Odd and Curious News

Teller's Face Red

souri, bank is in the dog house be cause he misunderstood. Recently a member of the Ladies' Aid Society came into the bank to deposit some of the society's funds. She remarked to the teller that she was "depositing some 'aid money.' " The teller understood her to say "egg money," and said: "Remarkable isn't it. how well the old hens are doing these days?" He couldn't understand why it was the woman grabbed up her pass book and hurried out of the bank.

Scared To Death

Doctors said that Raymond Soulkoup, 26-year-old farmer, of Fulton, Mo., was literally scared to death when, while working at night in his cornfield because of the day's excessive heat, two boys in white garb, moaning weirdly, leaped toward him from a nearby cemetery. Soulkoup, too frightened to move, was found several hours later by his parents, in a hysterical condition. He died several weeks later in an asylum from maniacal exhaustion resulting from an unusually severe mental disturb-

Plays Santa Claus

Uncle Sam is playing Santa Claus to the world now, shipping more toys from his country since the World War than either Germany or Japan. During the first 8 months of this year, \$1.892,140 worth of toys were exported from this country, or 17 per cent more than during the corresponding period of 1938.

Jinx Follows Anyway

Rather than begin their journey to California on Friday, the 13th. Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Males and their small daughter, of Dallas, Texas, deferred their departure until after midnight. At 2:30 a.m., on the 14th Males, 24, was killed, the victim of an automobile accident.

A Coincidence

Two automobiles collided at Richmond. Ind., recently. The driver of one was Oliver Morton, of Dublin, and the driver of the other Sill, Okla. They were not related and had never met before

Streets of Gold

An engineer, to satisfy his own curiosity, took a sample of the material the streets of Orange, Cal. are paved with and had it assayed The report showed that it

Fire Burns 150 Years

flint 150 years ago, the "Morris family fire" still burns at Saluda, N. C. and is now tended by Bill Morris

Big Potato Crup.

J. L. Reitz, of Lewisburg R. D. is completing harvesting potatoes on his two farms, a total of 35 acres. the yield being approximately 87,-500 bushels. The yield is slightly below that of last year, due chiefly to the dry Summer. The grading of the potatoes and the placing of them in sacks will occupy most or the Winter. They will be marketed as fast as the grading is completed.

November Milk Prices. E. M. Harmon, market administrator for this area, has announced the flolowing milk prices to be effeetive during the month of No-

Class 11-A......\$1.90

The soothsayers are already pre- 300 jars of canned fruit and wegedicting who will win the election in tables and Mr. McCauley's com-

SECOND SECTION

The Centre Democrat

NEWS,

VOLUME 58.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1939.

NUMBER 44.

MAN SHOT AS BARN PROWLER BY BLAIR COUNTY FARMER

Victim Riddled With Shot As He Scuffled With Aged Owner of Farm - Defendant Claimed He Feared Robbers

more than 30 years.

investigators.

Benton was known to Ventre

"for a long time." Admitting that

he had never had any trouble with

the young man Ventre said be had

farmer having a narrow escape from

ed by numerous large and small

cent to the Allegheny Mountains,

and known to geologists as the lime-

imestone and silica rock.

Seek Locale Old

or Mifflin

numerous underground streams ance.

That Centre county is undermin- with them.

who have studied the formation of the earth crumbled beneath his feet.

the earth in this section of the State. It has been demonstrated it was just about sundown when the accident occurred Gilbert being on

stone range, are literally honey- spurred Gilbert to action and realiz-

combed with holes and caverns of ing that what could be done must be

James Irvin Benton, 26, of East; notified State Police by telephone Sixth Avenue, Altoona, was shot to that he had shot a man death early Friday morning in a Benton's lifeless body, the chest scuffle with Frank Ventre, his 74- punctured by the charge of shot, year-old neighbor, in whose barn was lying about four feet from the he was found prowling. Ventre barn door when the State patrolwill be held on a charge of homi- man arrived. The young prowler,

