

Random Items

SECOND SECTION

The Centre Democrat

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Odd and Curious News

The record of the Bellefonte High School faculty, long known for its chiddleness, is soon to be broken.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Thomas, of Bellefonte, who recently returned home from a trip with friends to Florida, missed calling upon a number of acquaintances in that State. They had left the address of those they intended to see, in a notebook. One day before they reached Florida, Mr. Thomas mailed a batch of cards, and into the mail box went the notebook which Mrs. Thomas had mislaid among the cards.

G. E. Hillegass, agreeable Pennsylvania Railroad agent at Bellefonte, dropped into this office Friday to explain why no watchman is kept at the High Street crossing and consequently why crew members of passenger trains coming into Bellefonte have to run ahead of the train to flag traffic at the crossing. The signal tower at the crossing was removed some years ago and a watchman there would have absolutely nothing to do except at train time, the agent said. The railroad, forced to stretch because of business conditions, has removed watchmen where their services could be conveniently performed by other railroad employees, he explained.

The chief objection heard to date against Governor George H. Earle's suggestion, Saturday, at the ground-breaking program at Penn State that the name of the college be changed to "The University of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania," is that the name is too long—too tongue-twisty. Headline writers would have many a headache unless they abbreviated the name to U. C. P., which is too open to wise-crackers. After attending several informal conferences at which the problem was discussed, the best suggestion heard by this department so far is the name "Commonwealth University." There are only four Commonwealths in the United States, and there is no Commonwealth University. For formal purposes the name could be expanded to Pennsylvania Commonwealth University. Headline writers could use "C. U." to designate the institution without fear of ridicule.

Governor Earle's suggestion is evidently the result of considerable thought on his part. Last September 17, when he sent Dr. James A. Neff, of the Department of Education, Harrisburg, to State College as his personal representative at ceremonies for conferring upon Senator Edward Jackson Thompson an honorary membership in the V. F. W., Dr. Neff expressed the opinion that Penn State should become a University. The suggestion at that time was given prominent space in The Centre Democrat. It should be a University. There is as much difference in the prestige immediately accorded "University" over "College" as there is to "College" over "Farmers' High School."

Bill Brouse, Jr., clerk at his father's grocery, who has trouble reading his own writing, gave a customer who ordered carpet tacks a box of Cracker Jack.

In opening his address at Penn State, Governor Earle brought out a spontaneous laugh from the capacity houses in the college recreation hall when he jokingly remarked that "I'm having as good a time today as I had the last time I was here." He referred to the booing he received from anti-Earle groups upon his first appearance at the College. Saturday, indications of whole-hearted welcome to Governor Earle were the only ones evident.

"Pete" Hoffman, State College sports scribe, writes: "To this observer, the boxing match with Pitt was one of the finest of recent years in the Lion gymnasium." If it was Pete must have been somewhere else when the Hamas, Richter, Souze type of fight made boxing at Penn State worth seeing. Saturday's exhibition was probably the sorriest one from the Lions' point of view we've ever witnessed. It may be the boys had an off day. Anyway, we hope that was the reason.

Tall Tale of the Week: (This narrative was related in apparent seriousness by a man who recently moved to Bellefonte.) When the Hindenburg visited Akron? Well, my home was in a small community several miles from Akron and the night the Hindenburg arrived there, the ship could not locate the airport. It hovered over at a low altitude, and finally a spot-light was thrown directly toward me. I saw the ship moving toward me, so I ran out in the yard, and stood with my arm pointed toward the airport. As soon as the spotlight struck me and the officers saw in which direction I was pointing, they changed the course of the ship and soon landed safely.

SECRETARY VAN DYKE TO TAKE HOSPITAL TREATMENT

Secretary of Highways Warren Van Dyke, who has been in Florida for several weeks recuperating from pneumonia, left for Baltimore on Sunday night, expecting upon his arrival in that city to enter Johns Hopkins Hospital for treatment.

Secretary Van Dyke was stricken with pneumonia at a time when he was considered a possible gubernatorial candidate for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination. Because of his illness he was unable to attend the meeting of the Democratic State Committee in Harrisburg last Friday. The committee passed a resolution in tribute to him and stood for a minute in silent prayer for his speedy recovery.

2 CHILDREN BURN TO DEATH IN LOG HOME NEAR TYRONE

Mother and Third Child Return From Neighbor's to Find Cabin in Flames; Stove Believed to Have Caused Blaze

Two small children were burned to death last Thursday morning at about 11 o'clock when fire of undetermined origin destroyed the home of Wayne Zindel, along the Jonesville pike, near the German settlement two miles north of Tyrone.

