime operation near Buffalo Run, were put under bonds to desist molesting their brother, Mike Benzy, who was responsible for their arrest. The men are Slavishmen and are all employed at the Chemical Lime plant. Saturday night a christening was celebrated in true Slavish style, and as is customary the liquor portion of the refreshments predominated. Good feeling rose to hilarity, and ended in the usual quarrel, although in this case it reached only the point of hurling threats at each other. Mike Benzy is a married man with a family, and the two defendants, his brothers, boarded with him. Just why Mike should become the object of their sudden ill-will he himself does not understand, but he was positive that they meant to kill him, and came to Bellefonte on Sunday evening and preferred charges against them. Sergt. Burke, of the state police, and Deputy Sheriff Rowe went to the scene of the jubilee the same night and arrested the two offenders, bringing them to jail. At the hearing Mike claimed that the men had hinted at blowing up his home with dynamite, and he feared for the lives of his family and himself. As no assault had been attempted, and nobody was hurt, the case was considered of insufficient importance to hold the men and they were discharged after paying the costs and signing peace bonds. They agreed to seek another boarding place and hereafter allow their brother to live in peace.

PHILIPSBURG BOY KILLED

Automobile Being Towed Ran Against Telegraph Pole.

Hobart Henderson, a son of Dr. W. B. Henderson, a prominent physician of Philipsburg, was instantly killed in an automobile accident, near the place Wednesday afternoon of last week. The car in which Henderson was riding was being towed down a hill by another auto when the rope broke, the second car running wild and finally stopping against a telegraph pole. A runaway belonging to David Atherton, a wealthy resident of Philipsburg, broke down near Blueball, and young Henderson was left in charge of the car, which was procured at Atherton garage to tow the crippled machine in. Henderson was steering the second machine, when the rope broke. An end of the rope became entangled in the wheels of the car, making it impossible to steer the machine. When the foot of the hill was reached, the car was going at high speed. It ran off the road and into a fence, throwing Henderson against a pole with great force. His skull and chest were crushed in and death was instantaneous. The lad was twenty years of age, and at the time of the accident his father was in the east attending the world's series. He was reached by telephone and told of the accident.

WALKER TWP. MAN IN TROUBLE

William Van Gorter, of Walker township, was arrested last Friday charged with having stolen fifty dollars from David Harshberger, an old soldier, who resides along the railroad near the Park. The money was stolen during the month of September, but the theft was not discovered until sometime later. Mr. Harshberger kept the money in a trunk on the second floor of his residence, and it seems that about the time of the robbery, Van Gorter worked for Harshberger for a day or two, and when the latter came to pay him off he went to the trunk for the money. It is supposed that Van Gorter, seeing where he placed the key to the trunk, and in the owner's absence, stole the money. On Monday he was given a hearing before Squire Musser, before whom he stoutly maintained his innocence. The Squire however bound him over to court and he was sent back to jail. He continued to declare his innocence until Tuesday evening, when he broke down and confessed that he had stolen the money in the manner stated above. He was taken before Judge Orvis on Wednesday morning and entered a plea of guilty. The court suspended sentence until the latter part of the week and in the meantime, will investigate the case to ascertain if this is the man's first offense. If so the court may deal leniently with him.

Anti-Saloon League Convention.

The Twentieth Century jubilee convention of the Anti-Saloon League of America will be held at Columbus, Ohio, November 16th to 13th. Twenty thousand delegates are expected to attend. Centre county is a part of the Altoona district, and no doubt will send a delegation. Each church, Sunday school, Young People's Society and local W. C. T. U. is entitled to one delegate. The railroad fare from Bellefonte will be \$7.15 each way. The Altoona district is planning to send a chorus to be led by Frank Waring, of Tyrone.

Appointments to Fill Vacancies.

The state election commission has made three appointments to fill vacancies in the office of valuation assessor, occurring in as many townships in the county: O. M. Lonsberger, Spring township, to take the place of A. M. Kerstetter, resigned. George Fye, Burdette township, to take the place of A. V. Daugherty, who moved from the township. J. W. Bodle, Benner township, to take the place of E. H. Grove, who moved from the township.

The Medical Qualities of Weeds.

The following is taken from the current issue of Farm and Fireside: "Analysis of our edible weeds shows that they possess powerful medicinal qualities. The dandelion, for example, is replete with tonic salts and is aperient, besides being a natural liver medicine; the milkweed is a perfect tonic for the kidneys and a general cleanser of the system; the common yarrow is a good spring tonic for children; while red clover is one of the richest of all nitrogenous plants, and nitrogen is one of the most strengthening elements."

