

Echoes From the Past

Fifty Years Ago

On Monday Mr. Thomas Benner will start in as one of Uncle Sam's post office officials at this place. Editor Fiedler's post office force will be Thomas Benner, George Washington Reese and Joe Harris. Persons are sending in their orders for seats at the opening of Garman's Opera House. One of the best attractions will be obtained for that occasion and if you want a good seat leave your order early with Al Garman.

This week workmen commenced tearing out the old front of the vacant room in the Brockhoff House block. All the fronts of the store rooms will be remodeled and when finished will be the most desirable rooms in town. The building is to have a new mansard-roof along with other improvements. There will be grand stereopticon treat next week in Bush's Arcade, for the benefit of Gregg Post Chapter 15. Prof. Fiedler will conduct the entertainment, as a man of fourteen years' experience in the business and his views are of the latest and greatest interest and variety. Admission 15, 25 and 35 cents. All seats on sale at Keichline's.

The street commissioner's mud crossing at the post office is dandy job. Give him a leather medal. The construction of the road up Curtin Street is another reminder of the bad management of our borough's affairs. The street was dug out like a canal for water to collect in it and make it almost navigable. That was an expensive measure and unnecessary and foolish. Although the Republicans had a majority of nearly one hundred voters in Bellefonte, a borough election Tuesday found Democrats elected as Burgess and Overseer of the Poor, W. F. Reber, Dem. defeated J. Kyle McFarland for Burgess by a vote of 466 to 346; George T. Bush lost the office of Assistant Burgess to W. L. Swope; Rep. Charles Cook, Rep., was elected treasurer over H. Sechler; S. D. Ray, Rep., won out over John Keichline, Dem. for Tax Collector; Thomas Donachy, Rep., lost to James Schofield in the race for Overseer of the Poor; and H. B. Pontius, Rep., was victorious over James Barnhart for Auditor.

The church at Curtin appointment, Howard charge, Altona district, was reopened on January 26 by Rev. E. J. Gray, D. D. The repairs on the church consisted of a vestibule and tower, and painting outside, papering and painting inside, a new pulpit and chandelier and a window in memory of Philip Anis, the founder of Methodism in Bald Eagle Valley. The cost of these repairs was \$740, of which \$350 was to be raised on re-opening. On the morning of the 26th, Dr. Gray preached a sermon of much power, after which he asked for \$350, and when the congregation was dismissed \$300 had been pledged. In the evening before preaching the finances were again presented to the congregation and in a few minutes \$165 was secured, making a total for the day of \$365. Then the Doctor again preached with wonderful power. The congregation was intensely interested and wonderfully wrought upon. We are looking for grand results as the fruit of these discourses. George E. King, pastor.

Twenty Years Ago

Mrs. Mary McClelland, oldest resident of Phillipsburg who was spending the winter with a daughter, Mrs. Harry Bell, in Tyrone, quietly observed her 95th birthday there. More than half the men who went to Ford City with M. M. Morris to work for the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, had found their way back to Bellefonte. While they found that wages were high, they also learned that living expenses were correspondingly high, and they decided that in the long run they could do better in Bellefonte.

The Centre Democrat obituary column contains notices of 15 deaths during the week, most of them attributed to influenza and its common complications, pneumonia. Hundreds of other persons were ill. Weather conditions and drifted roads throughout the county retarded the activities of physicians and many persons could not be reached until their illness had reached an advanced stage. Leo Toner, son of Mrs. James Toner, of Bellefonte, who had been employed at Hyde, Clearfield County, resigned his position there to enter the employe of the Crane Construction Co., of Pittsburgh, which on April 1 was to begin construction of a large cell block at the Western Penitentiary at Rockview. The building was to contain about 2000 cells and was to be one of the largest structures in Centre County. Three freight trains on the Bald Eagle Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Sunday, kept repair crews working overtime. In the morning two cars left the rails at Millsburg, and a locomotive became derailed at Snow Shoe Intersection. In the afternoon a draw head pulled from a freight car at Martha. To top off the trouble, a freight train stalled in Upper Bald Eagle Valley, causing an hour's delay to the evening passenger train. Because his sleigh upset more than a half dozen times on a single ten-mile trip, Dr. H. H. Longwell, of Centre Hall, had devised a vehicle not so easily tilted. The box was removed from a sleigh and a bench running lengthwise was constructed. On this bench were nailed the seats and backs of two ordinary chairs. The riders, sitting astride the bench, kept the weight always in the center of the vehicle, thus lessening the chance of an upset. The sleigh looked not unlike the old-time "spider" used by farmers in training colts.