Police reports that Benton was ers, shirt and sweater, fell in his shot when he grabbed the muzzle of tracks after being shot. Ventre's gun while crawling out of the barn door on his hands and been robbed of 40 chickens Mon-Ventre declared he became excited in the scuffle and himself against burglars, he said pulled the trigger before he realized what he had done Following the shooting, the old

farmer examined the body and then

Court Upholds Board's Action

Dismissal of Lock Haven Teacher Affirmed by Judge Ivan Walker

The dismissal of Mrs. Rose Flynn Education was upheld last week by the Clinton County Court, the opinbeing written by Judge Ivan Walker, of Centre county, specially about 2 o'clock Friday morning and ies in need of assistance. presiding in the case. The opinion of the court was based only on the grounds of incompetency; the charge of immorality was not considered.

The opinion which was reached after three months following the trial, was filed in the Clinton county Prothonotary's office.

In brief the decision read

"After listening to the testimony Mrs. Oliver Morton, of Fort and rereading the same," the court's being buried alive, when he and his opinion states, "the court is of the team were dropped into a fifteen opinion that in the consideration of foot cave-in on his farm, recalls in a low lying field, when the earth | Cautiously the men at the wind- or extent of which could not be asthe testimony in the light of the similar occurrences that have taken suddenly gave way and the team lass lowered the farmer into the certained but which probably led charge of immorality, that there is place in Centre county. no evidence in the case to support (Continued on Page Eight)

assayed 6 Left Homeless In Clinton Co. Fire time and again that the entire scope of valleys just west and adjacent to the Allegheny Mountains.

Started by a spark from steel and Clinton County Family Lose All Furniture and Clothing

> home of Mr. and Mrs. Miles Mc-Cauley and their four children, was burned Tuesday afternoon at Sugar Run, Clinton County, while Mr. McCauley was husking corn on a neighboring farm and the mother of the four tots was getting water from a spring a hundred yards from the house.

> As she paused to talk to Mrs. Lester Summerson, on whose farm the spring is, she saw her home a flames and rushing to the burning building, saw the three children, Edith. 5, Glenn. 4, and Dick, 3, in the yard. An older child, Doris was in school.

There was no insurance and the fire swept the tiny building before help could be called burning everything but the clothing the family were wearing. Their loss included pensation check.

Farmers In A.A.A. Farm Program Improve 13,975 Acres In County from Warren, Ohio, officials about glasses, paid for out of Associated

which are designed to keep produc-tion in line with needs. In addition, (Continued on page eight)

The Centre county farmers who for this year for the first time 257 who turned up at the jail there al Conservation Program improved received wheat price adjustment sought bandit, District Attorney H. 13.973 acres of farm land in the (parity) payments to the amount of O. Lantz said: county by carrying out soil-building \$9,311. These parity payments on "We're not sure how close to the practices under the program, ac- wheat are made through a special county line the robbery occurred We during the Grange encampment at cording to a report on the results of Act of Congress, in an effort to give have a man checking that now." the 1938 program just announced by the farmer a price for his wheat! Sheriff Ray Hardman had report-

For their work in connection with the results of the 1938 program show and a companion he identified only ing satisfactorily. the program these 565 county farm- that real progress has been made as "Tom," got \$750 in silver in the ers have received conservation pay- toward permanent agricultural con- 1909 hold-up of a Pennsylvania tion during August and, although ments amounting to \$40,090. This servation and pointed out that the Railroad train in the "Lewistown no regular nurse was provided to money was earned through carrying use of similar soil-building prac- Narrows," where the Juniata River, take her place, emergency calls were out soil-building practices and com- tices continue to be the backbone of a highway and the raftroad creep plying with acreage allotments the program for this year as well as between the mountains.

State College Water Supply Inadequate

State College, last week appointed a at a rate of \$19.70 for the first 600,committee of citizens to investigate 1000 gallons and 6 cents for each 1000 gallons over that. a serious water shortage in that borough, declaring that the water committee are: Joseph C. Shoemaksituation has reached an acute stage, er. chairman; Isaac Egolf, Forest not only as to the amount of water. Struble, H. N. Worthley, H. A. Leitbut also to the quality of the same. zell, B. V. Moore and P. B. Brene-He added that conditions have man. reached the point where the borough water is not fit to drink.

