

# VOTERS TO CHOOSE NEW OFFICERS

## ELECTION TUESDAY, WILL CLIMAX USUAL CAMPAIGN

Absence of Mud-Slinging Sets Precedent in County Politics

COUNTY HOME CHIEF SUBJECT OF DEBATE

State, Borough and Township Offices Also to Be Filled

As the climax of a political campaign which has been singularly "quiet," Centre county voters will march to the polls next Tuesday, November 7, to elect a new staff of Court House and Jail officials.

Many of the county newspapers, which heretofore indulged in various forms of mud-slinging and muck-making, have adhered strictly to a presentation of fact and opinion in their conduct of the campaign, and as a result, the electorate has not been whetted to a white heat for the kill.

On the other hand, the voters have been well informed as to the capabilities and qualities of the candidates and their platforms. But the more rabid forms of propaganda, which create strong feeling and often cause lifetime injury to the persons involved, have been conspicuous by their absence.

The chief issue raised to date surrounds the conduct of the Commissioners' office, with the axis of sentiment being the new County Home.

Many false statements have been made in defense of the Home, but the real facts are presented in another column of this issue of The Centre Democrat.

The polls will open at 7 a. m. and will close at 8 p. m., as has been the case for several years. Voters are (Continued on page seven)

## Wins Title of Harvest Queen

Poling a total of 12,500 votes in the Bellefonte Elks Harvest Queen contest which closed Monday night, Miss Charlotte Knisely, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Knisely, of East Elhop street, Bellefonte, won the title of Miss Centre county and the \$50 cash award the title carried.

She was crowned Harvest Queen last night at the Halloween celebration which climaxed the contest.

Miss Ethel Houser and Miss Beulah Smith, both of Bellefonte, placed second and third, respectively, and had places of honor on the float in which Miss Knisely rode at the head of the parade last night. They won prizes of \$25 and \$10 offered by the Elks.

Other Harvest Queen contestants who also were awarded prizes for their part in the selection of Miss Centre County were: Hazel Reed, Edna Stine, Betty Chandler, all of Bellefonte, and Margaret Weller, of State College.

## PLAN PEACE SERVICE HERE

Rev. Squire B. Schofield, Williamsport, To Be Guest Speaker

The tenth annual Peace Services of St. John's Episcopal church, Bellefonte, will be held on Sunday, November 5, with the Rev. Squire B. Schofield, of Williamsport, assistant to the chaplain of the A. E. F. in France during the World War, as the speaker.

Invitations have been issued to the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Junior and auxiliary units; Battery E, 166th Field Artillery, P. N. G., and the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

All organizations will meet in front of the Legion Home on East Howard street at 10:30 o'clock Sunday morning, to march in a body to the church. The Legion Band will head the procession. As has been the custom in past years, a section of the church will be reserved for the use of guest organizations.

Annual Peace Services, held the Sunday before Armistice Day, were (Continued on page 6)

## Glenn Miller to Play At Hecla, Nov. 13th

Glenn Miller, who brings his national famous orchestra to Hecla Park, Monday night, November 13, is one of the greatest arrangers of popular music to be found in America. In addition to that, he is known as a trombone artist par excellence, one who needs take a back seat to no other.

It was a combination of his two outstanding talents that is responsible for the birth of "Moonlight Serenade," one of the most popular among the current new hits.

Glenn wrote it first as a trombone exercise and purposely made it a difficult one. The boys in the band liked the melody so well that they persuaded him to adopt it for a broadcast theme song. It caught on immediately and hundreds of (Continued on page 6)

## Roy Wilkinson, Jr. Gets \$3000 State Job

According to reports from Harrisburg, two more Centre countyans have been named to State jobs.

Roy Wilkinson, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wilkinson, of North Spring street, Bellefonte, was named court officer of the State Supreme Court at a salary of \$3,000 a year. Wilkinson's brother, Robert, recently received an appointment in the State insurance department.