Miss Jennie Shortlidge, of this place, died suddenly on Wednesday night about one o'clock. The cause of the blood vessels of the brain. Harry Keller was home several days this week from Harrisburg.

A true history of the life, crimes, trials and confessions of Wm. Seeley Hopkins and Alfred Andrews will be for sale in separate books on February 20, 1890. Price 25 cents each. Address all orders to D. S. Dunham, Box 415, Bellefonte, Pa.

Last Friday the farmhouse occupied by Mr. Daniel Rhinesmith, about a mile and a half east of Bellefonte, caught fire from a defective flue and came near being destroyed. The early discovery of the blaze prevented the buildings destruction.

On Monday morning an extensive fire occurred at the farm of William Grove one mile west of Rossburg. The family had not gotten up when one noticed the barn in flames. The progress of the flames was so rapid that they could not save anything except a few horses. The barn was consumed in a short time with all its contents, which included implements, hay, grain and livestock. It was partly insured. The origin of the fire is unknown and as it occurred before any of the family had arisen, it seems certain to have been the work of some incendiary.

Marriage licenses were issued to the following couples: Joseph Ober and Lena J. Geary, both of Millheim; Joseph Eddings and Clara Rainel both of Boggs Twp.; Owen Senter and May Keatley, both of Unionville; Warren B. Counsel and Alice M. James, both of Blanchard; R. C. McClintic and Marrie Knup, both of Phillipsburg; Clement H. Long and Ella H. Long, both of Madisonburg; Joshua B. Gardner, Tyrone, and Eva E. Nearhouse, Mt. Pleasant; Clement W. Luse, Centre Hall, and Agnes E. Armbruster, Farmers Mills; Irvin Spangler and Minnie M. Smith, both of Blanchard; William Lee and Jennie Miller, both of Bellefonte.

A large number of newspaper reporters were in town the past few days to write up the execution of Bellefonte certainly is becoming noted for its criminals, and we almost forgot, her public men. The Bellefonte Band is practicing some new music, among which are a number of sacred selections. They think or rendering these pieces on Easter Sunday in an open air concert. The firm of Camp Nagery, furniture dealers and undertakers, dissolved partnership last week. Mr. Camp will engage in the undertaking business. On Tuesday we noticed a man digging his garden and getting it in shape for the spring plantings. Mr. Sternberg is home again from his business trip to Millheim, where he opened a store for a few weeks. William Royer, an employe of this office, has been on the sick list for the past two weeks. He is suffering from the gripe. We notice Charles Nau, the musician, on our streets again after an absence almost a year. The Y. M. C. A. evening is crowded every evening of the week by young men of the town. Merchant John Meese is about again although somewhat weak from the gripe.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gettig were receiving congratulations upon the birth of a daughter at the Bellefonte Hospital. The little girl had been named Alice J. Gettig.

Dr. H. E. Thornley, osteopath formerly of Bellefonte, lost his home and most of his possessions in a fire at Williamsport, where he had been practicing for some time. Elmer Miller, of Centre Hall, had accepted a position in the First National Bank at State College. Formerly he had been employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad at Altoona.

Frank Reish, of Potters Mills, purchased the big handsome gray stallion that had arrived in Centre Hall recently. The purchase price was not known but was said to have been a substantial figure. A son of Scott Holter, living in Blanchard, was stricken with diphtheria and some alarm was given to the community since other members of the family had attended school on the day that the illness was diagnosed as the dreaded malady.

The Noll Brothers, of Pleasant Gap, were being prevailed upon by the State road management to reopen their hotel. The Nolls were assured of from \$10 to 15 steady boarders during the coming summer if they complied with the State's request. When building paper with which the inside of the Henney carriage shop at Centre Hall was lined caught fire, pieces of the burning paper dropped on the Goodhart Funeral Home hearse, destroying the finish of the top. Otherwise no damage resulted from the blaze. A fine Holstein bull on the Dr. J. M. Brockerhoff farm near Bellefonte became unruly and tossed a farm hand over the fence. Fearing that the animal would create further trouble, Dr. Brockerhoff had Philip Beeser's men kill it. The carcass was taken to the Beeser slaughter house and dressed.

John J. Curry, author, poet, lecturer and soldier was to deliver his celebrated lecture entitled "Unwritten History of the War" at the Court House in Bellefonte. Harry N. Meyer, former chief clerk to the County Commissioners was in charge of the office of the Krader Motor Company, in the company's building at the corner of Howard and Allegheny streets. M. Ward Fleming, popular Phillipsburg attorney, was among those who were seriously ill with influenza. L. E. Swartz, of Hubersburg, also was housed up with the same malady.

