

The Centre Democrat. BELLEFONTE, PENNA.

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EDITORIAL

AND NOW FOR CHRISTMAS

Unless weather conditions become intolerable between now and December 25th, Bellefonte can look forward to one of the most successful shopping seasons experienced in many years.

The county seat is ready—gloriously ready—to celebrate the yuletide in a manner befitting the glad season.

The town is all dressed up in its holiday finery of festoons of green and clusters of vari-colored lights, and presents a cordial invitation and welcome to the thousands of surrounding neighbors who are expected to shop here and look us over.

A lively Christmas buying season is evident on all sides. Bellefonte merchants have been preparing for it. Thoughtful purchasers have been like-minded. Many firms have added extra employees, and most of the stores co-operating with the Christmas schedule have indicated that extra sales help will be on hand from now until Christmas to assist purchasers in buying from the tremendous stocks brought into town for anticipated holiday needs.

The Bellefonte Chamber of Commerce and the town in general bids all within traveling distance to visit us during the holiday season. You will be equally welcome whether you shop with us or prefer to merely look on.

And let us remind you that Christmas is just around the corner.

Now is the time to do your Christmas shopping in Bellefonte.

Finland has the sympathy of the world if it will do her any good in her present struggle for life.

Russia, after years of mouthy talk about peace, turns out to be as aggressive as any imperialistic power.

The man who does not support any church may not know it but he is not doing his duty as a good citizen.

When you buy toys for your own children think of the unfortunate children who have nobody to buy one for them.

In case you have a relative or friend who now lives out of town, why not send him the Centre Democrat for a year?

A columnist remarks that Hitler has what it takes. But, for any little country within easy reach, he generally takes what it has.

Have faith in Santa Claus, and hang up your stockings on Christmas eve. He has never been known to steal one, even if he didn't put anything in it.

The Treasury offering of \$500,000,000 two per cent bonds the first of this month was met by subscriptions to take \$2,263,000,000. Some folks must have faith in the government.

For the first time in a hundred years, the government is undertaking an official survey of the South Polar region and is footing the bill for Rear Admiral Byrd's expedition to the South Pole.

It is estimated that between one and two million workers leave the farms of the nation every year in order to seek employment in the industrial areas of the nation. The reason for this vast migration of agricultural folks is not hard to find. Look up the statistics about income for farmers, compared with the income of other classes of workers.

As a matter of information, the Republican National Convention of 1940 will have 999 delegates instead of 1,008 as in 1936, and the Democratic Convention will have the same number as in 1936, 1,100. The Republican change is due to the operation of a bonus given to States carried by the party at the preceding election and to Congressional districts casting 1,000 votes for the party's candidates.

While Senator George W. Norris, of Nebraska, in a public letter, requested the President not to declare his position in regards to a third term and the subject continues to arouse speculative interest among newspapers, the President maintains his silence and successfully evades all questions which involve any statement as to his political plans in 1940.

Much has been said against the practice of picking up strangers in automobiles. Motorists driving along highways sometimes pick up complete strangers who thumb for a ride and occasionally they find they have picked up hitch-hikers to their regret. One never knows whom he might encounter along a highway. Not so long ago a man driving along a road in Maryland picked up two youths who thumbed a ride. He did not know them but he will long remember them for, after he had played the

good Samaritan and had given them a lift, they pulled a revolver and held him up, taking his money and his watch. They passed through Franklin county and the man was finally freed at Harrisburg. It is better to protect one's life by refusing to pick up strangers. Occasionally one will meet a friend or an acquaintance along a highway and give him a lift, but it still does not pay to be too charitable to strangers.

Senator Vandenberg, of Michigan, a Republican, candidate for the presidential nomination, says "the best defense for this country is a sound economy." Safety first is a sound rule for all candidates. Nobody will find fault with a sound economy or be able to trip an agile Mr. Vandenberg on that statement. What they would like to know, though, and what the candidates duck on, is exactly what they mean by a sound economy. Vandy, if he wants to stir the crowd, will have to practice up on a few straight-from-the-shoulder punches. The spectators don't like fancy talk or steps, but they do enjoy good, honest, jobs, books and uppercuts. No riddles, either, senator, and the ash can for old stuff.

Saturday's headlines announced that the State had the day before fired twenty-one employes and hired sixty, a net addition to the taxpayers' pack of thirty-nine jobs. Recollection seems to suggest that in recent weeks the ratio of appointments and dismissals have been running in the same direction. Sooner or later there will have to be a check-up. A change in State administration always brings a purge and a promise that the payroll is going to be reduced. The new broom sweeps effectively at first. More persons appear to be dismissed than appointed. Months pass, firings reach their crest and hirings begin to exceed firings. Whether that point has been reached will be disclosed sooner or later and only when it is will the people be sure that payrolls have been reduced or increased.