H. S. Kanour, of Phillipsburg, has been named as an adjuster in the labor and industry department at \$1,020 a year.

## LOCAL YOUTH KILLED WHEN AUTO UPSETS

Alfred Mader, 17, Fatally Injured On Centre Hall Mountain

LOSES CONTROL IN BACKING DOWN HILL

Companion Escapes Injury; Funeral For Victim, Yesterday

Backing his Ford roadster down the Centre Hall mountain road to converse with some pedestrians he had passed, Alfred Mader, aged 17, of Blanchard street, Bellefonte, was fatally injured about 12:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon when the machine went out of control, overturned and pinned him in the wreckage.

He died at 2:10 o'clock the same afternoon in the Centre County Hospital, death being attributed to a broken neck and internal injuries.

State Motor Police from Pleasant Gap sub-station, who investigated the accident reported that Mader had stopped his car near the Bliger cabins a short distance north of the crest of the mountain, and that he began backing down the grade to talk with a group of people who were walking along the road.

The car gained momentum, swerved and upset, pinning the youth underneath. A companion, Harrison Tressler, of Bellefonte, R. D. 1, who was also in the car, escaped uninjured.

Mader was brought to the hospital by Private J. M. Amick, of the Pleasant Gap detail State Motor (Continued on page 6)

## Local Couple Hurt In Crash

John K. Hoy, 21, in Serious Condition After Car Leaves Road, Overturns

John K. Hoy, aged 21, of 122 East High street, Bellefonte, is in serious condition at the Centre County Hospital as the result of injuries he received early Sunday morning when his car overturned on the Jacksonville road about 6 miles east of Jacksonville, on the Clinton county end of that highway.

Miss Virginia Thomas, of 148 North Thomas street, Bellefonte, Hoy's companion at the time, suffered scalp lacerations and bruises. She received treatment at the local hospital.

Hoy is reported to be suffering from lacerations of the face, involving a serious injury to the right eye; a possible concussion of the brain, and injuries about the hip and back.

According to State Motor Police at Pleasant Gap who investigated the accident, Hoy and Miss Thomas were motoring toward Bellefonte about 12:25 o'clock Sunday morning when the car, a Ford roadster, left the road and overturned, skidding along on its top before coming to rest.

Hoy was brought to the hospital by Gerald Sunday, of Bishop street, Bellefonte, while Miss Thomas was brought here by W. T. Gates, of Howard. The Hoy car was damaged to the extent of about \$75. Private Hancock, of the Pleasant Gap sub-station, was in charge of the investigation into the mishap.

## Penalty Period On Local Taxes Extended

Announcement was made yesterday that the tax rebate period for Bellefonte Borough taxpayers has been extended from November 1 to December 1.

Under the extension, the 5 per cent penalty on Bellefonte Borough taxes will not become effective until December 1.

## PASSMORE HEADS CENTRE COUNTY SCHOOL CONTESTS

W. H. Passmore, high school principal at State College, has been re-appointed director of speech and music contests in Centre county for the season of 1940, according to an announcement from the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Passmore has been Centre county director since 1934.

The Centre county program is a part of the state-wide organization known as the Pennsylvania Forensic and Music League, now in its thirteenth season, and sponsored by the Extension Division of the University of Pittsburgh.

## The FACTS About The County Home

So far in this campaign for county offices, the Centre Democrat has refrained from the usual forms of political exploitation. We had hoped that the campaign would remain free of the bitterness, the heart-ache, and the misstatements that commonly characterize local political battles.

In a measure our efforts have been successful, and most of the mud-slinging, at least, has been eliminated. But it remained for other agencies in the county to invite—yes demand—criticism through the publishing of large advertisements, which while free of personalities and the usual objectionable material, are doubly insidious because they set forth as facts information which is misleading to the county's voters.

Bearing in mind our decision not to engage in any form of mud-slinging, we nevertheless, on the eve of election, take issue with many of the statements widely published last week in advertisements entitled: "The Facts About the County Home."

Those advertisements were signed by two members of the present board of Commissioners. The third member of the Board, who did not sign the advertisement, is the only one running for re-election. Why he didn't sign the statement is not known to us.

