

PROF. PHILPSBURG YOUTH'S DEATH

W. G. WOODRING KILLED IN CRASH ON MOUNTAIN ROAD

Two Others Injured in Accident Early Christmas Morning

VICTIM PINNED IN WRECKAGE 2 HOURS

Funeral Held Yesterday; Inquest Scheduled Last Night

An inquest into the early Christmas morning automobile accident which claimed the life of Wesley Woodring, Jr., 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley G. Woodring, of Philipsburg, was to be held last night, Centre County Coroner Dr. W. R. Heaton announced yesterday.

The accident occurred at 3 o'clock Monday near the Sandy Ridge summit of the Tyrone mountain when a Ford sedan, in which Wesley Woodring, Peter Brennhis, 25, of Woodring Hill, and Walter Harkless, 25, of West Decatur, were occupants, crashed killing Woodring and injuring the other two occupants.

Brennhis and Harkless, both suffering minor injuries, were taken to the Philipsburg State Hospital where the attending physician yesterday described their conditions as being good. Both are reported getting along nicely and will be discharged sometime soon.

Pending results of the inquest state motor police will make no statements regarding the cause of the accident or who was driving the car.

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Prominent Couple Wedded April 26th

Marriage of Miss Ida Fisher to W. H. Brouse is Announced

Announcement was made Friday of the marriage last April 26, of Miss Ida Fisher, daughter of Mrs. Ada Fisher, of Pine Street, Bellefonte, to William H. Brouse, prominent business man, club man and school director.

The wedding was solemnized at Winchester, Va., by the Rev. W. W. McIntyre, pastor of the Winchester Methodist church. There were no attendants.

Mrs. Brouse is a graduate of the Bellefonte High School and for a number of years has been secretary to Samuel M. Shalcross, vice president and general manager of the American Lime and Stone Company here.

Mr. Brouse, proprietor of the Brouse store, is president of the Bellefonte Elks Club, is chairman of the Board of Directors of the Nittany Country Club and is treasurer of the Centre County Thrift Corporation. Last fall he was elected a member of the Bellefonte School Board.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Brouse are widely known throughout this area and are held in high esteem. They are to be at home in the near future at the Brouse residence on South Thomas Street, Bellefonte.

Motor Crashes Mar Holidays

Several Persons Injured, None Seriously in Series of Accidents

A series of motor accidents, none of a serious nature, marred holiday traffic in the central part of the county. One person spent a night in the hospital and several others received minor injuries as a result of the accidents.

Cars driven by W. C. Horner, Centre Hill; Samuel Egler, State College; and R. E. Ripka, Spring Mills, were involved in an accident two miles east of Centre Hall about 8:30 o'clock Saturday night. Pauline Lansberry, Centre Hall, a passenger in the Ripka car, received bruises. Total damage was approximately \$115.

A short time after that accident a tow truck operated by Carl M. (Continued on page seven)

U. S. ARMY RECRUITING OFFICE OPENS HERE

A temporary United States Army recruiting office opened at the Bellefonte postoffice Tuesday morning and will remain open until Friday, December 29. Elmer K. Darone, private first class, is in charge of the office and is on duty at the postoffice from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. daily.

Men between the ages of 18 and 35, single, of good character, and who are physically fit, are wanted for vacancies now existing in several states, in the Hawaiian Islands, and Panama. Several vacancies also exist for qualified high school graduates in the air corps and signal corps.

County Jail Invaded While Sheriff Sleeps

While officialdom at the Centre county jail slept peacefully about 1:45 o'clock Christmas morning, the jail building was broken into and invaded. When the intruders left about 20 minutes later, Sheriff Harry V. Keeler was still asleep in his trundle bed, dreaming, no doubt, of the sugar plums Santa was to leave for him.

The invaders consisted of a group of tired, shivering and sleepy young carolers and their escorts, who rebelled at the thought of giving the final number of their program from the wind-swept stone steps of the jail. Overheard on the jail tower, a battery of loud-speakers was waiting.

