William Kline, 21, and An-

thony Benzie, 17, Victims

of Tragedy Near Town

DIE WHILE STRUGGLING

TO ESCAPE FROM SEDAN

Machine in Stream Discover-

ed by Pedestrian; Rescue

Efforts Fail

Two Bellefonte youths were

The boys are: William Kline,

aged 21, of Spring Creek, and An-

thony Benzie, aged 17, of Roops-

Evidence that the youths had

made a desperate effort to struggle

from the sedan which had become

in the evening when members of

truck from the Dunlap Motor Com-

pany succeeded in turning the car

Benzie had forced open a front

managed to get his head and part

rear doors, but apparently couldn't

open it wide enough to permit his

(Continued on page four)

County Directors to Hold 52d

Annual Meeting at Court

ing, but was held fast

over on its side

death trap was uncovered later

FIRE DESTROYS HIGH SCHOOL

Loss Totals \$150,000 as 900 Pupils March to Safety; Classes To Resume Soon in Academy

5 COMPANIES BATTLE BLAZE

In one of the most amazing and destructive fires ever to occur in Bellefonte, the 29-year-old high school building at the corner of stroyed Monday morning.

every ventilator in every room, the showed up in a poor light was the 900 pupils marched to safety in 30-year-old fire siren atop the Cenperfect order and with no sign of tre County jail-the chief means panic. No less surprising was the whereby firemen are notified that fact that the apparently substantial their services are needed. building was completely gutted in less than an hour's time.

80 per cent of its appraised value. Monday's fire.

are the four walls, which are so the best of fire departments with budly twisted and damaged by the the best equipment available, would intense heat they are of no further have been unable to save the high

For the first time since the days tire business blocks in Bellefonte, it was necessary to summon firemen from nearby communities to fight Menday's blaze. In addition to all the equipment of the local Undine and Logan Fire Companies, there were two trucks from the Alpha Fire Company at State College, and a pumper each from the Milesburg and Pleasant Gap Fire Companies on duty. Over a mile of fire hose was in use, and every fire plug in the area was in service. Local industrial firemen also aided in battiling the fire.

The blaze began in an insignifimanner: Shortly before 9 o'clock fire broke out in the ceiling of the fan room in the sub-basement of the five-story structure. Edward Kling, Jr., aged 5, of East James Wilson and Leo Scholl, jani- Lamb Street, was killed instantly Eirl K. Stock trained an emergency sled on which he was coasting crashhose on the flames while High ed into a car on East Linn Street, School Principal O. F. Sollenber- at the Ridge street crossing. ger sounded the alarm for a fire Leonard Mayes, of Yarnell, driver drill, and a call was sent for fire- of the car, Monday morning was ab-

ing was in operation, smoke from Allegheny street. (Continued on Page 6)

Five True Bills

Only Five Criminal Cases 9 Listed For Trial at February Court

Completing its work in record time the Grand Jury for the February term of court in less than a bills of indictment and made a survey of the County property.

Of the five bills considered, all were found true bills. Of its inspection of the County property the jury reported the buildings in satisfactory shape but recommended that unsanitary conditions in different parts of the jail should be the annual father-and-son ban-corrected. William P. Campbell, of quet at the Bellefonte Y. M. C. A Centre Hall, R. D., was foreman of that evening. High school students

(Continued on page three)

Alarm atem Is Undependable, Probe Reveals

BOARD ACTS

IN EMERGENCY

the Bellefonte Academy it was an-

emporarily into the Academy build-

ternoon at a conference of School

equipment, desks, chairs and other

items are the property of a group

of creditors of the Academy, and

with them for the rental of these

Mr. Stock announced that coal is

of the high school building to the

heating plant at the Academy, which

is in a separate building a short dis-

(Continued on Page 6)

WARNS AGAINST AIR RIFLES

Chief of Police Harry Dukeman

esterday warned youngsters against

he continued use of air rifles in

the borough, adding that anyone

found violating the borough ordin-

ance in this respect will be prose-

cuted. The chief objection to rifles

Beech Creek Boy

from stray shots.

is the danger of injury to persons

Critically Injured

Struck By Truck While Walk-

ing Home From School

House

Merrill Moore, 13, son of Mr. and

Mrs. Frank Moore, of Beech Creek

township, is in a critical condition

at the Lock Haven Hospital after

being struck by the projecting body

of a truck Monday afternoon while

admitted with a fractured skull.