The children, Patricia Ann Zindel, age two years, and her little brother, Wayne Howard Zindel, Jr., age one, perished in the blazing home before nearby neighbors were able to gain entrance to the house to effect their rescue. The children were alone in the home, a small but substantial log structure, their mother, Mrs. Wayne Zindel, with another daughter, Constance, age three, having gone out for a few minutes to call on a neighbor.

Mrs. Zindel had been gone just a short time and was returning when she, together with others, saw smoke coming from the home. Upon reaching the house the entire interior was ablaze, it being impossible to enter the house to save the little children.

The Neptune Fire company of Tyrone was called, the firemen extinguishing the blaze and removing the bodies of the dead children from the ruins. The bodies were taken to the Glass funeral home in Tyrone to be prepared for burial.

The cause of the fire is undetermined, but it is believed to have started from a stove. Mrs. Zindel was suffering considerably from shock and was unable to be interviewed. Mr. Zindel, the father of the children, was at work at the Tyrone mill of the West Virginia Pulp and Paper company.

Blair County Coroner Chester Rothrock was immediately notified of the tragedy and conducted a preliminary investigation into the deaths of the children after viewing the bodies at the Glass funeral home.

Patricia Ann Zindel was born on July 11, 1936, and Wayne Howard Zindel, Jr., born on July 29, 1937, the children of Wayne Howard and Katherine (Fisher) Zindel.

Slayer Gets Last Minute Death Stay

74-Year-Old Former Policeman Was Scheduled to Die Monday at Rockview

JOKED WITH GUARDS ON WAY TO DEATHHOUSE

Martin J. Sullivan, 74-year-old former patrolman at Duquesne, Pittsburgh suburb, can look to at least three more weeks of life. Scheduled to die in Rockview penitentiary's electric chair early Monday for the slaying of Mrs. Laura Bacon, a social worker, Sullivan was granted a reprieve until the week of March 21 by Governor George H. Earle to permit a sanity hearing.

Sitting calmly in the penitentiary's number one death cell within a few feet of the electric chair, Sullivan received the news without emotion. His only request was to "notify my family at once."

The former policeman, charged also with the killing of four other persons on a "door-to-door" vendetta with deputy sheriffs at times, screamed as he entered the prison. But today he was calm.

Deputy Warden C. C. Rhoades said he ate a hearty breakfast and lunch. He slept well Saturday night. Rhoades said Sullivan would remain in Rockview in his present cell, pending the outcome of the sanity hearing.

During the long automobile ride from Allegheny county jail at Pittsburgh to Centre county, Sullivan maintained constant conversation with deputy sheriffs. At times boastful, sometimes humorous, he occasionally uttered a weird shriek. He feared two men were after him "trying to gouge my eyes out. They kept saying to 'come out of there, you.'"

During a brief stop at Export Sullivan was asked whether he had been in the community before. He thought a minute and chuckled. "I don't know. But I do know this, I've never been to the electric chair before."

Questioned about his red wig, Sullivan flared into anger. He snapped: "I threw it away. All that talk about me using rouge was a pack of lies. My cheeks were red from being outside."

At Rockview Sullivan was met at the gates by Father F. P. McCreesh, Catholic chaplain, and Deputy Warden Rhoades. He went through the usual physical examination, his head was shaved and he put on prison garb.

Candidates May File For May Primary

Must Pay Tax for Petitions Issued Until Four Weeks From Saturday

STATE MAKES PROFIT FROM CANDIDATE FEES

The fight to gain a place on the ballot at the May 17 primaries began in earnest last Saturday, the first day to circulate petitions showing backers.

Candidates for statewide and legislative offices have until March 25 to file with the State Bureau of Elections a fixed number of signatures of voters in their districts.

The office-seekers are required by the new election code to send a certified check for \$10 to \$50, depending on the post, with the petitions.

Candidates for local committees and local offices file with the county commissioners. The committee fees are \$10 to \$25.

The filing fee, and number of signatures required for each statewide and legislative job:

U. S. Senator—\$50 and 100 signatures in each of two counties.

Governor, lieutenant governor and secretary of internal affairs—\$50 and 100 signatures in each of five counties.

U. S. representative—\$25 and 200 signatures in the district.

Hey! Let Go, Will Ya??



New Gold Rush is On! And It is Right Down Cellar Steps

It was staged in the pit of an excavated cellar under an old house where workmen were engaged in clearing out the stone and dirt. It was a task well done—but the contractor decided it had been overdone.

Lock Haven Man Dies of Injuries

John C. Eberhart, 78, died last Wednesday afternoon at the Lock Haven Private hospital, where he had been a patient for ten weeks and two days, following an automobile accident. After his retirement as a car inspector for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in 1936, following 20 years service, he had become interested in the Hill-top Service Station, and was crossing the highway near the station when struck by a car.

