

Odd and Curious News

SECOND SECTION

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NEWS, FEATURES

Random Items

NUMBER 21.

Ends in Death

In order to join his sweetheart and marry her, Leonard Trimble, 25, hitch-hiked and rode the box cars from Cedar Rapids, Iowa to Los Angeles. When he left a box car, he saw another train bearing down on him. Jumping back, he fell under the train that had brought him west and died of injuries received.

Owned 'Lost' Lot

After paying taxes on a piece of property at Spokane, Wash., for the past five years, Mrs. Bell Wilson, of Chicago, decided to visit the spot. She couldn't find her property and, as a result, she was given a tax refund and a \$100 award.

Unexpected Patients

Dr. Albert W. Brown of Philadelphia started to a hospital the other day with one patient, got there with four. The first was an expectant mother he was taking to a maternity ward. The others were a man and two women who crawled from the wreckage of an automobile he passed on the way.

Rat in His Pants

When his car crashed into a parked truck, George Shaffer, a farmer of New Castle, Ind., leaped out and yelled frantically: "Where's the rat? Catch the rat!" Shaffer was beating his trousers. Suddenly a large rat scrambled out. Shaffer jumped on it. The rat had caused him to lose control of his car.

Pain Doubled

Jeremiah L. Carroll of Lisbon, O., had a pain in his back. Three gypsies women told him they would rub the pain away. They rubbed and rubbed. One of them rubbed so cleverly she managed to wrap her fingers around Carroll's pocketbook containing \$21. He still has the pain.

None Slighted

When the daughter of Commissioner of Public Property Joseph P. Skelly was married recently, the whole city of New Orleans was invited to attend the wedding reception. More than 12,000 sandwiches, 10,000 cakes and 100 gallons of punch were served.

Captures Robber

Slamming the door of his cigar store on one hand of a would-be robber, Abraham Widman of Philadelphia held him until the arrival of the police. Although the door was splintered by shots from the robber's gun, Widman was uninjured.

Buys Boy Bicycle

After the same 12-year-old boy was brought before him for the sixth time on the same charge—stealing a bicycle—Judge Geo. H. Smith, of Xenia, Ohio, put him on probation, and took up a collection to buy him a bicycle. With the \$10 received, the boy was given a second-hand bicycle of his own.

'Dead' Boy Returns

With the return of Donald Fiore, 15, from a two-year hitch-hiking trip, the identity of a boy buried in a cemetery at Masontown, Pa., became a mystery. Donald's parents a year ago buried the body of a boy they believed to be Donald. Donald walked into his home the day before Mothers' Day and so great was the surprise that, upon seeing him, his mother fainted.

Owl Attacks Judge

While taking pictures of argument owls in a nest to record their growth at Basin, Wyo., Judge Percy Metz, was attacked by the mother owl, who struck him on the back, ripped away his clothing and left painful talon marks.

11 Days in Drain

After wandering for eleven days, struggling through underground drain pipes, at Pikesville, Md., Prissy, a setter, was rescued by James Taylor, Negro chauffeur, who heard his feeble bark and lifted him through a garage floor drain.

MILL HALL CLASS IS 40 YEARS OLD

Forty years ago Tuesday, May 17, 1898—the first class of graduates at the Mill Hall High school received their diplomas. Local members of the class, residing at Mill Hall and at Lock Haven, had hoped to hold a reunion but their plans did not materialize.

Can't Shave Mustaches

A law, passed in 1890, prohibits officials in Hungary from shaving their mustaches. Officials are asking for repeal of the law.

Two Complete Solo Flights

Morris E. Wray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Darlington Way of Stone-town, a senior at Penn State, and Joe Rambo, of Norristown, also a senior, recently completed their first solo flights from the State College Air Depot. Both men received their preliminary flying instructions from Pilot Sherman Lutz of State College.

DRIVER OF DEATH CAR HELD UNDER BONDS FOR COURT

Inquest Into the Tragic Death of Andrew Gordish of Near Philipsburg, Results in Placing Blame Upon John Rice, Philipsburg

The tragic death of Andrew Gordish, a resident of One-Mile Run, near Philipsburg, who died last Wednesday afternoon from injuries sustained when struck by an automobile early Sunday morning, was followed by an inquest held in the Philipsburg Town Hall Friday evening under the direction of Dr. W. R. Heaton, Centre County Coroner. District Attorney Musser Gettiss assisted Dr. Heaton in examining the witnesses.