The advertisements were published in question-and-answer form, and for the sake of keeping the issue clear, we'll answer in like manner.

Q.—What is the amount of the new County debt created by the present Board of Commissioners?

A.—\$127,000.

Q.—Who will have to pay this debt?

A.—The taxpayers of Centre County.

Q.—Who has charge of the County Institution District?

A.—The Centre County Commissioners.

Q.—Doesn't the Department of Welfare have charge of the County Institution District?

A.—Not if the proper persons are elected as Commissioners.

Q.—What does the Department of Welfare pay to the County Institution District?

A.—Not a cent.

Q.—How has the County Institution District been operated during the past two years?

A.—Without the County Home, and by use of the Bellefonte Borough Home and the Rush Township Home.

Q.—Did Clinton County build a new Home?

A.—No. The Commissioners purchased a tract of land with that intention, but further action was held up by an injunction. In the meanwhile, a county election took place. The old Board of Commissioners was voted out of office and the incoming Board conducted an investigation, and found that a new home was not necessary. The Commissioners secured the Lock Haven City Home and found it ample to the needs of the Institution District.

Q.—Doesn't the Department of Welfare run the Clinton County Commissioners?

A.—Evidently not.

Q.—Couldn't the Centre County Commissioners have purchased the present Bellefonte Borough Home which they have been using for the last two years?

A.—Yes, for about \$5,000.

Q.—Is it true that some persons needing care have been maintained in private homes in the communities where they resided?

A.—Yes. These persons seem to be happier in their home environment and those who are paid to take care of them are aided by the receipt of the money.

Q.—Is there any responsibility on the County Commissioners to look after these unfortunate people?

A.—Yes, by providing a comfortable habitation and proper care. Luxurious surroundings are neither required, necessary, nor desirable.

Q.—Will the payment of the debt be the only expense the taxpayers will have?

A.—No. The large building must be maintained and there will have to be janitors, firemen, nurses, cooks, a dietitian, matron, superintendent and a physician. In addition, the interest on the debt will have to be met, and fuel, power and light must be provided.

Q.—Will the County furnish food and clothing?

A.—Yes, but this would be a necessary expenditure regardless of whether or not there was a County Home.

Q.—Have we had all these jobs during the past two years?

A.—No. The total expense of running the Bellefonte Borough Home was \$1,299.08, insofar as wages were concerned for 1938.

Q.—How much was spent in 1938 for the care of such persons, exclusive of children's maintenance, appropriations, burial expenses and non-county institutions?

A.—\$17,532.49.

Q.—That is less than the annual payments on principal and interest for the new Home will be, isn't it?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Then if the County Home had not been built, and the present system had been continued, the money which must be spent to pay on the principal and interest for the new Home, would have taken care of those who are entitled to care?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Then there would have been no payment of principal and interest on the County Home debt?

A.—No.

Q.—And there would have been no need to have carried a new debt for \$127,000?

A.—No.

Q.—Will insane persons be kept at the County Home?

A.—If they are it will require guards, which will mean more expense.

Q.—What was the cost of administering the Centre County Institution District in 1938?

A.—More than 12 per cent of all expenditures of the District.

Q.—Aren't the taxpayers interested in an efficient administration of the affairs of the County and the Institution District?

A.—They should be. They have to pay the bills.

Q.—How can the county taxpayers obtain an efficient administration?

A.—By placing in office men who will honestly strive to give an efficient administration, and by removing from office those who have shown disregard for the interests of the taxpayers.

## OWENS APPLIANCE STORE TO BE REOPENED, SATURDAY

The Owens Appliance Store, owned by Ralph K. Owens, which has been in temporary quarters in the Farmers National Bank building, West High street, moved early this week into its new home on South Allegheny street, just north of the Bellefonte Hardware Company store.

The appliance store will occupy the entire first floor of the modern brick building which has been erected by Mrs. E. R. Owens to replace an ancient frame structure which stood on the site. The store is to be formally opened to the public this Saturday.

The upper two floors of the building provide space for four modern apartments, two on each floor. The apartments contain two bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen and bath, and in addition to the front entrance from Allegheny street, there is a fireproof stairway at the rear to provide exit in emergencies.

