

Odd and Curious News

Never Forgets

A Pittsburgh woman who nursed "Peter," a pigeon, back to health cited proof today that a bird, like an elephant, never forgets. Mrs. Nellie Mitchell looked out her window about a year ago and saw a featherless, helpless pigeon fall to the sidewalk from its nest. She picked him up, took him home and fed him from an eye dropper. He regained strength and flew away. The next day "Peter" was back, and every day since, pecking at her window for his bath and dinner.

Robbed By Gypsies

Charles M. Bryant, 72, of Valley township, near Danville, was sitting on his front porch when a sedan drew up to the curb and a woman called to him. When he walked to the edge of the highway, a man and a woman alighted, and questioned him as to the name of the next door resident. While he was replying, the woman, one of the party of gypsies, snatched a small pocketbook containing all the money he had, \$14 of old-age pension. State Motor Police are investigating.

Good Fishing

A Lewisburg fisherman last week caught something unusual when he pulled in his line and found at the end a pair of eyeglasses. They were the property of Bill Rexford, son of Colonel and Mrs. C. Rexford, who lost them when he dived into the water, forgetting to take off the spectacles. The fisherman, casting for bass, happened directly on the spot where the glasses had lodged.

Plunged to Death

Missing his grip while descending a ladder on a smelting stack, Alfred Faffi, 32, plunged 100 feet to his death. Faffi, who lived in Newark, N. J., had been repairing a 220-volt smelting stack at the Castanea Paper Mill Company plant in Johnsonburg. He was half-way down the ladder when he fell to the roof of the building below.

"Paid in Full"

The 2,232 consumers of electric power from the municipally owned and operated power plant at Penn Yan, N. Y., were delighted to receive their July bills. Across the face of each was written, "paid in full." This gift, amounting to \$5,500, brings to a total of \$52,000 the "dividends" in free current which the board has passed on to users in the past eight years.

All Night Parking

When Martin Horn's car stalled in a deep rut caused by recent heavy rains on a town road near Cranford, Wis., he left it there overnight. When he came back the next day, the car had sunk out of sight. The entire roadway was a mass of water and muck for 30 feet. A crew equipped with 20-foot poles was unable to locate the car.

Ring Found in Potato

A wedding ring, found inside a large potato by a hotel chef in Cincinnati, was claimed by Velma Davis, daughter of a potato grower in Twin Falls, Idaho, as that of her grandmother. The ring was lost by Miss Davis' father as he tilled his fields.

Charmed Life

While standing in the middle of the railroad tracks at Buffalo, the locomotive struck little Alice Elizabeth Hulburd and hurled her about five feet in the air. She landed face downward in the cinders at the side of the track and was unhurt, except for minor cuts and bruises.

Ends Monkey Strike

When a keeper wanted to clean the monkey cage at the Philadelphia zoo, but was unable to get its occupants to leave, he recalled that monkeys are afraid of snakes. Securing a king snake, he carried it into the cage. That ended the monkey's sit-down strike.

Chewing Gum Bait

When the usual bait, worms, crawdads and smelly cheese, failed to give her any luck, Mrs. E. W. Erickson, of West Branch, Iowa, wouldn't give up. She put chewing gum on the fish hook, cast and a two-pound bass struck—and stuck.

Iron Steps Stolen

Imagine the surprise of Mrs. Elizabeth Letereg, of Newark, N. J., who, upon looking out of her front door, discovered that some one had made away with her iron front steps, which weighed more than 500 pounds.

"Generosity"

An excellent piece of hard-surfaced highway, 2,000 feet long, was built by authorities of West Virginia into the northern section of a Virginia county. The mistake was discovered too late to change.

Hopper Bite Fatal

An infection which began after Charles Dittler, 54, had been bitten on the face by a grasshopper, caused his death at Council Bluffs, Ia. Poison affected the farmer's lungs and liver, physicians said.

Thoughtful Thief

A thief who visited the garden of Pietro Severino, at Lock Haven last week, stealing sweet corn and tomatoes, dug around a number of potato plants, evidently to learn when to return for a supply of that vegetable.

A Visitor In Seven Thousand Homes Each Week.

The Most Widely Read Newspaper In Centre County.

SECOND SECTION

The Centre Democrat

NEWS, FEATURES

Random Items

DEMOCRATS CHARTER TEN SPECIAL TRAINS FOR HERSHEY PICNIC

Advance Ticket Sales Indicate Largest Crowd Ever Assembled for a Political Gathering In Pennsylvania - High Class Amusement Program Scheduled

Plans are being made to accommodate the largest crowd ever assembled for a political gathering in Pennsylvania—eclipsing even the personal appearance of President Roosevelt here in 1936—when Democrats of the State gather Saturday, August 27, at Hershey Park for the statewide picnic and rally sponsored by the Young Democratic Clubs of the State, according to announcement today by General Chairman B. Frank Swigert.

Advance ticket sales have topped the 100,000 mark and all indications are for a capacity crowd. At least 10 special trains will be run from various points in the State to bring merrymakers to the affair which will be attended by the four statewide candidates: Governor George H. Earle, Charles Alvin Jones, Dr. Leo C. Mundy and Thomas A. Logue.