J. B. Payne, former Harrisburg boy, arrived here from Harrisburg for a conference with County Superintendent D. O. Elster, and his assistant, F. M. Fietcher. Mr. Payne came here to assist local authorities with the development of vocational training program for the youth of the county.

Marriage licenses were issued to the following couples: Charles C. Meekley and Anna France, Elgel, of the town of Harrisburg; Harry L. Beer, Altona, and Helen T. Treaster, Coburn; Clinton E. Swartz, Tyrone, and Ella M. Erie, Millsburg; Harry Hockenberry, Jr., Bellefonte, and Laura O. Stover, Axe Mann; Paul J. Haag and Ethel May Justice, both of Bellefonte; Chester L. Bilbrey and Viola K. Holderman, both of Bellefonte.

Mrs. Sarah J. Owens, wife of Edward R. Owens, of Bellefonte, purchased from Ray Brandman the latter's property on the corner of Bishop and Allegheny Streets, the consideration being \$12,000. The purchase included the buildings housing the Lyric theatre, a shoe repair shop and the Brandman store which was to be conducted by Edward R. Owens, Harry Murtorf and Mark W. Williams, trading as the Bellefonte Hardware Company.

REBERSBURG

Rev. Edwin Bierly of town and Mrs. Rose Latcher, of Nanaguck, West Virginia, were united in marriage at the latter's home on January 23rd, according to announcements received by relatives here. They are spending their honeymoon with the former's brother, H. Elmer Bierly in Tallahassee, Florida. He will return to Rebersburg late in April, where they will reside.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Miller of Lebanon, were Sunday visitors with the former's father, Elmer Miller. They were accompanied home by Mr. Miller's sister, Mrs. Stella Wetzel, of Akron, Ohio, who is visiting in this vicinity at this writing, and who will spend this week at Lebanon.

Mr. Fred Bender and family of State College and Mr. Clyde Smith and family of Millheim, visited Mrs. Ella Diehl and Miss Emma Sholl, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Musser of Aaronsburg, called at the S. H. Hackenberg home on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Breen and daughter Mary, of Aaronsburg, were weekend visitors with Mrs. Paul Bright.

Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Miller and family of Centre City and son John, were Saturday visitors in Lock Haven.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Baur and baby Nancy of Centre Hall, visited at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Breen, on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ocker, and daughters, Jean and Julia, of Millheim, spent the weekend at the W. F. Bierly home.

Mrs. Roy Arbogast was called to Middleburg, last Friday because of the illness of her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Beigel.

Mr. and Mrs. Ned Reish and children Arvin and Martha Ann, of Lock Haven, and Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Yearick and sons David and Norman called at the C. S. Hosterman home on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Marsteller and children John and Gloria and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Boyer of Bloomsburg visited at the J. N. Moyer home, on Sunday.

Mr. James Hoover of Albion, has bought the Mrs. Mary M. Abbott farm and will occupy the same this spring. This farm was formally owned by Mrs. Abbott's brother, Prof. Henry Meyer and has been farmed by George Daye who is moving to Wolfe's Store.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Winter's Mr. and Mrs. John Reish, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bright, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Guiseville attended the moonlight day dinner last Friday evening at Nittany Lion Hotel at State College.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Weaver of Lemont, spent Sunday with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Weaver, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Duck of Millifield, visited Mrs. Alice Crouse, last Saturday.

Prof. Harry Weaver and family of New Kensington, were weekend visitors with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Weaver, Sr.

John Miller and friend Robert Miller of Fishersburg, spent the weekend at the home of the former's parents, Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. James Corman entertained the following relatives on Sunday at dinner: Mrs. Gertrude Corman, Miss Alma Corman of town, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Swank of Williamsport; Mr. and Mrs. Luther Wert and daughter Patricia, of Lemont; and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Hosterman of Aaronsburg.

Mr. John Becker of Meyersstown, Mrs. J. R. Schechler and daughter Joyce, of McClure, visited at the K. S. Breen home last Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Moyer went to Bloomsburg on Monday and will spend a few weeks with their son-in-law, Ray Marsteller and family.

The Lutheran Ladies Aid contributed \$10 to the Infantile Paralysis fund, bringing the total for the community to \$38.

The Young Women's Missionary Society of the Lutheran church will hold an Old-Fashioned Spelling Bee on Friday evening, Feb. 16 at 7:30 p. m. in the Miles Township High School building. Admission 10, per person. Refreshments will be on sale.