GENRE COUNTY MAN HELD UP AND SHOT

A. F. JOHNSON'S THRILLING EXPERIENCE.

ONCE RESIDENT OF MILESBURG

Together With His Wife, a Bellefonte Lady, Mr. Johnson Was Returning to His Home When Set Upon by Negro Highwaymen.

F. A. Johnson, a brother-in-law of John Barnhart, of Bellefonte, and a former well known resident of Milesburg, who moved to Ohio a number of years ago, is lying in the Protestant hospital at Columbus with a shattered jaw, the victim of a thrilling hold-up in which he and his wife figured a few days ago. Mr. Johnson resides with his family at Powell, a suburb of Columbus, and conducts a truck farm, the product of which he sells in the Columbus market. It was while returning home in the evening after disposing of his wares that he and his wife were held up by three colored men who began shooting at them without warning. One of the bullets struck Mr. Johnson in the cheek, breaking his jaw in two places and lodged there, leaving a hole as large as a twenty-five cent piece. That the highwaymen meant to kill their victims is evidenced by the fact that many of the bullets were found imbedded in the clothing, and one of the missiles grazed the ear of Mrs. Johnson. The men demanded money and Mr. Johnson handed over some small change, managing to slip under his leg a roll of bills, which the robbers failed to get. Mr. Johnson then fell forward unconscious in the wagon. The negroes searched the clothes of both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, and went so far as to compel Mrs. Johnson to take off her shoes. With the remark that her husband was not dead and that he had better keep still or they would finish him, the men compelled Mrs. Johnson to drive straight ahead without looking back, on penalty of being shot. On reaching the city limits Mrs. Johnson told her story to the police, who started at once on a search for the robbers. In the mean time Mr. Johnson was taken to the office of a physician and later removed to the hospital. While in the doctor's office he regained consciousness and told his wife of the money he had smuggled from the sight of the hold-up men. Upon going to the wagon Mr. Johnson found the roll of bills, which was the most fortunate part of the occurrence. An x-ray photograph was taken of Mr. Johnson's injury and his head was placed in a cast. It is thought he will require two or three weeks of convalescence. It was a thrilling experience for both Mr. Johnson and his wife, and the latter suffered considerably from the ordeal through which she passed.

SURVIVOR CHARGES CREW WITH COWARDICE

MAN WHO ESCAPED FROM SEA DISASTER TELLS STORY.

OVER A HUNDRED LIVES LOST

Terrible Scenes When Ocean Liner Catches Fire and is Threatened With Destruction—Raging Sea Made Rescue of Passengers Impossible.

Not since the Titanic disaster has the world been so thrilled as by the news of the burning of the steamship Volturno in mid-Atlantic last Thursday night. Revised figures of the casualty give the number of dead at 104. The Volturno left Rotterdam on October 2nd for New York, and carried 22 first class passengers, 538 steerage and a crew numbering 96. There were no nativeborn Americans on board the Volturno. The passenger list showed that practically all were emigrants, composed of Russians, Dalmatians, Poles and a few Germans, most of whom were young children and babies aboard was eighty-seven.

By this time most of our readers no doubt are familiar with the details of the disaster. The burning ship lay in the trough of a raging sea, possibly helplessly with her propellers afloat in her wake. The terrified passengers were huddled together as far as it was possible to get from the flames, while throughout the day the officers and crew fought desperately at whatever appliances were at hand to hold the fire in check. In the meantime wireless messages of distress had been sent out by the Volturno's operator, and the first vessel to reach the ill-fated steamship was the Carmania, commanded by Captain Harry, who made a heroic race through the ocean hurricane that was raging at the time.

Other vessels that had caught the signals of distress hurried to the scene. The storm that tore up the mighty water made it impossible for the life boats to keep afloat, and the rescue of the passengers was delayed. When night came on the seas abated only slightly. The circle of steamships kept their searchlights playing and waited patiently within the danger zone for the first moment when they might again launch the lifeboats. The hopelessness of the situation was manifested at nine o'clock in the evening when a great explosion tore away a part of the upper works, and flames burst from the engine room. It then became a matter of hours long the Volturno would stay above the water. Her movement was only slightly retarded by the sea, which was the most fortunate part of the occurrence. An x-ray photograph was taken of Mr. Johnson's injury and his head was placed in a cast. It is thought he will require two or three weeks of convalescence. It was a thrilling experience for both Mr. Johnson and his wife, and the latter suffered considerably from the ordeal through which she passed.

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COMING TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

Will Be Held in Court House, Week of November 10-15.