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LEG WOUND PROVES FATAL

Hunting Season Claims 2nd Victim in Death of Fred Watkins

The 1939 hunting season in Centre county claimed its second victim at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon of last week when Fred E. Watkins, 46-year-old, Marsh Creek farmer and father of six children, died at the Centre County Hospital here as the result of a gunshot wound received a few hours before the close of the hunting season, Friday, December 15.

Watkins' death resulted from gas gangrene which developed from a wound in the leg. While walking through the woods a gun in the hands of a fellow hunter was discharged and the "pumpkin bell" entered the victim's right heel, passing through a tendon.

Watkins was immediately brought to the hospital where he apparently was recovering nicely when gangrene developed. His death was the second resulting in this county from hunting accidents. At about the same time that the Howard R. D. man was injured near his home, (Continued on page eight)

Thanks Voters For 8 Years in Office

John L. Wetzel, of Boggs township, who at midnight Sunday will terminate eight years of service as Register of Centre county, introduced an innovation in Centre county politics yesterday when he asked this newspaper to thank the people of Centre county for their support at the elections in 1931 and again in 1935.

Mr. Wetzel declared that he will remember with pleasure the many acquaintances made and the many pleasant business relations he had with persons from all parts of the county during his tenure of office, and expressed deep gratitude for having been chosen to serve the citizens of this county for two terms.

While it is a common practice for candidates to thank voters immediately after elections, Mr. Wetzel is probably the first officer in Centre county to express public thanks for a completed term of office.

Garage Employee Is Wounded by Firearm

Merrill Mader, aged 20, of Blanchard street, an employee of the Big Spring Garage, Bellefonte, was treated at the Centre County Hospital, Friday, for a wound he received while at work.

Mader was working on a car at the garage, and as he opened the glove compartment a .22-caliber revolver fell to the floor of the machine and was discharged. The bullet passed through the second joint of the little finger on his right hand and struck the dash of the car. The youth is reported to be recovering at the Alvin Fisher residence, where he makes his home.

GETS APPOINTMENT

Lloyd F. Boob, of Millheim, brother of former Centre County Sheriff John M. Boob, last week was named by Auditor General Roberts as mercantile appraiser for Centre County. He succeeds Fred C. Mensch, of Millheim, who on January 1 will be sworn into office as a Centre County Commissioner.

Fire at Oak Hall

Members of the Frank Powell family at Oak Hall succeeded in extinguishing a fire which was discovered in the home about 9:30 o'clock Sunday morning. Members of the Alpha Fire Company of State College, upon reaching the scene, found their services were not needed. Damage was slight.

TITAN WAGE EARNERS GET BONUS OF 3%

Industry Distributes Fund of About \$18,000 To 583 Employees

1940 MARKS 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CO.

Business Last Quarter of 1939 Reached New Peak; Payroll \$700,000

The Titan Metal Manufacturing Company, one of Bellefonte's foremost industries, yesterday cut an \$18,000 bonus melon and distributed that amount to 583 employees on the basis of their individual earnings during the first 11 months of 1939.

Titan officials announced that checks to the employees represented three per cent of their earnings from January through November of this year, and ranged in amounts from 32 cents up to \$70.84 for hourly wage earners.

All wage earners participated in the bonus, regardless of their length of service with the company. The total Titan payroll numbers 583, of which 520 are hourly wage earners. In a statement announcing the bonus, Titan officials pointed out that the advent of 1940 will mark the 25th birthday of the company. The statement continues with the report that the close of 1939 finds Titan brass products in greater demand than at any time in the company's history. The last quarter of (Continued on page eight)

HOLIDAY MAIL SETS RECORD

All Departments of Local Postoffice Report Big Christmas Business

The Bellefonte postoffice yesterday reported that during the 1939 Christmas season a record volume of postal material was handled, and that cancellations and stamp sales reached unusually high peaks. Postmaster George R. Meek said that the total number of cancellations during the six-day period preceding Christmas was 100,330 as compared with 88,190 for the same period in 1938. These figures include only letters and cards which are cancelled by machine, and do not take into consideration parcels and other-sized envelopes which must be cancelled by hand.