The critics of the government's policy of assisting agriculture seem to work on the assumption that the present plight of agriculture can be blamed upon the laziness, indolence and stupidity of farmers. No greater mistake can be made than to believe this. The collapse of agriculture was apparent in the years following the World War when the capital value of farm property declined by \$41,000,000,000 in less than fifteen years. During the same time 15,000 country banks, with deposits totalling eight and one-half billion dollars, closed their doors. It was a national policy, during the war, that caused farmers to expand their acreage by about 40,000,000 acres. It was a national policy that increased industrial tariffs which caused other countries to retaliate by shutting out our farm products. It was a national policy which permitted the growth of monopoly and price-fixing so that what the farmer brought enjoyed steeper prices than what he sold. These are the factors that have had most to do with the destruction of farm prosperity.

TESTS FOR TIPSY DRIVERS (Sunbury Daily Item)

That the cause of law enforcement is suffering due to the aversion of most physicians to examine motorists for intoxication is not a recent development. That the situation is growing worse, if that were possible, is indicated by repeated instances in Northumberland county in recent months where members of the medical profession have flatly refused to make tests for sobriety.

There have been cases in the past where persons with all visible indications of intoxication, arrested on the highways, have been declared "sober or nearly sober" for the obvious reason that the examining physician did not wish to become involved in a court trial.

In Lycoming county, a physician who made most of the tests for police in cases of this kind died recently and with considerable difficulty apparent in obtaining examinations, a policy of changing the nature of charges where zig zag drivers are involved is being considered as a solution of the problem. Thus the motorist for whom the law prescribes a prison sentence up to three months and a fine of from \$100 to \$300 as well as automatic revocation of his license for driving while intoxicated would be charged with reckless driving for which the maximum penalty is a fine of \$25 and possible suspension of driving privileges. The one certain result of such a policy will be an increase in tipsy driving and a mounting toll of death and injury on the highways.

It is understandable that a busy professional man should shy at the prospect of wasting time while waiting to testify in a court trial, even though there is a certain civic obligation involved. In aiding the cause of justice, if it is impossible to eliminate this waste of time so that a witness can appear at a given hour and leave the courtroom when he has testified, and if the physician can evolve no other plan of co-operation with the law enforcement agencies, the one alternative seems to be a requirement for examinations by members of the medical profession on the public payroll, including members of hospital staffs supported by the state, those employed by the Department of Health or any other state bureau as well as those drawing salaries from counties or municipalities.

The situation is one that demands the serious thought and prompt action of those responsible for the protection of the public, for this protection, rather than the punishment of the offender, is the ultimate goal of the law.

ALCOHOL AND PNEUMONIA

Alcohol and pneumonia bugs run hand-in-hand through the human body during the winter, said an editorial in The Southern Medical Association Journal, which advises members of alcohol to ease up on drinking during the pneumonia season. Officials of the association declare that pneumonia deaths are greater among alcoholic than teetotalers. Alcohol causes the white blood cells to slow up in their normal work of destroying disease germs. It also causes interference with the normal functioning of the "throat valve" which controls the opening to the stomach and lungs.

In the words of Dr. M. Y. Dabney, editor of The Journal, "alcohol thus aids both the passage of the organisms into the lungs and interferes with their destruction in the bloodstream."

There is, so far as we know, no reason to doubt the accuracy of the warning which is given by this Medical Journal. Individuals who make it a habit to take alcohol, will, if they are wise, take advantage of this warning.

\$200,000,000 FOR TOYS

Toy manufacturers estimate that the people of the United States will spend more than \$200,000,000 on toys this Christmas.

This is a lot of money but it is well spent. Of course, some children receive too many toys and other children receive too few but, in the main, the joy and happiness that many children get is worth the price of the toys.

In this connection it may not be too early to suggest that citizens of Bellefonte who are financially able to do so should take advantage of the opportunity that Christmas presents make somebody else happy. Almost every adult can do something that will add greatly to the happiness of at least one little boy or girl who will not, otherwise, enjoy a happy Christmas.

Preachers, we understand, can tell you that the religion of people is first to show the effects of a depression and the last to show signs of recovery.

You may not be able to legislate morals into people, but you can sometimes make them fear the consequences of doing something.

THE OFFICE CAT. "A Little Nonsense Now and Then. Is Relished by the Wisest Men".

A BALLAD IN B-FLAT. Men live without houses, or dishes, or pants; Without motors or wagons; without elephants; Or horses or camels; without any art; Or music, or poetry, soothing the heart;

Men do without matches; they do without lamps; They do without envelopes, paper, or stamps; They do without movies; without radios; And without golf, or baseball, or burlesque shows; They do without compasses, watches, or clocks; And they do without lawyers, or patrons, or dogs; They do without diamonds; they do without pearls;

What Do You Think? Maybe the reason why they call some women cats is because they're always digging up the dirt.

