

Random Items

Santa Claus appearing in a Bellefonte store, Saturday, leaned down to one little youngster and asked him what he wanted for Christmas.

They tell one on State Motor Power day he went into a West Blain Street accessory store and told the attendant to put new bulbs in his headlights.

Bodie Widdowson, who last week trimmed the lawn of his establishment on North Allegheny Street with a life-size Santa Claus, complete with reindeer and sled, rushed wild-eyed into this office Monday afternoon and bought a pair of "No Hunting" signs.

This year's outstanding news events in Centre County, from a newspaper's standpoint, were: the labor difficulties at the Titan Metal plant and the Judgeship election.

In next week's issue this department will make an effort to name Bellefonte's Man of the Year. In order to guide our footsteps along this strange path, we will welcome suggestions from readers who think they know someone who deserves the title.

Joe Messner, of Pike Street, Bellefonte, one of the Christmas Tree coprocessors at the Court House, had about \$40 worth of choice Christmas trees damaged Friday night by boys, who found it great sport to jump from the railing opposite the State Theatre, into the heap of trees beside the Court House.

HERMIT, COAXED FROM TREE, NOW WOULD RETURN

World War Veteran Living Well in Crude Home and Not Worrying

SOUGHT REFUGE IN TREE 5 MONTHS AGO

Removed by Armstrong County Commissioners to Kitting Home

Harry (the Hermit) Shick warning himself by a fire in the Armstrong County home at Kittinging declares he'd like to go back next Spring to "the hired land" and the hollow tree he was persuaded to leave for the winter.

The 48-year-old ex-soldier sought refuge in the eight-foot poplar five months ago. When frigid blasts swept Western Pennsylvania he "hunkered" in the tree and for three days never ventured out. A stable door, pulled over an opening, broke the wind.

"Oh, no, it wasn't so cold," he recalled. "My clothes kept me pretty warm."

When Spring comes I'll get a fresh start. I guess every man has a mission in life x x x I'll find mine."

County Commissioners found and coaxed Shick from the tree, four miles from the village of Oak Ridge. He had bought food in the settlement with his \$100 "bonus money."

"Uncle Saul got up and walked out the front door. I hollered at him, 'where you goin'?' He didn't answer nothin'—just kept walkin'."

"x x x Uncle Saul went down to the road and hitched a ride to the county home."

Shick also went to the home in January, 1925, but left in April, 1926, to live with his half-brother, Silas Doerspike. But he said Doerspike didn't pay him for farm work so he left and wandered in the woods.

In July he found the hollow tree and stayed close to it thereafter, going inside when it rained. Shick said he "didn't think about much of anything" while "hunkered down" in the tree.

7,000 Copies Go Into the Homes Each Week.

The Most Widely Read Newspaper in Centre County

SECOND SECTION

The Centre Democrat

NEWS, FEATURES

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Topics and Comment

Avoiding the Fear of Death There are people in Centre County who are afraid to die. They will probably be interested in the views of Abbe Ernest Dimmet, French scholar and author, who says that there are three states of mind to counter-act all fear of death.

The first is a keen interest in truth, the second is to work for the nobler objectives possible to mankind, which are achieved by collaborating with God. The third is the forgetting of one's own interest and devoting oneself to the welfare and happiness of others.

We are glad to pass along to our readers the suggestions of this distinguished French author. There is considerable truth in his belief. Moreover, the individual can lead himself to one of the three ways suggested. It will take some volitional effort and determination to make a start but the result will come if the individual man or woman, will continue the process.

Brand-New Babies Cost \$8

Finland is a small country which claims the highest birthrate of all the advanced European countries. It will surprise the mothers of Centre County to hear that the cost of hospital care for the woman of moderate means is about fifty cents a day. This includes expert medical care, night and day nurse, fee for operating room, medicine—everything; there are no extras. The total bill for a brand-new baby runs from \$8 to \$15. Of course, those who want a lot of extra, and extras, can spend more but a writer says that it will strain ingenuity to squander more than \$100 on a blessed event.

Incidentally, Mason Warner, writing from Viborg, Finland, says, "The death rate from child-birth in Finland is said to be the lowest recorded. It may be that the Finns are a little bit behind the people of the United States in the observance of Mothers' Day, but apparently, they have other ways of showing their regard for mothers. It might profit the people of the United States to do likewise."

You And I

When we separate the word business into its component letters B-U-S-I-N-E-S-S we find that "U" and "I" are in it. In fact if "U" and "I" were not in business, it would not be business. Therefore, if business is to remain business, we must keep "U" and "I" in it. Furthermore, we discover "I" in business, and that the "I" is alien—it is not to be seen, nor heard. Also the "U" in business has the sound of "I," which indicates it is an amalgamation of the interests of "U" and "I," and when they are properly amalgamated, business becomes harmonious and altogether profitable.