The Post Office Department's efforts to induce the senders of Christmas greetings to use 3-cent stamps instead of 1½-cent ones, met with little success insofar as Bellefonte was concerned, the figures show. During the season just past, 51,500 1½-cent stamps, and 18,500 (Continued on page seven)

3 County Officers Resign Positions

Three Centre county appointive officers have resigned their posts, it was announced yesterday by the County Commissioners.

Gottlieb Haag, of Bellefonte, who was named sealer of weights and measures some time ago to succeed George Peters, of Philipsburg, has resigned, effective December 30.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hugg, of Philipsburg, superintendent and matron, respectively, of the Centre County Home, have resigned effective December 31. Last week Mr. Hugg was named Deputy Sheriff by Sheriff-elect Edward R. Miller. The Huggs will reside in Bellefonte.

The vacancies created by the resignations will be filled by the incoming Board of Commissioners.

County Officers To Be Sworn In, Monday

All persons chosen at last November's election to serve in Centre county offices will be administered their oaths of office at 12 o'clock Monday, January 1, in the Court House, it was indicated yesterday.

The ceremony will begin with the administering of the oath to all officers with the exception of the Prothonotary, who will give the oath. Then Prothonotary Bond C. White will be given the oath of office by Recorder Leamer R. Woodring.

The oaths are to be administered to elected officers, only.

Income Tax Forms About Due

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Guy T. Heverling, of Scranton, has announced that all income tax forms for the taxable year 1939 will be released on Wednesday, January 3, 1940.

New Year's Greetings

AS the bells ring out the old year and ring in the new, may we remind you of our New Year's wishes for you. May the coming year be the best you've enjoyed! May you benefit by good health and good cheer for the entire year ahead! In all sincerity, HERE'S LUCK! And may we serve you in 1940 as pleasantly as we have throughout 1939.

The Centre Democrat

200 Present At Logan Banquet

John Love is Toastmaster at Dinner Served by Legion Auxiliary

Approximately 200 members and guests of the Logan Fire Company participated in the annual banquet of the Company last Wednesday night at the American Legion Home, East Howard Street. A roast pig and sauerkraut dinner was served by the Women's Auxiliary of Brooks-Deell Post.

John Love, toastmaster of the occasion, introduced the following speakers: Judge Ivan Walker, Charles E. Dorworth, Mayor Hardman P. Harris, Rev. Palmer William E. Downes, Earl Custer, president of the fire company; former Judge M. Ward Fleming; Roy Wilkinson; James R. Hughes; District (Continued on page 2)

Blanchard Couple Mark Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Beaty Entertained at Their Home By Children

Miss Virginia and Harris Beaty entertained at their home in Blanchard last Wednesday evening for their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Beaty, whose 25th wedding anniversary occurred December 24th.

Mrs. Beaty before her marriage was Miss Pearl Dietz, daughter of the late William and Sara Dietz, of Howard.

The home was decorated in silver trimmings and silver flowers. Entertainment and music was furnished by Mrs. John Heickel, Russell Rupert and John Heickel, Jr.

Fred Hoffer Named Chief Clerk To New Board of Commissioners

The new Board of Centre County Commissioners, who will be sworn into office in the Court Room at 12 o'clock on Monday, January 1, yesterday announced some of the appointments to county positions.

The appointments are as follows: Fred Hoffer, Philipsburg, chief clerk.

Russell P. Bezer, Bellefonte, assistant to the chief clerk.

Miss Helen Schaeffer, Bellefonte, registration clerk.

Dr. W. J. Schwartz, Bellefonte, physician for jail and Centre County Home.

Philip H. Johnston, Bellefonte, solicitor.

D. A. "Sandy" McDowell, sealer of weights and measures.

William C. Wimer, Bellefonte, superintendent of the County Home.