Burgess Leitzell made three suggestions, as follows: to drill a new prove Shingletown reservoir and noted home economics. One of plea was entered the court learned well at Shingletown Gap; to imwater shed, and to investigate wells at Scotia as a probable new source

For the past two weeks the Borough Water Supply has been bol-

Burgess Wilbur F. Leitzell, of from the Penn State College wells,

big meal for the Festive Day by ted following his arrest. When his many features in the November 12th that he had passed four checks toissue of The American Weekly, 61s- taling \$45, drawn on the Bellefonte tributed with the Baltimore Sunday Trust Company, in Lock Haven. American. On sale t all news- District Attorney Burritt L. Haag

pointed out that Robinson, a form-



TO EXPAND NYA PROGRAM

CENTRE'S CAVERNOUS PITFALLS

Subterranean Caverns in County

caverns is the opinion of geologists fate by hastily jumping back just as and there on the wide ledge of rock covering of earth and rock could not who have studied the formation of

various size and depth. This condi- done quickly, he at once went for strength to raise the horses out of hole in this case was only about

tion, say those in authority in such help and soon had a half dozen or the hole took until morning, and it fifteen feet in depth and the animal

washing away the soft calcareous Owing to the continual crumbling ently little the worse for the adven- Gilbert accident, G. B. Campbell, of

One of the most thrilling incidents unsafe to approach near it, and the After his team had been rescued escape. He was engaged in plowing

little more than fifty years ago on to descend for an investigation was it to be a cavern about twenty feet gave way and one of his team of

occasioned by a cave-in took place rigging up of a windlass by which Gilbert explored the hole and found fallows, when the ground suddenly

matters, has been occasioned by the more neighbors come to his assist- was 9 o'clock the next day when was easily rescued.

the plow

however, known of Benton's police Benton's sister, Miss Marion Ben- istration program in Pennsylvania Beliefonte. The new Centre county. returned to the Benton home after Youth Administrator.

midnight and You lay down on the Mr. Cowing said that applications nation. Mr. Cowing pointed out that Schwer by the Lock Haven Board of floor and Iell axleep she related to for work can be filed immediately expansion of the program was also at any of the county NYA offices, due to utilization of community re-Despite his sister's efforts to stop Preference will be given youth from sources through generous cooperahim Benton prepared to leave home relief and low income group famil- tion of local groups

should apply to Mr. W. I. Scott. (Continued on page eight)

The recent account of an Iowa Strange Occurrences That Lead to Belief in Numerous

The neigh of one of the horses

of the ground near the hole, it was ture.

Within the next few weeks expan- County Supervisor, National Youth sion of the National Youth Admin- Administration, Logan Fire Hall, ton, was said to have told police—will make possible part-time employment for 5,000 additional young with only 59 under the former quota. Itimp body strapped in the chair, still You of Ashville, had been drinking all day Thursday. She also told of 18 and 25, it was announced to—the state's share in the 1939-1940 Wilson to throw the switch again. police that her brother and You day by Walter S. Cowing, State Congressional appropriation of 190 After the third contact, the doctor million dollars for NYA work in the

A large proportion of the boys on a short time later was shot to death | Applicants living in this section the part-time work program will be

Gilbert narrowly escaped the same but a little over twenty-five feet, and stone found in the hole, the

NEW EXECUTIONER CHANGES METHOD IN DEALING DEATH

Three Separate and Distinct Contacts Used For Each of Two Condemned Men Who Died In Electric Chair

Frank Lee Wilson, Pennsylvania's were "efficient." Wilson received new executioner, changed his meth- \$350 for the work. od of execution in putting two Phil- Ashe recalled that the former exeadelphia negroes to death in the cutioner, the late Robert Elliott, State electric chair at Rockview used three separate contacts but the prison early Monday morning.