The following were called upon to testify as to what they knew about the accident: Joe Pavelick, Andrew Petroff, George Demchak, Margaret Gallo, Gus Tekely, Frances Tekely, Paul Hyak, Susan Hudak, Mike Gallo, Paul Gallo, a member of the State Motor Police, and Felix Rice.

John Rice, the self-confessed driver of the Ford sedan which struck Gordish, was called upon to testify but his lawyer waived the testimony on his client's constitutional rights. The testimony of the witnesses indicated that the deceased, Andrew Gordish, was walking towards his home after having been at the Saturday night dance at the Community building. A large group of boys and girls were strung out and walking along the left of the concrete highway.

Where Fish Really Climb Ladders

Bonneville Dam is Scene of Athletic Prowess by Salmon

The United States government is solemnly on record that fish can climb ladders, and on the correctness of that belief depends a \$10,000,000-a-year industry. The tests have gotten under way at giant Bonneville dam in Oregon. For uncounted centuries salmon have been ascending the Columbia river once a year to lay their eggs. In the upper reaches of the stream the tiny salmon hatch into fingerlings. Then they descend to the ocean and a goodly number are eventually caught and find their way to America's dinner tables.

Millheim Plans Sesqui in July

It is the aim of the Decorating Committee of Millheim's Sesqui-Centennial celebration to have every home in the town gaily decorated for the occasion, says Howard Bricker, who is in charge of the committee. The Sesqui will bring out more color than that community has ever seen, according to his estimate, based upon support already offered by citizens of the community.

Speed Champions to Race at Altoona

The name of the second world's automobile racing record holder to enter the Altoona Speedway event June 11 was announced this week by W. A. Morgan, owner-manager of the rebuilt track. He is Ben Shaw, Woodbury, N. J., daredevil who shattered the world's mark for 100 miles at Langhorne, Pa. last year and then set a new record over the flat half-mile distance at Homokus, N. J. Shaw last season competed in A. A. A. sanctioned contests.

4000 DAMAGE TO CLOTHES IN OSCEOLA FIRE, FRIDAY

Clothes valued at \$1000 were destroyed in the fire which resulted in a clothes closet in the home of Clayton Williams on Stone street in Osceola Mills at 9:30 Friday morning. Wakened by the smell of smoke, Williams, who had been injured by a fall from a horse, got out of bed to investigate the smell. When he opened the closet door he found the entire clothes closet full of clothes blazing. The flames were quickly extinguished.

Pays 40-Year Funeral Bill

Pulling a tattered \$100 from his pocket, a stranger handed it to Max Lowe, a funeral director of Evansville, Ind., stating, "Your grandfather buried my wife more than forty years ago and the bill was never paid."

Trials of a "Vet"



Seventy Fair Dates Listed

Seventy Pennsylvania agricultural, county, indoor and street fairs are listed on the preliminary schedule of fairs issued yesterday by the State Department of Agriculture. More than twenty others have not yet announced their 1938 dates.

Table listing 70 Pennsylvania agricultural, county, indoor and street fairs with their locations and dates. The table includes columns for Fair, Location, and Date. Fairs listed include Spring Mills, Conshohocken; Millifun County, Lewisport; Plourtown Fair, Plourtown; Armstrong County, Ford City; Kutztown, Kutztown; Butler, Butler; Galia Week Fair, Red Lion; New Castle, New Castle; Dayton, Dayton; Susquehanna County, Montrose; Lycoming County, Hughesville; Troy, Troy; Harold Community, Greensburg; Centre County, Centre Hall; Carbon County, Lehighton; Indiana County, Indiana; Bedford, Bedford; Wattsburg, Wattsburg; Huntingdon County, Huntingdon; West End, Gilbert; Harford, Harford; Stoneboro Fair, Stoneboro; Somerset County, Meyersdale; Wyoming County, Tunkhannock; Schuylkill County, Cressona; Montgomery County, Hatfield; Cambria County, Ebensburg; Millifun Grange Fair, Newville; Juniata County, Port Royal; Linsville Community, Linsville; Sullivan County, Forkville; Greene Dreher, Newfoundland; Sugar Grove, Sugar Grove; Union, Burgettstown; Berks County, Reading; Allegheny County, South Park; Perry County, Newport; Mercer County, Mercer; Doylestown Fair, Doylestown; Osgway Valley, Millport; Fulton County, McConnellsburg; South Mountain, Arendtsville; Black Barren Springs, Peach Bottom; West Alexander, West Alexander; Greens Township, Cookport; Edinboro Fair, Edinboro; Conneautville, Conneautville; Wayne County, Honesdale; Lehigh County, Allentown; Gratz, Gratz; Smythe Park Association, Mansfield; Columbia County, Bloomsburg; York, York.