TIRE BURSTS; BOY DIES.

As Kenneth, 6-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Patterson, of Yorkton, S. D., leaned against an old high-pressure automobile tire on the family automobile, the tire blew out. The explosion broke a rib which punctured the child's lung, fatally injuring him.

EXPLORES OCEAN BED.

By use of a "cannon," a highly specialized piece of artillery, which shoots itself into the ocean floor, scientists are able to learn much of the earth's past. Among other things, the sediment brought up has shown that there were successions of cold and warm eras.

Oddest Accidents In the March of Time During 1937

Did you ever hear the one about the outraged chicken which hit the farmer in the eye with an egg? It was one of the oddest accidents of 1937 and was recounted in "Public Safety," the national safety council's magazine.

It seems that Charles Cox of Macoupin county, Ill., selected the menu for a Sunday dinner. He wrung her vigorously by the neck. In the midst of the ultimate yrration out popped the egg. A physician removed the shell fragments from the patient's optic.

Then Wayne Miller lost his faith in his handiwork. He stopped to touch up a painted "shop" sign on the pavement at Miami, Fla. A car, approached from the rear, struck him on the back of the lap.

Mrs. Lily Holderness of Tucson, Ariz., sold her gila monster to a Californian. Someone, at the hour of parting, suggested that she kiss it goodbye. As she bent her head, the unappreciative pet clamped its teeth on her cheek. It clung there until his jaws were pried open with pliers.

Nobody would think of misadventure along the peaceful banks of Meramec river near St. Louis, Mo., least of all George Everett. He fished there contentedly. He dozed. Suddenly his line jerked. A huge catfish struggled to surface, spurted disdainfully and swam away. Surgeons plucked the fish hook from Everett's nose.

But wait. Here's one right down your alley. John Hickey was bowling on in Surban Oak park. He picked up his favorite ball, struck his fingers and thumb into the grip holes, charged forward at a sprinter's speed. His mighty right arm swung the ball. It described a swift and certain arc and—crack!—smacked him over the left eye. He had neglected to let it go.

Moshannon Airport To Be Largest in State

Federal Approval Last Week Makes Possible \$450,000 Landing Field Project

ONLY PORT WITH TWO 5000-FOOT RUNWAYS

To Be Located Between Black Moshannon WPA Camp and Wolf Rock CCC Camp

The announcement on Saturday of the Federal approval of an airport at Moshannon, will make possible the construction in Centre county of the largest airport in Pennsylvania. It will be the only airport in the State with two-5000 foot hard-surface runways, and the total construction will be approximately \$450,000.

In addition to the original \$200,000 allocation for the clearing of 90 acres of land and the construction of two 3200-foot runways, an additional \$250,000 has been granted to increase the size of the runways. The final grant, now officially approved, will be secured from both state and federal funds, it is announced. At a recent meeting in Harrisburg \$100,000 was allocated from state funds and now the WPA has approved the necessary \$150,000 needed to complete the project.

The deciding factor in giving the Black Moshannon airport the additional \$250,000 was the fact that it is continued on page 6, this section.

MAN DIES AT AGE OF 100 YEARS

Former Resident of Allport Passes Away at Home of Son in Pitcairn

Louis H. Bogner, a former Allport resident who lived to be 100 years old, died last Wednesday at the home of his son, Orin, in Pitcairn, where he had lived for the past several years.

Contacts with two presidents of the United States were cherished memories to him. One was his meeting with Abraham Lincoln. The other was a letter received from President Roosevelt on his one hundredth anniversary last June. Mr. Bogner left the Phillipsburg section to make his home with his son eight years ago. His last trip to visit Phillipsburg friends was two years ago.

Born in Red Hill, Dauphin county June 22, 1837, Bogner lived to see many changes in the social, economical and industrial life of America. When he was a young man Bogner walked eight miles into Harrisburg from his home and shook hands with President Lincoln on the steps of the state capitol.

Of that Bogner recalled: "I saw him (President Lincoln) on the west portico of the capitol. Everybody went up and shook hands with him. I did too." Lincoln had stopped in Harrisburg enroute to the dedication of the Gettysburg battlefield, where he made his famous Gettysburg address.

Bogner credited oatmeal with prolonging his life. He died at 8:45 a. m. the time he ordinarily arose for his oatmeal. He had been ill five days.

"If people would eat oatmeal and cornmeal as much as I do," he once remarked, "then they would live as long as I have."

Bogner lived for 53 years in Allport. (Continued on page six)

Shoots Father to Aid Mother.

Sobbing convulsively, Robert Miller, 15-year-old high school senior of Freehold, N. J., admitted fatally shooting his unemployed father when the latter came home drunk and distressed the boy's mother. He showed regret for what he had done, but defended his action by saying, "He wouldn't let my mother alone."