the left hand side of the road fac-

ing oncoming traffic. They were on

their way home from the Haagen

A truck, driven by Mearle Wey-

andt, of Blair county, came along. Merrill, apparently, did not get far

enough off the highway, for the left

side of his head was struck by the

Weyandt said he realized that he

had struck the child only through

feeling the impact. The boy was

rushed to the Lock Haven Hospital

fort to Maintain Morale

of Idle Boys And Girls

W. I. Scott, supervisor of the Na-

Centre, Clinton, Cameron and Pot-

ter counties, presented the work of

that department of the federal gov-

ernment's activity before the Belle-

fonte Kiwanis Club at the meeting

Each Kiwanian found at his plate

Tuesday at the Penn Belle Hotel,

in the dining room a sheet unlike

any other describing several activ-

ities over the country of the young

men and women under the care of

(Continued on page three)

Gap Lutheran church at 7:30 p. m.

Free Sauer Kraut

to attend the meeting.

the whole showing a work of

Supper At Meeting

Youth Administration in

The driver was not held pending

projecting body of the truck.

by a passing motorist.

further investigation.

school in Beech Creek township.

walking along Route 64 on his way

negotiations are now under

banking house

As the result of an informal inquiry into the high school fire, con-Allegheny and Linn streets was de- ducted Tuesday night at the Council chambers by the Bellefonte Fire Although smoke poured from Department, the only feature which

The antiquated siren, long source of expensive repairs, and With total damage estimated at long undependable in operation, \$150,000, the fire takes its place failed when it was most needed, among the most destructive ones in and members of the Undine Fire Bellefonte's history. The building Company were therefore delayed was insured for \$100,000 which is somewhat in being notified of

A \$17,000 policy was carried on its Not that it mattered in this instance-for many experienced fire-All that remains of the structure men at the inquiry declared that school building.

The inquiry was called not to when a series of fires destroyed en- place blame on anyone, or to criti- now being transferred from the ruins (Continued on Page 6)

Boyd Kling, Jr., Aged 5, Bellefonte, is Victim; Driver is Exonerated

The first fatal coasting accident Supervising Principal early Saturday morning when the

solved of all blame in the fatality by Because the ventilating fan, a Coroner's Jury empanelled by Dr. which forced air through some 40 W. R. Heaton, of Philipsburg, at the ducts to every room in the build- Widdowson Funeral home on North

Kling died as the result of a crushed skull. He also suffered a mangled left hand and other injuries. The youth, who more than a year ago miraculously escaped death in a 20-Found By Jury foot fall from a balcony of the I.O. O. F. building where the family then sided, took his sled shortly before o'clock Saturday morning, and (Continued on page three)

School Fire Causes Change of Program

ruary term of court in less than a Owing to the destruction of the day's time Monday acted upon five high school building, an address heduled to have been made there by Ira Thomas, Connie Mack's associate in big league baseball, will be held in the Court House instead. The address is to begin Friday, February 24, at 1:30 p. m. Mr. Thomas is coming to Belle-

fonte as the principal speaker at are particularly urged to be present True bills were found in the fol- at the Court House in the after-

WHY WE SHOULD BE THANKFUL

One of the bright spots remaining from the school house catastro-phe is the realization that no lives were lost. Out of the ruins arises the comforting thought that had it not been for the well-directed fire drills maintained by the teachers and faculty, panic and its attendant train of death and injury would surely have followed.

Many words of appreciation have come from grateful parents who realize now as never before how important a part fire drills occupy in the safety of their children. We are publishing one of the letters received by this newspaper from a Bellefonte mother which is typical of the high estimate held for the faculty and teachers for their splendid work of safe-guarding the children:

To the Editor of The Centre Democrat:

May I, through the columns of your newspaper, say a very sincere and heartfelt "Thank you," to the teachers in the High school building who so efficiently and effectively performed their duties today. When the critical occasion arose, they were equal to the emergency and cooly marched those hundreds of boys and girls to safety. As the mother of two of those children, and a citizen of Bellefonte, I feel that I must let them know that, while I can never express to them or anyone, how deeply grateful I am, I think it was a wonderfully fine piece of work and worthy of public commendation. For one individual to lose his or her head at such time has caused terrible tragedy in similar situations and to have so many people calmly evacuate a burning building with so little confusion is a remarkable situation and one which I feel the people of this community appreciate.