A sports program has been arranged for the morning; while swimming, golf, band concerts and vaudeville acts will be featured during the afternoon. Highlighted in the evening program will be a "Battle of Music" which will be staged simultaneously in the park ballroom and the sports arena.

ALL GIRL ORCHESTRA

In the latter event two nationally-known orchestras—Ina Ray Hutton and her Melodears, an all-girl band of 14 pieces, and Kay Kyser, two central Pennsylvania favorites—Howard Gall's Music and The Diplomats—will compete.

The Melodears are recognized as the outstanding all-girl orchestra in the country and have been lauded by such authorities as Fred Waring, Rudy Vallee, Will Osborne, and Cab Calloway.

Howard Gall's Music and The Diplomats are favorites with central Pennsylvania dancers and both appear regularly on the Harrisburg Varieties originated each week by (Continued on Last Page)



THREE YEAR'S PROGRESS TOWARD SOCIAL SECURITY

(Reprinted from Government Bulletin)

On August 14, 1935—just three years ago—the President signed the Social Security Act.

It was a document of history-making significance to Americans. For, without abandoning this country's traditional ideals of individual initiative and thrift, it asserted for the first time in a comprehensive national program, the Federal Government's responsibility under the Constitution for the economic security of the people. It was in a sense America's "declaration of interdependence."

Economic insecurity is not new to America. Fear of want and homelessness has haunted the people in every country and in every age. And even before the depression, millions of our families lived in constant dread of unemployment, sickness, and penniless old age. Some national plan designed to make life more secure against the hazards of our increasingly complex industrial system was long overdue. The depression only dramatized these hazards and stirred the collective conscience of the people to act through their Government to build bulwarks against them.

Nor is the theory of the Social Security Act new to America. With the exception of old-age insurance, many of its fundamentals had been accepted by most States of the Union prior to 1935. These States—inspired as their resources permitted—were taking care of child welfare and public health, were giving public aid to mothers of dependent children, to the needy

Harry The Hermit Is Willing To Marry a Woman With \$50,000.00

Harry the hermit bobbed out of his hollow tree at Kittanning, Monday, long enough to volunteer to marry a woman with \$50,000, but until such time as one proposes he "just don't want to be bothered."

Hurt; Car Hits Truck

Gerald Replige, 22, of Woodbury, received treatment at the Centre County Hospital last Thursday for cuts and bruises suffered when the car in which he was riding collided with a coal truck on route 322 at about 3 o'clock that morning.

MISSING WPA WORKER'S BODY FOUND IN CREEK BY SCOUTS

Missing for almost two days, John Bobby, aged Winburne resident, was found in the Red Moshannon Creek last week by a party of Boy Scouts. The body of the former miner and WPA worker was found about one-fourth mile from his home.

'KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES' — Eddie Has a Big Problem



FEDERAL AGENTS FIND STILLS IN OPERATION IN OSCEOLA VICINITY

Swoop Down Upon Clearfield County Homes and Arrest Five Men - Unsigned Letter Contained Tip Which Led To Raid

An unsigned letter sent to officials of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board led to two raids in Osceola vicinity last Thursday that netted a number of illegal liquor stills and caused the arrest of five residents.

Reminiscence of the "dry" days, two officers of the Federal Alcoholic Tax Unit and the eight Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board officers arrested five men, seized a quantity of moonshine whiskey, rye mash, and several stills. One of the stills was in operation at the time of seizure.

Raids were made at the Dersin, Mekis and Demko homes in Atlantic and at the Kephart home near Osceola Mills. Elmer Kephart, 45, Osceola R. D., was arrested following the discovery of a secret cellar in his home in which three stills, 250 gallon barrels of rye mash, extra coal, 2 gallons of whiskey, jugs, bottles and coloring were found.

New Cell Block Near Completion

Unit at Rockview Prison Will Contain 256 Individually Equipped Cells

Work is nearing completion on the new \$210,000 cell-block at Rockview penitentiary, and it is expected that everything will be in readiness for the planned opening on September 1.

The new unit will contain 256 individual cells, each one containing a lavatory, wash bowl, medicine cabinet and mirror. The interior of each room measures 8 feet by 8 feet. All the rooms are of outside exposure and the interior walls are of buff tile.

One of the features is that there are no bars on the windows. Heavy steel sash with panes six by eight inches are used throughout. Kalia-wood doors with fancy grille—wood with metal covering—are used on the cells as a new feature, and a special locking device has also been installed. A guard lock 15 cells at one time with the new system.

Rooms That Hang From the Ceilings

The studios of the National Broadcasting Company in Rockefeller Center, New York, are actually suspended from the ceilings, walls, and floors of the RCA Building by steel clips padded with felt. At no point do the studios touch the building structure proper; the reason for this peculiar construction being to insulate all the studios completely from outside noise and vibration.