There are any number of persons in this world who know all the answers; what they lack is the opportunity to put their views into practice.

Compliments are paying investments but they must be true and sincere if they are to have the desired effect.

Pneumonia Serum Is Now Offered Free in State

Pennsylvanians soon will be able to get free pneumonia serum from the State—a serum so expensive that until now only the very well-to-do could afford it.

Dr. Edith MacBride-Dexter, secretary of health, announced the serum "gift" was made possible through a \$60,000 federal grant, and will be available to all who apply through their physicians after December 15.

Dr. MacBride-Dexter said that within the week 2,000 highway billboards advertising the free serum would be placed throughout the State in an effort to stamp out pneumonia deaths.

"No longer will Pennsylvanians be deprived of serum pneumonia treatment because of the high cost," she declared.

Dr. J. Moore Campbell, director of the health conservation bureau, said the serum costs between "fifty and seventy-five dollars for each patient treated."

The disease caused 9,094 deaths in Pennsylvania in 1936, the fourth largest pneumonia death rate in the country.

THREE HUNTERS FINED FOR POSSESSING DOE

George Smith and Clifford Dorman, of Mill Hill, and Lester E. Weber, of Lockport, Clinton county, each paid a fine of \$100 and costs of prosecution for possession of an illegally killed doe. The three were stopped by Game Protector Miles Reeder as they were bringing in their doe. Weber admitted his guilt and settled with the protector on the field, but the other two defendants were given a hearing before Alderman T. Mark Burgard at Lock Haven, where they entered pleas of guilty and paid the fines and costs imposed.

Hunt for Deer, Shoots Bobcat.

William J. Longenberger, mechanic at the Danville State Hospital, shot an 18-pound bobcat as he hunted for deer in Clinton county. Longenberger came upon a pair of the cats, both unusually large, and killed the one at a distance of 30 yards. His companions, A. J. Rockafellow, of Danville, and Fred Hughes, of Baltimore, searched for the second animal without success. The hunter tracked the cat he had shot and found it dead in a thicket, some 60 yards away.

Donate 5616 Cookies to Hospital.

Donations of 5,616 cookies for "Cookie Day" at the Coatesville Veterans Hospital were reported at the Tri-County Council meeting of American Legion Auxiliaries held at Muncy last week. Fifty-four representatives attended from Clinton, Centre and Lycoming counties.

HUNTER DIES OF EXPOSURE

Lawrence County Man Near Death When Located by Searchers

A searching party Thursday night arrived too late to save the life of William Zich, 45-year-old war veteran of Enon Valley, Lawrence county, who was lost more than 24 hours in the Elk County woods, after separating from a deer hunting party.

Although still alive when searchers found him in a snow-covered clearing near Rathburn, nine miles from St. Mary's, Zich died of exposure while en route to the Andrew Kauf Memorial Hospital.

Zich, a brother, Amel, and a nephew, Leon, arrived in St. Mary's Wednesday morning and made their headquarters at a farmhouse about six miles from Rathburn. The three men set out after agreeing to meet again in the afternoon.

When Zich failed to return, his companions called the Elk County Sheriff, who organized a searching party. He was aided by State Motor Police, 75 CCC boys, Cameron County Sheriff Roy Shadwick and private Continued on page 8, this section.

Hunters Take Time Out to View Penna. Scenery



This group of nimrods let the deer trail grow cold to climb Northeast Mountain, in Spruce State Forest, Clinton County, and catch this inspiring sight. They are overlooking the Susquehanna Valley toward Renovo.

ILLNESS FATAL TO FORMER M. E. COUNTY PASTOR

The Rev. William E. Ruth, 63, Expires at Home in McElhattan

JOINED CENTRAL PENNA. CONFERENCE IN 1902

Served Pastorates in Snow Shoe, Milesburg and Unionville

The Rev. William Elmer Ruth, Ph. D., pastor of the Lock Haven Methodist Circuit, and a well known former resident minister of Centre county, died at his home in McElhattan at 7:45 o'clock Friday night of complications. He was 63.

He became ill late last summer and underwent three months' treatment in the Lock Haven Hospital. Edwin Reuter, student at Dickinson Junior College, has been filling Mr. Ruth's pulpits since the latter became ill.

The deceased was born in Pen Arty and was educated at Susquehanna University and Drew Theological Seminary. Before joining the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1902, the Rev. Mr. Ruth served as supply pastor at Anderson, N. J.

Since 1902, he was appointed to the following charges: Excelsior, Benton, Bloomingdale, York Springs, Muncy Valley, Cross Fork, Penfield, Salladunes, Picture Rocks, Riverside, Wilburton, Riddlesburg, Mercersburg, Snow Shoe, Centralia, Milesburg-Unionville, Harrisburg, Mill Hill and Lock Haven circuit.