Although I am not personally acquainted with many of these teachers. I have come to know them, in a sense, through my children. and shall have a very warm place in my heart for each of them for what they have done today in preventing a tragedy that would have torn the hearts of the whole countryside. We dare not let ourselves think of that side of the matter, but with thankful hearts we should turn to the One who is responsible for our being here and with His help do all we can to improve conditions so that our children can get the very best out of life.

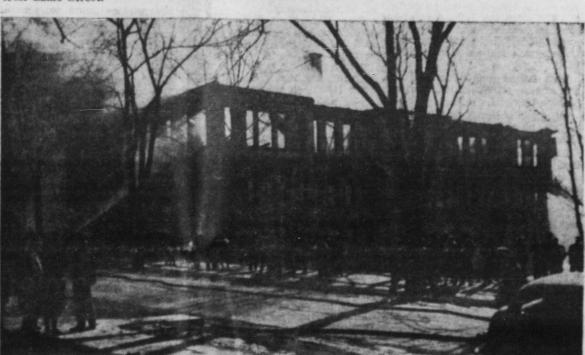
20 Reynolds Ave.. Bellefonte, Pa.

MRS. J. M. HARTSWICK.

Flames Sweep Through School Building



This photo, snapped not more than 10 minutes after the first flame broke through the roof, gives some idea of the speed with which the fire spread. View was taken from the old gas works site, on West Lamb Street.



This scene, taken from West Linn street, one and one-half hours after photo above, shows smouldering remains of 29-year-old building after the blaze was under control

Finds Invitation 125 Years Old

home from school. He remained un-Bid to 'Birth Night' Party conscious for some time after being Recalls Pioneer Settlers Private J. H. Sheedy, of the Motor Police, said Merrill and several of Community school companions were walking on

In leafing through an old medical book at the Centre County Hospital recently John S. Sommerville, of East Bishop street, came upon

the following invitation 'Washington's Birth Night The Company of Dr. D. Dobbins is requested at a Ball at Mr. Evan Miles' Hotel in Bellefonte en the 22nd inst. Roland Curtin John Mitchell, Jos. M. Fox,

Managers." Feb. 16, 1314.

N.Y.A. Supervisor **Outlines Work** Entire Program Based on Ef-French Revolution, who hidden in flame. cask was carried aboard a ship and escaped to America. He was The fire was a field day for ama-

(Continued on page three) NOTES OF APPRECIATION

The Bellefonte Fire Department ourg and Pleasant Gap.

The Welfare Committees of the

Howard Man Hit. Unburt

All men in the community are invited to attend. The group will be addressed by Dr. J. W. Claudy, superintendent of the Rockview Peni-Every one is urged to come early. not later than 7:30, as a sauer ed down. His papers were scattered kraut dinner will be served. There and Mr. Lucas being deaf, was con-

SPARKS AND **EMBERS**

as they fell by the wayside

Shortly after outbreak of the fire Supervising Principal E. K. Stock, ley, well known residents of Bellewater-soaked and shivering, asked fonte quietly observed their golden his secretary, Miss Marion Volynch, wedding anniversary at their home if she had rescued his topcoat. She at the corner of High and Thomas replied she had handed it to some- streets on Tuesday, February 7. one in the crowd. Half an hour later the two again met, and Stock snugwrapped in his topcoat remarked "I found my coat, but what did you do with my scarf?"

school believes her three-year-old Ginley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel son may be psychic. At 9 o'clock McGinley, also of this community, he was playing in a room out of view plighted their troth at a geremony of the school building when his mother called him to breakfast. He bride's parents on Willowbank Who were the probable guests at replied: "I can't come now, the house street. The Rev. D. S. Monroe, passis ball 125 years ago?

Is burning down." A few moments tor of the Methodist Episcopal First the managers. Roland Cur- later the mother heard unusual exin, an Irish student for the priest- crement outside and found the roof hood in France at the time of the of the school building bursting into

one of the carliest residents of teur photographers. It seemed that Bellefonte and the father of Gov- every man, woman and child who had access to a camera of any kind John Mitchell was a merchant was on hand to take pictures. There who later became Congressman. Were box cameras, expensive candid Joseph M. Fox was admitted to the cameras, moving picture cameras Centre County Bar and later moved and in fact anything that would take to Clarion county where the town a picture. Most of the rest of the hundreds of spectators regretted that they had negelected to bring their

takes this means of expressing people gathered at the south west was immediately treated at the of-thanks to churches, hotels and res-National Youth Administra- taurants which provided hot coffee came apparent that the corner might and removed to his home. He is reand sandwiches to firemen during collapse. Photo fans stood for a ported to be recovering. Monday's blaze. The department half-hour with lenses trained on the also wishes to acknowledge the val- building, but nothing happened other children when he walked uable services rendered by the fire When all of them had become dis- away, and was first missed about 4 companies of State College, Miles- couraged and moved to other places, o'clock Saturday afternoon. Be-