Domestic Tragedy. Perturbed Wife—"Oh, doctor, what in the world shall I do? My husband has the housemaid's knee?" Doctor—"Listen, madame, I'm just a doctor, not Dorothy Dix."

IT'S DIFFERENT NOW. A horsefly flew in a stable door. Where he'd been welcome years before; He lit on the tail of a Chevrolet. And the backfire took his breath away.

Soup to Nuts. The waiter in the restaurant sidled up to the man who had just parked on a stool at the counter. "I'll have a bowl of chicken soup, please," said the man. "Chickenzoup!" the waiter bowed back to the kitchen. "No, on second thought, I believe I'll have pea soup," echoed the customer. "Make the chicken pea!" boomed the waiter. "Er--never mind," gulped the diner. "Maybe I'd better just have a hamburger."

Here's How We Heard It. An old maid is a gal who hasn't had much experience.

Shouldering the Blame. New Bride—"John, when I went to the butcher's today to get some shin-bone soup meat, I was so horse he couldn't understand me, so I just showed him my shin." Hubby—(examining package)—"Yeah, but what's that piece of ham doing in the package?"

The Show Must Go On. The old-fashioned girl who was a circus in her bathing suit now has a daughter who is a side show in hers.

School Note. The pretty teacher was drawing an antlered deer on the blackboard. When it was finished she turned to little Willie. "What is the name of the animal I have drawn?" she asked. "I don't know, ma'am," said Willie after a careful look. "Oh, come now, Willie. What does your mother call your daddy?" "Heck," said Willie. "Skunks don't have horns."

Sign of the Times. This one comes from Lewisburg. It is hung on the front of one of those eating places and reads:

"DINE-A-MITE". We hope the sign doesn't refer to the way you feel after eating a meal in the place.

How About Pop Guns? Rufus—"Every time they fire one of those big guns on the Western front \$900 goes up in smoke." Goofus—"Why don't they use smokeless powder?"

Mistaken Identity. Boss—"Sambo, you are late this morning. Any reason?" Sambo—"Yassuh," it was like dice. When Ah looked into de glass dis mornin' Ah couldn't see mahself dere. So Ah thought Ah must had gone to work. It was two hours after dat Ah discoveres de glass had dropped out ob de frame."

Iron Man. "De doctah say Ah got too much iron in my blood." "Does you eat pork, Sambo?" "I sho' does. What fo' you asks?" "Boy, you're full of pig-iron."

Ideal Woman Driver. "My wife runs her new machine splendidly, never speeds so fast she can't stop within a foot or two; always pays attention to her wheel; never starts one way and then without any reason turns off in another direction; threads her way around corners perfectly." "What make is the car?" "Car? It's a sewing machine."

That's all, folks. There's one thing about hot weather we like: It's the most satisfactory substitute for coal that we know of. —"SCAT"

PHILPSBURG JOINS GROUP HOSPITALIZATION PROJECT

(Continued from Page 1) service. The cost of semi-private service is 75 cents per month for the initial subscriber; \$1.40 per month for husband and wife, and \$1.75 per month for the family plan. The respective rates under the ward service are 60 cents per month for the initial subscriber; \$1.20 for husband and wife, and \$1.25 for the family. Twenty-one days of hospitalization per year are available for each person protected. These 21 days may be taken in one or more admissions. Entry to the hospital is on recommendation of the subscriber's own physician. The Hospital Service Association has nothing to say as to when a member enters or leaves the hospital. Free choice of hospital is permitted. Hospital extras are also included. These extras include the use of the operating room as often as necessary, anaesthesia, ordinary medical and dressings, routine laboratory service and ordinary x-ray. The Hospital Service Association, it is announced, should not be confused with any commercial insurance company. The association was established following special enabling legislation passed by the Pennsylvania General Assembly. It simply represents the Philpsburg State Hospital as well as all the other hospitals in the movement to make hospitalization available as required. The association is approved by both the American Hospital Association and the Hospital Association of Pennsylvania, the latter organization being the medium of expression for the hospitals throughout Pennsylvania. The entire movement operates under the supervision of the Commonwealth Department of Insurance. The association simply serves as the vehicle through which the participating hospitals make possible greater use of their facilities.

GET RID OF RHEUMATISM. Pains Ease Off the First Day. If you suffer from torturing rheumatic pains, stiff joints and sore muscles, it is because your system is full of the dangerous and poisonous acid...

Louisa's Letter

Dear Louisa: I come for a family that always though dancing and card playing were wrong. But since my children are getting up a size it seems that I am changing my mind about lots of things. I have a daughter and a son in high school and last year when they had their Junior-Senior banquet I helped some of the other mothers with the setting and we stayed afterwards and watched the boys and girls dance.