He leaves his wife and two brothers. Funeral services were held at the parsonage in McElhattan at 7 o'clock Monday evening in charge of the Rev. J. Merrill Williams, of Williamsport, district superintendent. The body was taken to Sellersburg Tuesday morning where it lay in state in the Methodist church from 12:30 to 1:45 o'clock.

Services at 2 o'clock were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Williams, assisted by Dr. S. B. Evans and Dr. A. L. Miller, of Williamsport; Dr. O. C. Miller, Mechanicsburg; Dr. H. T. Cover, Woodrich, and the Rev. Dennis Smith, Flemington. Burial was made in Sellersburg.

With the passing of the Rev. Mr. Ruth four ministers of the Central Pennsylvania Methodist Conference have died in recent months. The Rev. H. H. Sherman, of Sunnyside, a former Snow Shoe minister, succumbed late in August; the Rev. James H. Morgart, of Woodrich in November, and the Rev. J. H. Daugherty, of Jersey Shore, on November 28. Rev. J. W. Ketchner, of Jersey Shore, died several months ago.

DEER HUNTERS TO GET MONEY BACK BY JAN. 1

State Treasurer F. Clair Ross handed Seth Gordon, executive secretary of the game commission, 10,000 checks for \$2 each on Friday to be distributed to holders of the invalidated antlerless deer hunting permits.

The \$106,490 collected by the state for the special permits is expected to be returned by mail before January 1, the treasury department announced.

The return of the \$3,000 license fees for the special three-day season was ordered by the Dauphin county court November 23 when an injunction was granted sportsmen against the open season.

INVALID WOMAN SEES HUSBAND DIE SUDDENLY

Mrs. Oscar Myers Stouffer, 76-year-old bedfast invalid of near-by Bowmansdale, Cumberland county, saw her husband die of a heart attack and helplessly watched his body for seven hours before a bread truck driver discovered her predicament. The woman's feeble cries failed to attract neighbors' attention.

Dr. Edward A. Haegle, Cumberland county coroner, said the man died shortly after the attack. He was attending his wife when stricken.

Hunter Loses Thumb

Clinton county's only serious accident of the big game season occurred in the waning hours of the last day. No fatalities resulted for the first season in a number of years. While preparing to leave for his home late Saturday afternoon, Harold Summerason, of Drury's Run, went to pick up his rifle, which was resting against a tree. The weapon discharged, blowing off Summerason's right thumb.

This Deer Asked For It.

While Councilman Harvey Herman, of Mill Hill, was busy pumping up an automobile tire, he was startled by a noise back of him, and turned to see a large buck, which he brought down in less than a minute and had it home in less than an hour after he started hunting.

Donate Cross for New Church.

The Athletic Association of the Pennsylvania State College has sent a check to the official board of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church at Lock Haven for a professional cross as a memorial to Charles Lee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lee, of Lock Haven. Mr. Lee was struck by lightning and killed May 30, 1933, while playing baseball during his freshman year at Penn State, the day before he was to have returned to his home. He was a member of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church and was a soloist in the boy choir of the church as a child.

Youth Kills Buck; Scores Father.

When the father of Frederick Lightner, 18, of near State College, while the two were hunting together, heard a single shot, followed by wild screams he thought the youth had been shot, and hastened to find him and render assistance. However, when he arrived at the place where the youth had been stationed, he found him standing guard over a fine buck. The young man was so excited that he lost his hat and hunting coat, and found his gun under the snow only after an hour's search.

ALTOONA WOMAN FATALLY BURNED

Father and Son Seared as Oil Stove Falls Down Cellar Stairs and Explodes

Explosions of gas and oil stoves in Altoona on Monday resulted in the death of one woman and severe burns to a man and his small daughter.

Mrs. Fannie Sakolsky, 37, died Monday afternoon at the Altoona hospital where she was taken suffering from burns of the entire body received when her clothing was set on fire by a gas explosion at her home.

When a small girl saw smoke issuing from the Sakolsky home in the morning she rushed to the Goldberg store several doors away and brought neighbors scurrying to the house where they found Mrs. Sakolsky with her clothing ablaze in the kitchen. Several succeeded in putting out the flames on her clothing.

Firemen said they learned Mrs. Sakolsky had turned on the gas in a room and presumably had gone to another room for a match. When she returned and struck the match, Continued on page 8, this section.

'KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES'—Quite Logical



By POP MOMAND



Sanbury Mill Gets Large Contract

Word has been received from Washington that the Susquehanna Silk Mills at Sanbury, will supply the Navy Department with cloth and cartridge bags, under a contract which fixes the federal purchase at \$160,500. In the production of materials to fill this order, the mill will operate under wage and hour standards to be fixed by the Secretary of Labor.

We have seen various series of letters from a man to his son, but very few come from sons to their fathers.