The men were Edward Golden, 20, last was completed. and Walter Tankard, 32, convicted of fatally beating a Philadelphia warehouse employe in a \$26 hold-

Wilson, in performing his first cal executions a week ago, used one 2,000-volt current. This week, in each case, he used "three separate and distinct contacts," which although a distinct change, is not a new method, according to Warden Stanley P. Ashe, of the Western Penitentiary.

Third Contact Needed

After each of the first two conofficially pronounced the men dead.

Golden was dead 5½ minutes after entering the death chamber, and Tankard 61/2 minutes after entering. Witnesses said Golden seemed "badly scared" going to the chair while Tankard was calm.

and this had been farmed over for

red about seven miles east of Belle

fonte, when the horse of a farmer

Ferguson township, had a narrow

twenty-five years previously.

as deep as at first supposed, being ern. From the small amount of earth

was found the team of horses and have been more than two feet thick

to one side. Both animals were alive, though considerably cut up and though considerably cut up and pred about seven miles east of Belle.

To rig up a derrick of sufficient near Zion sank out of sight.

both animals were taken out appar- Similarly, a short time before the

body was not examined until the

Cool and Methodical Witnesses said Wilson, 37-year-old Pittsburgh electrical engineer and father of two, was cool and methodi-

His first contact lasted about two long, continuous" contact of the minutes, the second and third several seconds each. Once, Dr. W. J. Schwartz after examining one of the men with a

> Freight In Wild Flight Down Hill

(Continued on Last Page)

Wrecked

thundered backwards down a twolast Thursday and crashed into two

locomotives that had "pusher" stopped at the bottom to get water. A caboose and seven freight cars including two cars containing approximately 200 hogs, were splintered by the impact and the two "pusher" engines were badly damaged as five freight cars piled on

top of them The bottom also was a solid bed of The crews of the "pusher" enstone, and at one side was a narrow gines heard the train roaring down shaft or opening leading off in a upon them and leaped to safety. westerly direction, the full length Workmen in the caboose had dropped off at the water tank and intended to ride up the hill with the sank out of sight, dragging the plow hole, but to his surprise it was rfot into another similar hole or cav-

Six Men Arrested

None of the other trainmen was

Fined \$25 and Costs For Carrying Uncovered High-Powered Rifle

covered high-powered Afle in their car, six men were arrested near Beech Creek last Thursday night and later were fined \$25 and costs each by Alderman T. Mark Brungard at a hearing held in Lock Haven.

The group included: LeRoy and Glenn V. Dunlap and George L. Heimer, Beech Creek R. D.; Melvin Love, Monument; George E. Connelly, Fleming, Centre county, and E. S. Sullenberger, Mill Hall. It is against the law to have an incovered rifle in an automobile except one day prior to the hunting season and two days after the

Picking Skin Eruption Fatal. blamed for the death of Hershel Rupp, Hyde City, formerly of South Philipsburg, who died early Saturday morning at the Clearfield Memorial hospital, where he had been a patient for six days. The former Southy resident was born in South Philipsburg 25 years ago. He is a son of Mrs Martha Rupp and the late John Rupp. He moved from South Philipsburg with his family ten years ago.

Tibet's New Baby God A revealing article teiling of the five-year search for the reincarnatof Dalai Lama that has ended a the door of a poor liftle boy. Don't miss this mysterious story of the east in the November 12th issue of The American Weekly, distributed with the Baltimore Sunday American. On sale at all newsstands.

Student Injured at Sunbury. Richard Wolfe, IE, was hadly cut and bruised, when struck Saturday afternoon by the Pennsylvania fore Justice of the Peace Hancock, Railroad special train, at Sunbury, at Philipsburg. The youth was taking the John Harris High School held on charges of stealing a pock- fans to Harrisburg, after they had etbook from beneath the pillow of a seen their team defeated by Williamsport High.