> Logan and Undine Fire Companies Karl E Kusse, secretary of the burg firemen, Boy Scouts and hereby thank all individuals and Bellefonte Chamber of Commerce friends who joined in the search organizations who provided refresh organizations who provided refresh- showed that his mind was in gear had difficulty in finding his tracks. ments to firemen during the blaze. during the fire by suggesting that the Pennsylvania Railroad could his grandfather, Charles Whitehill, bring a dozen or so passenger cars the child was standing against a William Lucas, while delivering to the local yards, connect them with tree. papers at Howard recently was struck by a car driven by Kenneth Boone. Howard, B. D., and knock-

will be no charge.

Important business is to be transacted and all committees are urged siderably dazed, but otherwise unspected that Mr. Finch expects to acted and all committees are urged intersection of Walnut and Main time after the blaze was discovered. The same firm put Crissman, Milton Johnson, Dr. M. Important business is to be transacted and all committees are urged intersection of Walnut and Main time after the blaze was discovered. The put Crissman, Milton Johnson, Dr. M. Important business is to be transacted and all committees are urged intersection of Walnut and Main time after the blaze was discovered. The put Crissman Milton Johnson, Dr. M. Important business is to be transacted and all committees are urged intersection of Walnut and Main time after the blaze was discovered. (Continued on Page 6)

Local Couple Wedded 50 Years

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. McGinley, Both Bellefonte Natives, Observe Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. A. Lincoln McGin-

So modest was the elder'y couple concerning the important date that even their closest friends were unaware that a half-century has elapsed since Miss Ella Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wil-One woman residing near the liams, of Bellefonte, and A. L. Mcconducted at the home of the church, performed the ceremony. At the time of his marriage Mr (Continued on Page 6)

Wanders From Home; Suffers From Cold

Lewis Whitehill, aged 3 years, son Mr. and Mrs. Walter Whitehill of Near Linden Hall, suffered frozen feet and legs as the result of being lost for nearly four hours near his home Saturday. Harold Leightley and John Gilli-land found the child in the woods

after following his footprints in the As the fire died down hundreds of snow for some distance. The victim The boy had been playing with

cause of the condition of the snow and the boy's light weight, Boals-When found near the home of

Cowher Restaurant Sold Thomas Cowher has sold his res-The speed with which the fire building. West High Street, to

TWO DROWN AS CAR SKIDS AND TOPPLES INTO CREEK

Woman's Club To Replace Coats Lost In Blaze

yesterday announced that the club will replace coats lost in Monday's fire at the high school, in cases where the families cannot replace the lost items.

Students in need of coats are directed to notify either their teachers or Mrs. W. Harrison Walker immediately, and any person having drowned early Saturday night when coats to donate also are asked to get their car slithered out of deep icy in touch with Mrs. Walker at once. ruts on the Spring Creek road. Students whose personal belong- skidded crazily along for a short ings were in their school lockers, distance and plunged upside down are requested to call at the school into four feet of mud and water in between 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. daily to the dam a short distance above open their lockers and recover items what is known as the "Horse Hole," not destroyed by the fire. if they two miles southwest of Bellefonte. haven't already done so. Teachers are on duty to supervise the opening of lockers.

Dr. Corman Buys Weiser Property

At a public sale of the property the Undine Fire Company, Belleof the late E. E. Weiser, of State fonte, and the crew of a wrecking held in Bellefonte and State College, Saturday, six properties were disposed of at a total of \$13,572.99, subject to mortgages against each one. door a short distance, and had

The garage building and lot at the corner of Allegheny and How- of his shoulders through the openard streets, Bellefonte, was purchased by Dr. Paul M. Corman, of feet became entangled in the door. Bellefonte, for \$11,600. The total Kline had partly opened one of the price, which covers a mortgage of \$5,239.10 is \$400 less than Mr. Weiser paid for the lot and the old Andrews residence which stood on the property at the time he acquired it several years ago. Dr. Corman's intentions in regard to the future of the building have not een made known at this time. The Weiser tract adjoins the Richard home which he recently acquired as a residence and office.