Alcatraz Tames 'Hard Guys' in 400-Year-Old Dungeons Built by Spain

Most of the dungeons of Uncle Sam's hated Alcatraz were built by the Spaniards nearly 400 years ago and are still in existence—and are still used as the occasion demands. That revelation was made recently by Captain A. R. Archer, former guard at Alcatraz prison where the Government sends its worst convicts. "Daylight," he said, "never penetrates to these dungeons, and rats grow large and fierce. A blanket spread on the damp floor, no sanitation but a bucket, a cup of water and some bread. The toughest prisoner doesn't want much of this."

ISOLATION CELLS

"Only slightly better are the isolation cells of concrete and steel. A narrow grating admits air, but little light. "In other words, Alcatraz has the means for breaking the toughest prisoner. But there isn't much trouble, because the situation is so hopeless that most prisoners realize it." "When trouble does start, it is usually in the prison laundry. "The prisoners know that if they can tie up production there, they can cause the prison management all sorts of trouble, and of course they like to do that whenever they can in such a way as not to bring it back upon themselves."

'KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES' — A Matter of Opinion



SPAN OF OXEN STILL DOING FARM WORK IN CLEARFIELD

Traveling Saw Mill Man Tells of Old-time Beasts of Burden Being Used by Mountain Farmer in His Fields

(By Henry W. Shoemaker)

Probably few men know the untrodden byways of the Pennsylvania mountains like the travelling saw-mill hands. They go wherever a portable mill is set up to saw out a timber tract which had survived early lumbering days because of its inaccessibility. In these remote localities old ways and old customs linger and they come face to face with wildlife that has long since been exterminated elsewhere.

George Klingler, saw-miller now employed at the Old Ellsworth estate in beautiful Clover Creek Valley, tells of the last span of oxen on Clearfield mountain, now doing farm work and chores near Kyler-ton.

"Once these picturesque long-horned red steers did much of the hauling in the lumberwoods in the Clearfield district, but now about only one span remains in active service, yet they deserve to be in wider use throughout our mountains."

"While the panther and the wolf seem to have vanished at least temporarily from the Clearfield wilds the wild cat is still sparsely found, especially in the vast rocky recesses at the head of Gifford's Run. On the Centre county side of the West Branch, Omar Hess, who took off the timber across from Cataract and is also a great trapper, captures a number of large wildcats every winter. Judging from the antlers hanging in the Allegheny Hunting club at the head of Spruce Run, there have always been un-

usually large deer in that region and today the heaviest deer in Central Pennsylvania are taken in the original timber left standing when the Colemans pulled out, perhaps it is something in the herbage?"

"Though I helped timber off a tract at Mountain View near Blossburg the only spruce I ever cut was in West Virginia. There is little spruce left in Tioga county, the high swamps being mostly covered with tamarack (larck) and balsam fir. Though I was in wild country on the Tioga summits I heard nothing of panthers yet they were far from extinct in Haverly Valley. When I lumbered for Stackpole in Mifflin county in 1926.

"Perhaps there was only one pair but they roared at night first on the Haverly side of the ridge and soon after an answer came from the Treaster Valley side. Old man Lower had some nice shoals in a tract, but a big cat sprang over the 'half door' and carried one away."