Beer Truck Damaged

Damage estimated at \$250 resulted about 3 o'clock last Thursday morning when a Wilkes-Barre beer truck skidding on a road made slippery by rain, left the highway, hit a telephone pole, and upset on Route 322 about nine miles west of Port Matilda.

Man Exonerated

George W. Martin, Howard R. D., was discharged by Alderman Lipetz of Lock Haven, for lack of evidence.

Rescued, Dies

Miss Mary Lee Nicholson and three companions clung for forty-five minutes to a boat after it capsized in a squall at Galveston, Texas. Just as she was about to climb a rope ladder lowered from a rescue craft, she fell back into the water, dead of a heart attack.

Auto Victims Young

More persons between the ages of 20 to 24 years died from automobile accident injuries than in any other age group, the U. S. Census Bureau reports.

Meeting in Bankruptcy

The first meeting of the creditors of Mary Eleanor Lewther, individually, and trading as Mary-Kay Coffee Shop, State College, who was adjudicated bankrupt August 8, 1935, will be held in the law office of John T. Taylor, referee in bankruptcy, in the Peoples' National Bank Building, State College, at 10 o'clock Friday morning, August 13.

Drowns in Saving Son

James C. Hawthorne, 38-year-old carpenter of Philadelphia, was drowned in rescuing his 14-year-old son, James, Jr., by pushing him to the shore. The older man, unable to swim and exhausted by his efforts, fell back into the water and drowned before bystanders were able to reach him.

Scrape your feet and tread lightly before you enter the Centre County Court House next time. The Commissioners just spent \$144 to have the front steps cleaned!

If you are called upon to serve as a juror in court, you'd better depend solely upon your memory to retain the testimony you hear. In other words, while there apparently is no Pennsylvania law prohibiting jurors from taking notes of testimony, the Courts generally discourage the practice. Commenting upon this matter Former Judge M. Ward Fleming of Bellefonte declared that the reason jurors are not permitted to take notes is probably because of the fact that individual persons may get entirely different conceptions of the real facts in the same testimony, and that a note-taking juror might use his unintentionally garbled notes in an effort to sway other jurors to his way of thinking. With none of the jurors fortified with notes, it becomes solely a matter of each juror's recollection of the testimony.

Patrons at a local theatre one night during the latter part of the week were aroused from their contemplation of the screen by a sudden wheezing sound from a dark corner of the room. Investigation revealed the noise to be emanating from the High Sheriff of Centre county, Harry V. Keeler, who evidently was getting caught up on the sleep he lost on his flying trip to Indianapolis, Ind. to bring back two fugitives from the local jail. Anxious by springing from surrounding patrons, the sheriff wearily arose and clumped out.

Employees of air fields in Central Pennsylvania report that since 1935 there has been an alarming decrease in the aviation activities of private citizens. Less than half as many persons are flying their own planes as there were three years ago, they claim. Best probable reason for the decrease is that airplane manufacturers are making little effort to popularize their craft among the public, being engaged in turning out war planes.

New Aid to Part-Time Farmers

Federal Housing Commission Ready To Enter Farm Mortgage Field

Through the aid of the Federal Housing Administration, which is now ready to enter the farm mortgage field, part-time farmers of Centre county, who comprise 32 percent of the total number of farmers, will be able to build a new home, or improve the old home, or build any other building they desire.

According to the recent farm census, there are about 700 part-time farmers in Centre county; and many of these, according to the Federal Housing Administration, want new construction work on their farms but have been unable to obtain funds to finance it through private lending sources, who have not considered the part-time farmer as good a risk as the full-time farmer.

Now the FHA, by virtue of amendments to the National Housing Act is authorized to insure loans on farms, provided that 15 percent of those loans is used for labor and materials on buildings. These loans the FHA believes, may now be obtained through private lending agencies, at 5 percent interest, plus 1/4 of 1 percent for insurance, with 20 to 25 years for repayments, and totaling 80 to 90 percent of the value of the farm.

The lender cannot lose under this plan, for in case of default, he can foreclose on the property and turn it over to the FHA for the unpaid principle of the loan, eliminating the objection to the part-time farmer as a debtor. In turn, the FHA protects the borrower by specifying a maximum rate of interest and guaranteeing that the construction work done will be Grade A. No shoddy buildings will be erected under this plan, the FHA contends.

Charged With Giving False Information

Charged with withholding information and making false statements to the Department of Revenue in applying for a learner's permit, Clyde Peden, aged 23, of Spring Mills, at a hearing before Justice of the Peace Harold D. Cowher, Saturday, was fined under \$500 bond for his appearance at court.

Peden, it was reported, once had a driver's license but it was suspended for an infraction of the motor code. His license has never been re-instated because he apparently could not comply with the financial responsibility regulations.

Accordingly, officials report, he attempted to secure a license by starting all over again as a beginner. He received his permit, took the tests and passed, and was issued a regular license. A short time later the Department of Revenue discovered his old license record, and noted wide discrepancies on the application for the permit just issued.

Corporal Robert Raymond, of the Pleasant Gap subdivision arrested Peden and when the man was brought before Justice Cowher, he is reported to have admitted his guilt.

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