Weiser properties at State College were sold as follows, all prices excluding mortgages: Weiser homestead, to Mrs. Weiser, \$2,690.25; house to Edwin Grove. \$1.637.60: house to Sylvain Pirson, \$696.25 house to Harold J. Corl. \$1,040.57; house to Carl Snyder, \$1,147.42.

effects from the experience.

STAPLES NAMED TO

Philadelphia, was announced re-

cently by Secretary of Highways I.

Lamont Hughes. The post pays \$6,-

Mr. Staples, a former district

engineer with offices in Philadel-

phia, was employed by the State

prior to the Earle administration.

He is a Penn State graduate and

the husband of Miss Anna Straub.

Townsend Meeting

There will be a Townsend meet-

ing in the Court House Friday, Feb-

formerly of this place.

House, Feb. 23 Morning and afternoon sessions are scheduled for the 52nd annual Falls Into Icy Water. meeting of the Centre County Rex Gordon, an employe of the School Directors' Association to be West Penn Power Company here held at the Court House on Thurshad an unexpected plunge into the day. February 23. County Superinicy waters of Spring Creek at the tendent of School F. Glenn Rogers McCoy dam north of Bellefonte last announces. Thursday afternoon while he and

On the program, which begins at several fellow employes were ad-justing a splashboard at the dam. 4 p. m. the following speakers are According to reports the lever being to be heard: Dr. Paul L. Cressman used to operate the board slipped and director. Bureau of Instruction, brushed Gordon into the deep water Harrisburg; Ivan Walker, Belleabove the dam. His heavy clothing fonte, president judge of the Centook him under the surface but tre County Courts; Herbert when he managed to rise his fellow workers grabbed him and pulled president of the State School Dihim to safety. He suffered no ill

rectors' Association, and others. Officers of the county organization are: George L. Newman, Miles-(Continued on page three)

\$6,000 HIGHWAY, POST Joe Miller Presides The appointment of N. A. Staples At State Conference of Harrisburg, as engineer of District No. 6, with headquarters at

Joseph B. Miller senior investi-gator at the state department of justice offices on West High street, Bellefonte, substituted for Courtland Butler, Supervisor of Paroles, State Board of Pardons, and presiding officer at the 19th annual conference of the State Parole Association, held at the Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this

Among the speakers at the conference were many of the state's leading judges, attorneys, criminruary 17, at 7:30 p. m. Every one is ologists, and officials of various state penal institutions.

Lewis Wallace Sole Remaining Contractor Who Helped Erect High School Building

High school building reveals Lewis tion were manufactured by ors who were engaged to erect the ed to H. S. Taylor. building. Time has also removed When the building was completed the building committee, whose ef- in 1910 the following faculty and forts were instrumental in bringing teaching staff were the first to ocit to a successful completion. They cupy the new quarters: Jonas Wagwere such well known citizens as D. F. Fortney, Esq., A. C. Mingle, and Auman, principal High school; Miss Homer Crissman. The architect Fila Levy, instructor in history was Robert Cole, who likewise has Irvin O. Noll, mathematics; Moss been dead for a number of years. Rose Fauble, English, and Prof. Erection of the building was Shultz, physics and chemistry. started in 1909 and completed early The teachers were: Bessie Dorin 1910. It was designed at that worth, Helen Crissman, May Taytime to meet a demand similar to lor, Mrs. Daisy Henderson, Jennie working quarters. It replaced the former old stone building that had been in use considerably over a who sponsored the new High school

half century.

Recalling the early history of the | lace and Harry Miller. The light resent fire-ravished Bellefonte Roman brick used in the construc-Wallace, a former resident, now liv- Centre Brick & Clay Co., of Orvising at Akron. Ohio, as the only ton. The contract for installing the survivor of the group of contract- hot air heating system was award-

ner, supervising principal;

which exists today-larger Longacre. Mary Underwood, and

building in 1909 were: President Excavation for the 85 x 150-foot | Henry C. Quigley; secretary, James building was commenced by Lewis Barnhart, treasurer, Ross Parker; Wallace and John L. Knisely early D. F. Fortney, W. C. Heinle, W. H. tions, was awarded to Lewis Wal- Johnson are living today.