Holds U. S. Should Use Poison Gas

Dr. Frank C. Whitmore, of State College, president of the American Chemical Society, asserted the United States was "doing an ostrich act" by neglecting its chemical warfare services.

OLD GRAVES FOUND ON PROPOSED SITE OF BRIDGE

Another obstacle in the path of the proposed construction of a bridge over the river east of Lock Haven was encountered Saturday when it was learned that old graves had been found at the site.

Wife of General Sheridan Dies

Mrs. Philip H. Sheridan, 88-year-old widow of the Civil War Cavalry leader, died Friday in Washington after a long illness. Once a noted beauty and popular in capital society, she was the last living widow of any high ranking union army leader.

QUESTION BELLEFONTE MEN IN BANK ROBBERY

William H. Rhodes, 26, and Charles Baughman, 29, both of Bellefonte, were returned to the Clinton County jail at Lock Haven, Friday, after having undergone questioning for two days in Lewistown for possible connection with the robbery of the Milroy Bank last December.

Accident Victim Goes Home

Frank K. Mattern, prominent Warrior's Mark businessman who was injured in an automobile accident several weeks ago, was taken to his home in Warrior's Mark Friday afternoon from the Altoona hospital where he had been a patient since the accident. His condition is very good.

COUNTY NATIVE RELATES OF EXPERIENCES IN FAR NORTH

W. B. Van Valin Shows Eight Reels of Motion Pictures Taken During Seven Years' Residence on Rim of World

Telling thrilling tales of many escapes from death in the land of the Eskimo and showing motion pictures of the actual thing, W. B. Van Valin addressed an appreciative audience in the Ninth street auditorium at Phillipsburg last Tuesday night.

Mr. Van Valin, a native of Centre county, was introduced to the audience by Ralph Cope, a member of the scout committee sponsoring the entertainment. He made his appearance on the stage dressed in a real Eskimo costume and demonstrated the various features and showing how the Eskimo dresses and wears his clothes.

After showing a number of relics and curios from the far north, Mr. Van Valin showed eight rolls of moving pictures taken by himself during the seven years he lived on the northern rim of the world.

Mr. Van Valin besides being an explorer, adventurer and lecturer, is an author and has written eleven books, "Alaska, the Wonderland" he said is now being published.

While in the north, four years were spent working with the Eskimo for the United States Bureau of Education. In this capacity he taught education classes, and did missionary work. He was also the medical doctor, dentist, lawyer, judge, and jury of the district. At the same time he had charge of the huge reindeer herd.

Most of his fame was gained by leading an expedition, the late John Wamamaker, into the region of Point Barrow where he discovered a prehistoric tribe of Eskimos who were buried for centuries in the ice. Sixty-one of these specimens, as well as thousands of other valuable fossils and

curios were brought back by the expedition and are now in the Wistar Institute of Anatomy of the University of Pennsylvania Museum in Philadelphia.

The moving pictures showed the Eskimos at work and at play and showed the various seasons of the north, including the two month summer, and the ten month winter.

Exceptional pictures of the sun were shown and he explained the six month day and the six month night.

Huge icebergs were shown and the power they exert over the surrounding plains of ice and their danger to the natives was well illustrated. This roll of pictures was taken at the risk of the photographer's life.

The reindeer herd was shown in the pictures as was a wolf and seal hunting and many other features of the north were shown and explained.

Mr. Van Valin is a Centre County native by birth. He was born at Unionville. His first experience along the adventuresome line was on a big game hunting trip in the state of Washington in 1905. He later went to Alaska for the U. S. Bureau of Education and later joined the field staff of the University of Pennsylvania and then headed the John Wamamaker expedition.

His wife and young daughter joined him in the north. His son, now 18 years of age, was born at Point Barrow, a town of 500 Eskimos, and the largest Eskimo town in the world. This was the first white baby ever to be born there and the Eskimos named him "Queanuk," meaning the clean baby.

So She Ett Her Onion Sandwich, and Reckoned She Was Worth \$100,000,000

A couple of 40-gallon hats got together at Los Angeles the other day. One was the old wild West headgear, thrust back of a mass of wavy, greying hair, framing the picturesque visage of Death Valley Scotty with red necktie below.

The other was a modish picture hat. It framed the well-groomed head of a Southern California society girl, Charlotte Babney Hallam, nursery lake artist.

"You have met many interesting people," Mr. Scott, but who is the most interesting person you ever met?" the girl asked.

"People are just humans; they ain't much different," said the old prospector. His keen blue eyes, sharp as the desert sun, peered into the large orbs of the society girl. He smiled as resumed:

"Did you ever hear of the 'old lady'?" "Wal, it was a spell ago. Up at the shack before the cascade (once famed 'desert home'), a rattlesnake car shook down the wash and stopped. An old lady got up. She started arguing with the driver. She shook her big old black umbrella. So I went out.