Three weeks from next Monday Bellefonte will have the pleasure of entertaining the army of school teachers throughout Centre county. County Superintendent D. O. Efters has announced the time for holding the sixty-seventh annual Teachers' Institute to occur during the week of November 10th to 15th. The first session will convene on Monday, the 10th, at 2 p. m., and, as in former years, the court house has been selected as the place of meeting. In connection with the annual teachers' institute, the school directors of Centre county will hold their twenty-seventh annual meeting in the High School auditorium on Wednesday, November 13th.

The list of instructors secured for these meetings is as follows: Supt. Jas. G. Pentz, State High School Inspector, Harrisburg; Dr. Arthur Holmes, Dean of the College, State College; Dr. C. C. Ellis, Dean of Juniata College, Huntingdon; Dr. Francis H. Green, Professor of Literature, Normal School, West Chester; Prof. Thos. I. Mairs, chief of the Department of Agriculture Education, State College; Prof. C. C. Robinson, State College, director of music; Prof. J. S. E. Ruthrauff, Philipsburg, pianist.

The evening entertainments for the week as announced include the following: Monday, Nov. 10—Musical by the Ernest Gamble company, Tuesday evening—Lecture, "The University of Hard Knocks," by Ralph Parlette; Wednesday evening—Concert by the Penn State Quartette; Thursday evening—Lecture, "The High Cost of Living and How to Reduce It," by Dr. Madison C. Peters.

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES.

The official vote for Superior Court candidates, with Philadelphia missing, shows that the four nominees will be John J. Henderson, receiving 49,267 votes; James Alcorn, 42,267; Webster Grim, 42,267; and James Alcorn, 42,267.

In the returns from 66 counties, Galbreath has come within the list of possible nominees, but it is estimated he will not receive sufficient votes in Philadelphia to overcome James Alcorn, the candidate who, of the four probable nominees, is running lowest.

The returns show that the Republican organization went to pieces in 44 counties and refused to cast a majority vote for Judge Henderson, favored by Penrose. John W. Kephart, of Fayette county, the youngest candidate, appealed to the young men in the Republican party and swept everything before him with but few exceptions. His movement was gained great impetus from the fact that as an unknown he leads the ticket outside of Philadelphia, which cast a large vote for Henderson.

Ex-Senator Webster Grim, Democrat, is one of the nominees, receiving 49,267 votes out of Philadelphia, as against 28,661 received by Oliver B. Dickinson.

Printers Ink Wins.

Printers' ink has won for John W. Kephart a nomination for Justice of the Superior Court. He is a comparatively young lawyer, practicing in Cambria county, with no more than a local reputation. He advertised generously in the papers throughout the state, being the only one of the candidates who did so. It brought him a large vote and a nomination. It certainly pays to advertise.

Law Not Complete.

If you go hunting you must first pay a dollar for a license and then you will get a beautiful tag, which you must pin on your arm. It will have a number on it same as the automobiles; but the only shame about this new law is that the hunters don't have to carry a horn and just before they shoot at their game, be compelled to give three toots.

Edward Mays Held for Court.

At a hearing before Alderman John P. Anthony at Lock Haven Tuesday afternoon Edward Mays, the 14 years old son of William Mays of Susquehanna county, who shot and killed Reed McGill of Lock Haven, was held in the sum of \$1000 bail for trial at court on the charges of assault and battery, wantonly pointing a gun and involuntary manslaughter.

Church Dedication at Gatesburg.

The new English Lutheran church at Gatesburg was fittingly dedicated Sunday with impressive services. Rev. Dr. Charles T. Aikens, president of Susquehanna University, delivered the morning sermon and Rev. S. Spanier, of Yaeertown, lifted the collection, which netted something over \$200 above the church's indebtedness.

Centre County Has Many Hunters.

Up to this time 2415 hunters' licenses have been lifted in Centre county, and there are a number of hunters yet to apply. The dollar tax seems to be no hindrance to the man with enthusiastic love of the sport.

—Mr. and Mrs. Ben. Schaeffer and daughter, Catherine, of Huntingdon, Pa., have been visiting friends in Bellefonte and State College during the past week. Mr. Schaeffer is a former resident of this place but left here several years ago and is now in charge of the tinning department at the Huntingdon Reformatory. He is also a member of the Huntingdon boro council.

don the engines. "After the explosion I thought it better to jump, for I am a good swimmer, and an English passenger and one of the crew said they would accompany me. I jumped first; they followed, but I never saw them again. I made for the German ship, but they did not hear me. Then I came towards the Carmania and shouted 'Help!' and was seen by aid of the searchlight. I was about an hour in the sea and became half-conscious. I knew not how I was got out. During the day five sailors and one steward fell into the fire and were burned to death."