Judge Smith Here

Judge Wallace Smith, of Clearfield county, presided over a session of court held here Tuesday. The cases heard were special to Centre county Judge Ivan Walker.

## MANY VISIT LIBRARY ON OPENING DAY

Children's Department Is Swamped by Enthusiastic Readers

COUNTY PROGRAM GETS UNDER WAY

Extra Reading Room Provided; Miss May Taylor Gets First Book

Wind and rain failed to dampen the interest with which over two hundred adults and children visited the new Centre County Library and Historical Corporation on Wednesday and Saturday of last week when its doors were opened for the first time for the circulation of books to residents of Centre county.

This history-making event places Centre county among the pioneers in county library service, since less than 10 per cent of the counties of the United States have this service, and in Pennsylvania only 14 counties out of 67.

To date the county library has registered 158 borrowers, and loaned 342 books to two branches and to individual borrowers in 10 different communities throughout the county. Mrs. Robert M. Beach was the first registrant and Miss May Taylor drew the first book. The first book collection was taken by Miss Rhoda Rogers, teacher at Forest school, Walker township, who said that the books were exactly suited to her curriculum.

The children who visited the library were most enthusiastic, and are to be commended upon the quiet and orderly way in which they selected their books in spite of the fact that on Wednesday no tables or chairs were available for the children's section. The youngest children sat on the floor and were so oblivious to the passing of time that three worried parents had to come out in the rain after 6 o'clock to (Continued on page 6)

## Rev. Paullin to Be C. E. Speaker

Noted Religious Leader Will Address Convention Saturday

Rev. Norman Paullin (above), well known conference leader and minister, will be the Saturday night speaker at the 47th annual Centre County Christian Endeavor convention which meets this Friday and Saturday, November 3 and 4, at Bellefonte Evangelical church.

In 1937 he accepted the call to the Riverside Baptist church in Camden, N. J., of which he is pastor at the present time. He is a graduate of the Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary of Philadelphia. From 1928 to 1929 he served as pastor of the (Continued on page 7)

## County Men Opening Clay Bank in Barrens

Robert S. Walker, of Bellefonte, and Russell Blair, of State College, are engaged in opening up a clay bank in the Barrens, not far from the Bellefonte Central Railroad right-of-way. The bank is being opened with the aid of a steam shovel, and some shipments of clay have been made.

The area is reported to be rich in fire-clay deposits, and the opening of the bank has been contemplated for some time by Mr. Walker and Mr. Blair.

## Howard Man Injured When 'Cycle Crashes

John Miller, aged 22, of Howard, R. D. 1, underwent treatment at the Centre County Hospital here Sunday, for injuries suffered late that afternoon when his motorcycle wrecked.

Miller received a fractured tibia and numerous minor lacerations and bruises, and was discharged from the hospital after his injuries were treated.

## Cars Collide at College

Slippery streets were blamed for an auto accident at 1 o'clock Friday afternoon at the corner of East College avenue and McAllister street, State College, when cars operated by P. G. VanTries, of State College, and D. Swoope, of Myerstown, collided. Damage was estimated at approximately \$85.

## Bellefonte Man Held ON STATUTORY CHARGE

Honace Shope, aged 22, of Thomas Street, Bellefonte, was held without bail for court after a hearing before Justice of the Peace G. Earle Hoffer, at his office in Crider's Exchange, Monday morning.

Shope was charged with being the father of a child born to a Bellefonte girl whose 16th birthday occurred the day before the hearing.

## KEROSENE EXPLOSION IS FATAL TO FATHER AND SON

Local Group Attends Bridge Dedication

Five prominent Bellefonte men made up an official delegation from Bellefonte at the dedication ceremonies for the new state highway bridge over the Susquehanna river at Lock Haven, Monday afternoon. The delegation consisted of Mayor Hardman P. Harris; A. L. Francis, president of the Chamber of Commerce; Karl E. Knuse, Chamber secretary; Thomas B. Beaver, president of Borough Council, and W. J. Emerick, Council member.