"What's the row?" I sez. "I hired a driver from Beauty. He wants \$18. 'Taint worth \$10, she sez. 'Taint worth nothin' \$10."

"All right, lady, get in outa-thun sun. I'll square this," I sez.

"I showed the feller the cook house to get some grub and see me later. "Wal, I cooked up some grub, wondering how to get rid of the old lady. She looked like that was her last ten-spot.

"We gabbed awhile. Suddenly she sez: 'You know Senator Clark?' "Seen him, but know his son Charles better," I sez.

"I loaned him \$400,000,000," she sez. I looked hard at her and we gabbed some more. Then I shot out:

"Did you get yuh money back?" "Yes," she sez, "and I loaned him \$200,000,000 more."

"Wal, I stoked my pipe, looked at her old black hat and dress and just smoked. Finally she sez: 'He paid it all back when they sold the Salt Lake-Los Angeles Railroad.' "I jumped up and grabbed her hand. 'Ah, I got yuh now, lady. I sez: 'You're Hetty Green. She just smiled and nodded."

"She write her address on a piece of paper and ask me to look her up if I came East. I got to New York years later. Went over to Jersey City. Found a shabby, two-story little house. She was glad to see me. (Continued on page four)

Truckmen Save Family

Awakened by two passing truck drivers, the family of Jake Bozon of Denton, Md., had barely had time to escape from their burning home before the roof crashed in.

Uses Rival's Name

James Boney, 17, of Whitrous, N. Mexico, confessed that he had written an improper and threatening letter to President Roosevelt and had signed the name of his rival in love, Joe Tapia, who is now the husband of the woman who spurned Boney's affections.

Insurance Payment

An agent came to the apartment of Mrs. Amanda Heady, 66, at Indianapolis, Wednesday, to collect the premium on her insurance. She paid him, closed the door and fell dead. Deputy Coroner Hugh K. Thatcher said she had suffered a heart attack.

Eagles Attack Child

Seeing two huge birds swooping down to attack little Betty Ernest-burger, 2, of Magnolia, Md., W. P. Miley, a railroad brakeman, seized his shot gun, fired and wounded one of the birds, frightening the other away. The bird killed was a 50-pound eagle.

Lands in Same Net

When Bert Hubert, of Cleveland, was arrested for speeding 50 miles an hour, he called his friend, Franklin Joyce, and asked him for loan money. Joyce brought \$100 and started back home. As he passed the spot where Hubert was arrested for speeding, he himself was arrested and likewise charged with driving 50 miles an hour.

Nazi Names Sacred

With the accession of Hitler to power in 1933, there followed a mania among German parents to name their offspring Adolph Hitler or Horst Wessel, or to call their girls "Hitlerke." Authorities, however, have denounced this habit as a sign of bad taste and have forbidden the registration of these and similar Christian names.

May Move Georgia Capital

By a unanimous vote, the Special Judiciary Committee of the Georgia House of Representatives recommended the removal of the State Capitol from Atlanta to Macon. The proposal is a constitutional amendment which requires for passage a two-thirds vote of both houses and ratification by popular vote in the next general election.

Huge Monument Planned

A huge \$250,000 monument to mark the spot where in 1847 Brigham Young, looking out over the great Salt Lake Valley, declared "This is the place," will be constructed on a rugged hill east of Salt Lake City. It was the end of the long trek westward by thousands of "saints" who were seeking a new home, and the beginning of a mass settlement of what now is Utah.

Avalanche Kills Two

Two men were killed and five families made homeless when roaring tons of earth, ice and snow slid down on a tiny community of homes on the south shore of June Lake high in the Sierra country, California. Highway department crews fought with snowplows to cover the seven miles between the camp and the village, but were turned back by a raging blizzard and great snow drifts.

Walks 75,000 Miles

Maurice A. Miller, of Gettysburg, who has walked more than 75,000 miles over the Gettysburg Battlefield during the twenty-one years he has been serving as a guard, went on the retired Wednesday. The oldest battlefield employee, Miller, made his last round Monday on his beat at Spangler's Spring and Culp's Hill. During the early years of his service, Miller carried a pedometer, and found that on an average he walked eleven miles a day in the performance. Using this as a means of computation, he made, he judged that during his service he has walked more than three times around the world.

Tower of Babel

An interesting illustrated article which discusses a remarkable painting which a distinguished Viennese artist recently finished after three years of work as a warning to the present generation to reform. One of many interesting features in the March 6th issue of The American Weekly, the big magazine distributed with the Baltimore Sunday Americans. On sale at all newsstands.

'KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES' — An Esthetic Shock for Eddie



By POP MOMAND