Mrs. William C. Wimer, Bellefonte, matron of the County Home, Hiram Grove, Bellefonte, R. D.

Fire Razes Home At Osceola R. D.

The William Patterson family at Scotch Hollow, Osceola Mills, R. D., were rendered homeless last Thursday noon by fire which broke out on the roof, presumably from a defective flue.

Nothing was saved from the two-story frame dwelling as flames, fanned by a brisk wind, quickly swept through the structure. All the family clothing as well as furniture was destroyed in the fire.

Osceola Mills firemen answered the alarm but were unable to save anything because of the headway the fire had made.

Nears 86th Year



William B. Rankin (above), of East Curtin street, Bellefonte, will observe his 86th birthday Wednesday on a number of occasions for celebrating next week. Since no special celebration is planned, Mr. Rankin probably will spend the day as usual—in his insurance offices in Crider's Exchange building.

Mr. Rankin is the oldest agent of several of the insurance companies he represents and has been honored on a number of occasions for establishing new records of service and accomplishment in his profession. Hale and hearty at an age when most men are retired, Mr. Rankin seldom misses a day's work.

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JURIES ACT IN DAMAGE SUITS

Award \$8,751.50 To Crash Victims Who Asked Total of \$102,500

Two juries acting in damage suits in which a total of \$102,500 was asked, awarded a total of \$8,751.50 in recent civil court. The two trials involving six separate cases occupied so much of the court's time that only one other case could be heard before court adjourned.

The damage verdicts were returned against Arthur Bush, 40, note clerk in the First National Bank, of Lock Haven, whose car was involved in a head-on collision with a machine driven by Mrs. Willis Williams, 29, of Lock Haven, on the Nittany Valley Highway near Hecla Park, on August 10, 1938.

The first of the two cases involved damages to Mrs. Williams, who in a statement of claim asked \$85,000 for injuries and disfigurement; her husband, \$12,000 because of injuries to wife and expenses; Garnet Williams, aged 14, \$15,000 for disfigurement and injuries; and \$5,000 additional on behalf of her parents for medical and other expenses; or a total of \$97,000. The jury, after hearing testimony for two and a (Continued on page 7)

Butcher at Prison Asks For Parole

A butcher at Rockview state prison farm asked the pardon board last week to release him so he could go back to a job in "another part of town" where temptations that led to his imprisonment won't present themselves.

Louis Bernstein, sentenced from Philipsburg for robbery and receiving stolen goods, asked the board through his counsel, Herman Lipsitz, to grant him a parole, from a five to 10 year sentence which started in January, 1936.

Lipsitz said the prisoner had a job in the trade he learned at Rockview offered him in another part of the city and would not again fall into the "bad company" which contributed to his arrest and imprisonment.

Brotherhood to Meet

A special community Brotherhood meeting will be held at Pleasant Gap, Thursday, Dec. 28 at 7:30 p. m. There will be special announcements for the year 1940, and a surprise program and entertainment.

All men of the community are invited. The meeting will be held in the Methodist church. New officers will take their offices at this meeting.

Accident at College

When cars operated by George W. Ratcliffe, of Philipsburg, and Carroll F. Thompson, of York, collided at the intersection of Fairmount avenue and Locust Lane, State College, at 11:50 o'clock last Wednesday morning, the resulting damage was estimated at \$125. No one was injured.

NEW PUBLIC ASSISTANCE HEAD IS GRADUATE OF PENN STATE

Thomas Carlyle Williams, of Inty House, Coburn, who last week was named executive director of the Centre County Public Assistance Board to succeed Leon Mirbach, resigned, is a native of Pennsylvania and is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State College.

After completing his preliminary education in the public schools, Mr. Williams became a student at the Dickinson City High School, Dickinson City, Pa., where he participated in various sports and was president of the school Athletic Association. While a student at that school he completed a course in the machine shop at the Johnson Trade School in Scranton.