"The Pennsylvania lion seems to have made his last stand in the Seven Mountains, likewise the wolf lingered there long after extermination elsewhere. Since leaving Haverly I am told that at least one of the panthers was shot in 1928. The hunter tied a chunk of beef to his waist and the smell of it drew the giant cat out of its lair and he shot it. Another panther, possibly the same, was killed that same winter not far from Decker Valley, in Centre county. My brother and I saw a panther only once in Haverly Valley but that was once too often. (Continued on page eight)

Missing Man Is Found in Swamp

Aged Hollidaysburg Citizen Rescued Alive From Perilous Position

A 10-hour search in the borough of Hollidaysburg was climaxed early last Thursday morning with the finding of James Keller, 70, of Church street, standing up to his armpits in a swamp along the river about a mile east of town.

In ill health for the past six weeks, the elderly man, who lives with a son, George, disappeared at 10 o'clock Wednesday night. Members of his family notified authorities and an immediate search was launched under the direction of Burgess Robert Cummings and Paul Burran, borough fireman.

Burran, driving a Phoenix fire company truck equipped with a powerful searchlight, scoured the alleys and fields of the borough for the missing man. The two searching parties also extended the hunt from the railroad yards to Frankstown.

A motorist, while driving along the river caught sight of Keller standing in a dazed condition in the swamp. Removed from his predicament, Keller seemed to recover immediately from the experience.

Brought to his home, members of the family reported that Keller had suffered a paralytic stroke six weeks ago which seemed to have affected him mentally.

BLAIR COUNTY GAS STATION PROPRIETOR SHOTS SELF

The lifeless body of Francis S. Miller, 46, of Catherine township, Blair county, was found late Monday afternoon at his home on Short mountain where he conducted a gasoline service station. A 12-gauge shotgun was by his side. The victim is said to have been in ill health and despondent for some time. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ruth (Hietrick) Miller, three children and three sisters.

Altoona Man Fatally Injured

Injuring himself Saturday night when struck by two automobiles and run over by a third proved fatal Monday to John E. Grove, 50, of Altoona. The accident occurred on Union avenue near Baker boulevard. Grove was employed as a firm-man at the United Home Dressed Meat company plant.

A Real Fiction Treat

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While it takes two to disagree, it also takes two to agree.

Court Refuses To Interfere

Supreme Court Refused to Interfere with Orders of National Labor Board

The Supreme Court refused on Monday to interfere with orders of the National Labor Board directing three industrial concerns to reinstate striking employees.

The effect of the refusal was to make enforceable the Board's orders against Remington Rand, Inc., the Carlisle Lumber Company, of Onalaska, Wash., and the Black Diamond Steamship Company, of New York.

The Board issued its decision in the Remington-Rand case on March 13, 1937, ordering approximately 4,000 employees returned to work. The order affected employees in plants in Tonawanda, North Tonawanda, Ilion, Conn. and Marietta and Norwood, Ohio.

The Board's decision in the Carlisle Lumber Company case, issued September 26, 1936, required the company to pay back wages to the workers declared to have been discharged.

OSCEOLA MAN UNHURT

Fred Henry, of Osceola Mills, R. D. is a lucky man. Thursday evening, May 19th, at 7 p. m. the car he was operating struck a bridge at Phoenix, near Osceola, and then rolled over three times.

Henry, unhurt, calmly stepped out of the ruined car. It is believed he lost control of the car while coming down the hill approaching the bridge.

Father Paschal, who is in charge of St. Michael's Catholic church, Clarendon, while Father W. J. Chally is absent on a tour of Europe.

Wrote to correct us upon our use of the word "Slavish" to denote the language spoken by the people of Czechoslovakia. The rector informs us that the people of Czechoslovakia speak the Slovak language. Slavik or Slavonic is used to denote all the Slavs, i. e. Russians, Poles, Slovenians, Slovaks, Czechs, Croats, Serbians, Rutenians, Ruskas, Moravians, Dalmatians. There is no such word as Czechoslovak. Father Paschal writes that is a misnomer—a name invented by the present Czechoslovak government. Czech and Slovak is correct, he concludes. Our only alibi for using Slavish to denote the language is that it is generally used in this vicinity, and that Slovak, although correct, looks like an error to the misinformed.

By POP MOMAND