Random Items

Game Warden David Dahlgreen,

of Philipsburg, was cast in the role of life saver in a one-act drama enacted near Bellefonte last Thursday evening. Dave was driving along the "back" road from the Mayer Mill to Bellefonte when, near the old Beezer slaughterhouse he saw a man holding desperately to the tail of a cow which had fallen and which was in imminent danger of rolling down an embankment. While cows are not specifically mentioned as game in the State laws, Dahlgreen felt that the case merited investigation, and he soon learned that the animal, tethered on the end of a chain, had attempted to leap over a barbed wire fence. The leap failed and the chain became entangled in the fence. The cow began to roll down the bank, and the chain tightened around its neck, threatening to cause strangulation. As long as the held the cow's couldn't release the pressure on the chain. If he let go, the cow would have rolled down and might have broken her neck. So it was only natural that the cow rolled benigh eyes in Dave's direction when he arrived on the scene. The trusty Game Warden didn't fail in the emergency and the half-strangled animal was soon back in the pas-

A WISE SELECTION: The Centre County Library As-

sociation was most fortunate in securing Mrs. Carl Ifverson to manage the institution. Whether you're looking for the latest volume about The Rover Boys, or an ancient tome on North African civilization. With its locomotive whistles you'll find her immediately intershricking a warning, a runaway ested and eager to help. In fact, if Pennsylvania Railroad freight train you wander into the library with thundered backwards down a two-nothing but the thought that you mile stretch on a steep Kane Hill ought to read a book, you'll find that a five-minute conversation with Mrs. Ifverson gives you the feeling that you'd like to truck away the entire stock of books on the shelves and retire to some hut to read the bunch in one sitting. With such a person in charge, this department predicts that of every hundred persons who enter the library building for any reason, 90 of them will develop into confirmed bookworms.

A BIT LATE:

Reports have it that the Centre County Commissioners last week visited the Lycoming County Home. in Williamsport, to enquire as to the cost of operating county homes. In view of the lact that the Centre County home is now built and nearly ready for occupancy, it seems that the Commissioners' probe of For Gun Violation probable costs at this time is a mite late. An ordinary-run-of-themine businessman would have known the cost of operation to the cent long before a shovelful of earth had been turned.

WHO'S MOST DESERVING?

Charles Lee, candidate for Treasurer, is a farmer. He has always earned his living by hard work. His opponent, Harry Jones, undoubtedly also is a hard worker, but his responsible position with the Penn-sylvania Railroad makes running for office a mere hobby-not the necessity it is for Charlie Lee.

SPEAK UP, BALSER! We never thought we'd see the

day when County Commissioner Balser Weber would turn out to be a shrinking violet in the field of Centre County politics. Yet it seems that Balser really has become coy and bashful, for he didn't sign that large advertisement about the County Home, published by the County Commissioners in many county newspapers last week. Surely Balser approves of the County Infection, caused by picking a Home! Then why didn't he sign skin eruption on his chin, was the statement?

> While the Democratic press up to this time has contented itself with a few off-tackle plays against the Commissioners in regard to the new County Home, the Commissioners have brought into play their

WHAT'S THE MATTER, BOYS?

most powerful long-range guns They are going to great lengths to justify the erection of the County Home. We're dropping, for the time being. The right or wrong angles of building that gorgeous institution, and are merely considering the Commissioners' actions much as a biologist would study a squirming fly pinned under the microscope. It seems that their defense is too strong, too desperate for the occasion. It almost seems that the Commissioners might inwardly feel that they've made a great mistake and are building up a smoke screen of defense to justify their acts to the taxpayers and to themselves. ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER:

County Treasurer Raymond N

Brooks, who is seeking election as County Register, had a piece in the (Continued on Last Page)

By POP MOMAND

'KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES' - Dolan's Sleuthing (Continued)







sisted of \$100, mostly in pennies, and more than \$5000 in gold bullion, (Continued on page eight)

Members of the investigating

Make Your Thanksgiving Dinner months in the county jail, his imprisonment to be computed from

ough Water Supply has been bol-stered by large purchases of water. The Centre Democrat \$1.50 a year. he was indulging in a "spree."

a farm in Poe Valley in the extreme slow as well as perilous work. In across by fifteen feet wide. There horses sank out of sight. In this case astern end of the county. On the day in question John Gilthe job was done and Gilbert ready rock on all sides as straight as if was found dead on a bed of rocks bert was plowing ground for corn to descend.