Prominent officials from the State government and Highway Department were present for the occasion. The ceremony was a feature of the fourth day of the five-day Clinton County Centennial Celebration.

The common practice of hastening a fire with kerosene brought death to a Centre county father and his son, Sunday, when Willard E. Baer, 38-year-old WPA worker and his 18-month-old son, Willard E. Jr., were fatally burned at their home near the George's Valley church, south of Spring Mills.

The two other members of the family, Mrs. Baer and an elder son, Charles A., escaped from the inferno created in the small home when Mr. Baer used kerosene to prime the fire in a room stove, about 9:30 o'clock Sunday morning.

Mr. Baer died at the Centre County Hospital at 1:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon, one-half hour after his son succumbed at the same institution.

According to reports from the area all members of the family were in the room when gas generated by the kerosene on the hot coals exploded, showering the room with liquid flame. The parents and the older son dashed out of the room, and Mr. and Mrs. Baer then returned to get their infant son.

Mrs. Baer reached the little boy and carried him outside. Meanwhile not knowing that his wife had found the tot, Mr. Baer searched vainly in the smoke-and-fire-filled room, (Continued on page six)

## AD RESTORES VAGABOND TO FORMER HOME

There was a story behind a "Found" advertisement appearing in the classified advertisements of The Centre Democrat last week.

Here was the Ad: "Found: A gray female dog, color brown and white. Owner can have by calling any home in Moshannon, Pa."

When Mr. and Mrs. G. Earle Hoffer and family moved from an apartment on East High Street to a house on West High Street some months ago, they found that it was impractical to keep the family pet dog, "Skipper." So about a month ago they gave the aged pet to a woman residing in Clarence.

The dog had a good home, but apparently longed for its old haunts (Continued on page seven)

## Season Opens For Small Game

Several Hunters Get Turkeys, Many Bag Rabbits First Day

Clear skies and crisp cool weather greeted hunters on the opening of the small game season yesterday morning, but in the afternoon heavy clouds threatening rain or snow appeared to give Nibrod's variety in weather conditions.

Yesterday afternoon most local hunters had not returned from the woods and fields and only a few reports were obtained. A number of turkeys were bagged, while rabbits were reported to be quite plentiful. Only a few ringnecks were taken.

Come Warden Thomas Mosier shot a 10-pound turkey gobbler yesterday morning; Boyd Atkey, of Burnside street, out hunting for the first time in his life, brought home a turkey; 3 turkeys were killed by Holter's Crossing, Bald Eagle Valley, while a party of Lock Haven men hunting in the same area got a number of rabbits.

Among other game reports are the following: Chief of Police Harry Dukeman, 4 rabbits; T. N. McAlarney, 4 rabbits; Walter Eberhart, 1 rabbit; Russell Witmer, 4 rabbits; Paul Miller, 4 rabbits.

D. S. Cryder, of State College, got an 11-pound turkey while hunting in Stone Valley.

## Republican Chairman Gets \$4,200 State Job

Ray S. Melroy, of Pleasant Gap, Centre County Republican chairman and proprietor of an electrical store at Pleasant Gap, last week was appointed to a state position carrying a salary of \$4,200 annually.

Mr. Melroy was named to the post of expert reader in the bureau of bonds and insurance, Department of Property and Supplies. The appointment became effective as of October 16.

## Hallow'en Parade Held Here Last Night

The Elks Hallow'en parade, originally scheduled to have been held Tuesday night, was postponed, early Tuesday, because of rain.

## Blast Results As Man Attempts to Prime Fire In Stove

BOTH VICTIMS DIE IN LOCAL HOSPITAL

Mother and Another Son Escape as Home Burns To Ground

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## Your Auto Tickets Void? 3 Months of Grace Is Left

Although the back of the inspection sticker on your automobile windshield says it's no good after October 31 you still have three months to get a new one.

The new inspection period opens tomorrow. That's really all the Department of Revenue meant, but somebody blundered. Anyway, you have until January 31 to get a new sticker.