Well, most of them were having a grand time. They danced, and there was nothing vulgar about it, either. None of them left the gymnasium—that was where it was—and there were lots of parents and teachers there, too, and some of them were dancing. But I was so sorry for my own children I could have cried. They are both nice looking and attractive but because we never would let them learn to dance, they they sat over squares and wall with some of the others, missing all of the fun. I made up my mind that if they wanted to learn to dance they could. What do you think about it? MOTHER—Idaho.

ANSWER. There is nothing evil in dancing unless you make something evil out of it, and there are very few things in life that we can't make evil out of if we try hard enough. I have even heard of people who sang in a church choir or others concerned with the church making evil out of those things if they happened to have that type of mind. I myself was reared in a church which frowned on dancing and card playing, but I think that it absolutely depends on the person whether or not they make harm out of such things.

There is so much to be said for dancing, particularly for the young folks. It makes them more graceful, gives them pride and self-confidence, and provides an outlet for their joyous exuberance. One of the high schools near my home gives the children of the school free dancing lessons twice a week. The athletic teacher is in charge and uses records for the music. In this way the girls and boys who cannot afford these lessons can learn to dance and, in the school socials, which they have once a month, they do not feel like outsiders but get real pleasure out of coming. This school also has the home economics teacher give lessons in etiquette to the boys and girls. They are taught what to do at the table, how to act in a restaurant, theatre, or at a dance, and what to wear. This means a great deal to those children who haven't the opportunity of learning these things in their homes and wapes out lots of barriers that would naturally arise between them and their more fortunate friends, as they grow older.

When I say I approve of dancing for young folks that doesn't mean that I favor them going to questionable road shows where there are all sorts of men, and drinking, etc. Keep your girls and boys away from such places. I favor dances which are well chaperoned and where the girls and boys go home at a reasonable hour. But I do think that those of us who refuse to let our children dance are robbing them unnecessarily of a great deal of innocent pleasure. And I do think there is lots more to the art of living and being companionable than just what we get out of books. It is just as necessary to our happiness to feel at ease in any company and to know the proper thing to do as it is to know how to work algebra, or what the capitals of the states are. So luck to you. LOUISA.

Explain Aims of NYA Service

(Continued from Page 1) A. Wales, state director of resident work centers for youth. W. I. Scott, county NYA supervisor, presided at the meeting, and among the speakers were: George E. Deitrich, assistant district supervisor; William Penn Loomis, state director of employment and training, and the Misses Helen Hunter and Dorothy Truckell, field supervisors for girls work. Others who took part in a general discussion which concluded the meeting included Roy M. Decker, state field supervisor for rural youth, and Corbet T. Arnold, director of the State College center. In addition to NYA officers, a number of various officials and leaders in various community organizations attended the meeting.

Thrill your family on Christmas morning. Give them these STUDEBAKER KEYS to HAPPINESS. Here's an unusual way to present your family with a new car for Christmas. Give them these Studebaker Keys to Happiness—encased in a handsome jewel box—all ready to open the door of their own beautiful new Studebaker Champion, Commander or President. Come in now and let us help you make the arrangements. Liberal allowance on your present car—easy C.I.T. terms.

STUDEBAKER CHAMPION \$660 and up, delivered at the factory, South Bend, Indiana.

GEO. A. BEEZER GARAGE NORTH WATER STREET BELLEFONTE, PA.

GREGG TOWNSHIP SCHOOL NEWS

School Christmas Programs. The grade school at Spring Mills will hold their annual Christmas program in the school auditorium on Thursday afternoon, December 21, at 2 o'clock. The four lower grades will conduct the major part of the program this year, with the upper four grades participating in the music. Parents and others who are interested are invited to this program. A silver offering will be taken to defray the expenses of the program. High School Program. The high school Christmas program will be held at 9 o'clock a. m. in the school auditorium on Friday, December 22. The Senior class is in charge of this assembly as in past years. Gifts will be exchanged at the close of the program. Parents and other persons who care to attend are welcome.

You can say almost anything to anybody if you will only smile when you say it.

Tru Val SHIRTS 135. Explain Aims of NYA Service. BELIEVE ME, PILLSBURY'S BEST! MAKE A LITTLE MONEY LOOK A LOT. These new TruVal shirts carry expensive features at a remarkably low price. Every shirt is beautifully tailored by one of America's oldest and largest shirt-makers. Every one is full cut and guaranteed not to shrink below marked size. TruVal collars undergo a special patented "probing" process which prevents premature wear at the fold line, and they're fused by the original process which assures a smooth, unwrinkled collar all day long. You can give TruVals proudly... and be'll be proud to wear them. R. T. WILLARD "The Men's Shop" BUSH ARCADE Bellefonte, Pa.