Train Hold-up Officials Debate Whether Crime Occurred in Juniata

Mifflin county officials dug thirty years into the past this week in an effort to find out whether a moviestyle train robbery occurred in their jurisdiction or across the line in the ing infant, school and adult; 4 social service; 7 office visits. hill country of neighboring Juniata Five school children had eye ex-

the belated "confession" of a man Charities fund, which fund is obparticipated in the 1938 Agricultur- wheat farmers of the county have with a tale that he was the long-

the Centre County Agricultural Con-more nearly in line with the price ed in the Ohio town that William of sick has been organized at Un-ment. Smith. 50, alias Charles O. Edwards, ionville with a group of married The committee emphasized that of Orrville, Ohio, related that he and single women, and is progress-

> Find Stolen Gold Newspaper accounts at the time made no reference to a second bandit, but agreed that the loot con-

Sentenced at Lock Haven D. E. Robinson, formerly of filesburg, who had entered pleas of guilty in four charges of passing fraudulent checks at Lock Haven, was ordered by the Clinton County court on Friday to pay the costs and \$1 fine and to serve four Timely hints for preparing the July 28, when he was first commit

ANNUAL RED CROSS DRIVE TO BEGIN NOVEMBER 11th

The third quarterly report of the ey collected during the annual Roll car-around services of Bellefonte Call. At no other time in the year Chapter, American Red Cross, is is any plea made to the public for Rimmey, as follows:

188 bedside-nursing and maternity; 9 pre-natal; 50 health visits, includ-

tained from the community chest committee Assisted the State College Red Cross nurse with a first aid station

Centre Hall. A class in home hygiene and care

The nurse enjoyed a needed vacaanswered by Mrs. Mary Weaver tempt to give everyone the oppor-Childs. Fees collected amounted to tunity to join the Red Cross, as ev-\$90.11. Mileage traveled, 720 miles. As has been repeatedly stated, the work of the Red Cross nursing

service is supported entirely by mon-

given by the nurse, Miss Bertha special contributions, and nothing is received from the community ches In the months of July, August drive or County Commissioners, as and September. visits made were in other communities. Out of every membership of one dollar or more fifty cents is sent to Red Cross national headquarters and the remainder used to finance the nursing service. There are no paid workers, except the nurse, and the room used as an office, in Petrikin hall, is provided by the W. C. T. U. organization. The very excellent work done as Red Cross nurse is well known

through regular reports and personal experiences of patients kindly and skillfully ministered to, irrespective

Lewis Orvis Harvey, for the third consecutive year, will be chairman and Mrs. James Craig, vice-chairman of the Roll Call, which will be carried on from November 11 to 30 Names of helpers in various districts will be published later, and will ateryone has the right to do.

Last April delegates to the na-(Continued on Last Page)

5 Seek P. O. At Spring Mills, Pa.

at the bottom of the pit.

vice Test at Centre Hall, Nov. 4

Rossman, Ralph H. Shook, Guy I. Jamison, Harry K. Condo, and Miss Emma J. Grove. Civil Service Commission will cer-

tify three of these applicants as the highest-ranking, and this list will speaks a generous response on the Department. With the aid of "adapproaching membership enroll- visors" on Capitol Hill, the department will select the next postmaster from this list of three.

> **CCC** Boy Pleads Guilty Ulyases Mitchell, 17, of Philadel nia, a member of the Philipsbur, CCC camp pleaded guilty to a larceny charge when he appeared before Justice of the Peace Hancock.

sleeping fellow camp member.

Applicants to Take Civil Ser- season.

Pive applications for the postmastership of Spring Mills have passed preliminary age and residence tests, and will take the civil service examination for the job. scheduled for November 4 at Centre Applicants are: Mrs. Pauline E

of class or color, and, we hope, be- then be submitted to the Postoffice