He entered the Pennsylvania State College in 1925 and received his Bachelor's Degree in August 1929 after majoring in history and political science. At Penn State he was a member of the Delta Kappa Rho fraternity, and was one of the college cheer leaders.

MAY ESTABLISH AIR-MAIL ROUTE THROUGH CENTRE CO.

Philipsburg, State College, Bellefonte, Would Get Service

BELLEFONTE NAMED AS PROBABLE STOP

Pick-up Service Would Cover Pittsburgh-Newark Area

Application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for mail, express and passengers on six (6) Air Pick-up routes extending through Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Ohio and Delaware was made last week to the Civil Aeronautics Authority by All American Aviation, Inc., of Wilmington, Del.

The proposed routes would cover 125 cities and towns in these six states including Philipsburg, Bellefonte and State College. In addition, the application listed 99 contiguous communities that might be conveniently served from regular station points.

All of the projected lines would radiate from a central terminus at Pittsburgh or other termini at main-line points where their schedules would be closely co-ordinated with the trunk system, the application citing that the routes have been laid out as a model for the establishment of similar systems around other major air centers.

Development of a nation-wide feeder system using this plan was proposed to the C. A. A. and the Post Office Department last summer by Richard C. du Pont, President of All American.

The application emphasized that such a system, properly co-ordinated, (Continued on page seven)

Ag. Extension Group To Meet

Will Convene in Court House, Bellefonte, January 4th

The annual meeting of the Centre County Agricultural Extension Association will be held in the Court House at Bellefonte on Thursday, January 4, President J. Foster Musser, of State College, announces that the meeting will be an all day affair starting at 10:30 A. M., adjourning for lunch from 12:00 until 1:30 P. M. and closing at 3:45 P. M.

The program as planned by the arrangement committee will feature in the forenoon a discussion of hybrid seed corn and its value to Centre County farmers by Prof. J. B. Dickey, Extension Agronomist of State College. The speaker will have available the results of 245 tests which have been conducted throughout the state this year. Figures from two Centre County demonstrations which were conducted on the farms of Hugh Wilson, at Stormstown, and Fred Bohn, at Rebersburg, will be discussed. (Continued on page seven)

Captain Herbert Beizer GETS FEDERAL RECOGNITION

Captain Herbert McK. Beizer, of 109 North Thomas street, Bellefonte, has been given federal recognition by the National Guard Bureau, the War Department announced this week in Washington.

After passing fitness tests conducted by boards of Regular Army and National Guard officers, Captain Beizer has been given a dual status of commissioned officer in the military forces of Pennsylvania and in the National Guard of the United States.

The Bellefonte officer is assigned with Battery E of the 160th Field Artillery.

MILLHEIM BOY BEGINS 3RD ARMY ENLISTMENT

Ralph C. Keen, of Millheim, was accepted for re-enlistment for service with the Air Corps at Middletown Air Depot, Pa., on December 29th by the Lock Haven Recruiting Station.

He is a son of Mrs. Mabel Keen of Millheim. Mr. Keen had completed two enlistments prior to the one he is just starting. During the first, which was in the Field Artillery in foreign service, he was promoted to Corporal. The second enlistment was in Battery "B," 7th Field Artillery, Fort Erhan Allen, Va., which he completed last January 1st. Between January 1st and December 29th of this year Mr. Keen got his fill of life as a civilian, so he answered the "Call to The Colors."

This tragedy, great as it was to the family, was almost lost sight of Tuesday morning, when Catherine, who had worked without a coat while trying to save the furniture, died in the Lock Haven Hospital. (Continued on page eight)

Post Bond for Court

Victor Simons, of Greatneck, N. Y., posted \$1,000 bond at a hearing before Justice of the Peace E. R. Hancock at Philipsburg Saturday, for his appearance in Centre county court on charges of drunken driving. Mr. Simons was arrested Friday night by a member of the State Motor Police. The driver pleaded guilty to the charges. A physician who had examined him pronounced him intoxicated.