Want Bryan's Help.

The New York Legislature Tuesday adopted a resolution calling upon Secretary Bryan to use his diplomatic offices to secure a fair and impartial trial for Bellis, the Jewish priest accused of killing a young boy as a human sacrifice. The resolution declares that the charge is built on superstition.

Clothes For These Hens.

Mrs. William Matthews, of Indian Run, Mercer county, is busily engaged in making clothes for a flock of Plymouth Rock hens, which through a peculiar disease have been losing their feathers. The chickens soon will be strutting about the barnyard in latest style made-to-order garments.

A PROTEST AGAINST BIG ROAD LOAN

ALLEGHENY BOARDS OF TRADE TAKE DECISIVE STAND

USED FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES

Urge Voters to Oppose the Measure at the Polls—Loan is Unnecessary and Uneconomic—Cost of Upkeep—A State-Wide Political Machine.

The allied Boards of Trade, of Allegheny county, comprising 26 units last week added its opposition to that of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce against the proposed \$50,000,000 bond issue for roads.

At a recent meeting the allied bodies passed a resolution opposing the passage of the proposed constitutional amendment for roads. It follows: "Resolved, That although we are in favor of good roads throughout the entire Commonwealth, and realize the importance of such roads in the development of every community, we believe the proposed \$50,000,000 State bond issue to be unnecessary and uneconomic; that it will be used for political purposes; and we therefore urge the voters of Allegheny county to oppose the proposed bond issue at the coming election."

The organizations connected with the Allied Boards of Trade of Allegheny county are: The Pittsburgh, West End, Lawrenceville, Lincoln, District South Hills, Oakland, Hazlewood, Wilkinsburg, Uptown, Millvale, Central, Larimer, Stanton Heights, Saw Mill Run Valley, Hill Top, Brookline, Sheraden, Ferrysville Avenue District, Beachview and Primrose Boards of Trade, the Civic Club of Allegheny County, the Allison Park Board of Public Service and the Pittsburgh Civic Commission.

Reasons For Opposition

Before the resolution was adopted the committee on taxation of the allied boards made a report in which it was set forth that the various organizations are opposed to the amendment:

Because not more than \$5,000,000 annually can be well spent on the roads and this amount can readily be taken from current funds and as the sinking fund requirements for the \$50,000,000 will amount to over \$3,000,000 annually.

The enormous interest charged on the bonds, namely, \$2,500,000 per year will require more than double the amount of the principal to be paid to the bondholders during the life of these bonds. In other words the community will have to pay about \$100,000,000 more in interest, which amount could be saved by making annual appropriations direct for this purpose.

There is no time or date as to when these bonds shall be sold, and they can all be disposed of the next day after the approval of the same by the Legislature.

Allegheny has already constructed and paid for 450 miles of improved roads and will receive a very little benefit from this bond issue.

It is proposed that all bridges and culverts shall be paid for by the county through which the roads to be improved, and as Pennsylvania is a mountain state this means great expense to the counties.

Cost of Upkeep

Over 8,000 miles of road are included in the schedule of roads to be improved and as these will cost about \$20,000 a mile, making a total of \$160,000,000, and in the course of ten or fifteen years it is estimated that the cost of upkeep on these roads will be \$15,000,000 per year or more.

The act recently passed by the Legislature, which goes into effect December 1, 1913, takes over the control of the township roads from the township supervisors, they becoming the employees of the Highway Department and all road taxes will hereafter be paid over to the Highway Department. If in addition he is permitted to expend this enormous bond issue he will have power, through the distribution of this patronage to control elections for Governor, United States Senator or any other officer or measure which may be brought before the people.

Inasmuch as the Governor appoints the Highway Commissioner, the entire organization of his department, employing thousands of men in every county of the state, can be used for political purposes by the party in power.

The report also calls attention to the New York bond issue of \$50,000,000, much of which went to favored contractors. Now in order to complete the work mapped out in New York another \$50,000,000 is to be expended.

A Portage Bandit Given 30 Years.

Francesco Imbisi, who killed Charles Hayes and wounded and robbed Paymaster Patrick Campbell at Portage, Pa., in 1904, surrendered himself to the authorities at Messina, Sicily, on Wednesday, Oct. 8. He was immediately sentenced to thirty years imprisonment. Largely through Mr. Campbell's efforts, in a trip he made to Sicily, Imbisi was captured several years ago, but during the great earthquake at Messina, Sicily, on escape, Filiorano Giuseppe, who is also wanted in connection with the crime, is still at liberty.

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