Has Lincoln's Clothes Brush Major Henry C. Hill, warden of the United States Penitentiary at Lewisburg, has revealed ownership of a valuable possession which is particularly interesting at this time of the year, namely a clothes brush that was used by Abraham Lincoln. The brush, one of Major Hill's most cherished possessions, was presented to his grandfather, who lived in Illinois and was a personal friend of the great president. The article was willed to Major Hill at the time of his grandfather's death a number of years ago.

Over The County News

It is reported that a moving picture theatre will be established in Sherry Hall, Millsburg, in the near future, by a Lewistown promoter.

Miss Marie Breen, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Breen, is ill at her home on East Main street, Millheim, suffering with pneumonia. Her sister, Miss Ruth Breen, R. N., of Geisinger Hospital, Danville, has made frequent trips to assist in the nursing duties.

The spring on top of Long Mountain, one of the Seven Mountains group, several miles south of Potters Mills, is supplying drinking water for many persons who go there with gallon jugs and fill up. The spring is under State supervision and has proven a never-failing source of supply during all the drought seasons.

Berne P. Cramer, Penn State student who has been in a critical condition since he was injured in an auto and his car down the steep Marlin Furnace, is improving rapidly at the University Hospital in Philadelphia following an operation to relieve pressure on the brain. John W. Harkins, of State College, is improving slowly but steadily at the Centre County Hospital where he has been a patient since the accident.

James Gearhart, Centre Hall, high school student and son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Durst, in descending Nittany mountain during the snowfall Tuesday night, slipped and crashed into a telephone pole, damaging the front of the car. In hitting the pole, "Jim" chose the better of the two alternatives, the other one would have precipitated him and his car down the steep mountainside to possible death. New posts are now being set along this point.

First step toward answering the all-important motorist's question of "How fast can I take that curve?" was made a few days ago by the highway department with erection of signs indicating safe speed to negotiate turns. Placing a number of signs on U. S. Route 322 between Harrisburg and the Ohio state line, via Potters Mills, Boalsburg and Phillipsburg, marked start of a new program designed to make Pennsylvania highway travel safer than ever.

A serious driving hazard now exists for motorists in that there is no guard cable along Route 53 between the top of Nittany mountain and the point where Adams wood road formerly intersected with the main highway, near Centre Hall. This is where the bank is steepest. A quick and unexpected slip by a car may bring a tragic, fateful end. As a safety measure it has been suggested a night watchman patrol the road where there are no guard posts and cable.

JACKSONVILLE

Church services on Sunday Feb. 18, are as follows: Worship with sermon 9:30. Sunday School 10:30 and C. E. 6:45.

Sunday dinner guests at the Hubert Vonada home were Mr. and Mrs. Russell Confer and daughters Virginia and Estella of Millsburg, in the afternoon all visited Mr. and Mrs. Willard Harter of Little Nittany.

Mrs. Anna Robb was a Sunday afternoon caller at the homes of her friends Mrs. Cora Boney and Mrs. Alice Holter of Howard.

Miss Ruth Brungard of Romola, was an over night guest of her school chum, Louise Beightol, on Wednesday night.

On Tuesday Mr. Willard Weaver was motoring toward Howard and when nearing the older press was crowded off the road by a car coming in the opposite direction, damaging his car to the extent of approximately \$50 or \$60. The car was towed to the garage to await repairs so now poor Willard has his choice of walking or staying at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Dixon and children accompanied her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Boone to Rebersburg and visited Mr. Boone's brothers James and Charles Boone and wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Berkstreser and Miss Phyllis Ripka, of Rebersburg, spent Sunday evening at the C. E. Alely home.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Betz and children Nancy and Mervin Austin, of Howard, were Sunday supper guests of his mother, Alice Betz and family other callers were Mrs. Harry Funk and daughter Alice and Miss Gertrude Poorman of Bellefonte.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Clevelantine and son Miles of Zion, were callers at the Nevin Yearick home Sunday afternoon.

The many friends of Mrs. Miles Bartley are very glad to know that she has improved sufficiently to permit her to be able to be out of doors. Visitors during the week were Mrs. and Mrs. Raymond Harter and daughter Kathleen of State College, Miss Viola Pike, Mrs. William Beightol, Mrs. James Lucas, Mrs. Alice Betz and daughter Dorothy, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Bartley and sons of this place and Rev. Gulick of Howard.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Baird and son Ralph of Bellefonte spent Sunday at the A. A. Garrett home.

Master Irvin Arnell spent several days last week with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Yarnell of Hubersburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kesinger of Woodward, visited the former's sister Mrs. Olive Spier Monday of this week.

Mrs. Lucy Onaway was a Sunday dinner guest of her son Robert and family.

Mr. William Dixon is not enjoying the health his many friends would like to see him enjoy.

Miss Kay McCrea spent Sunday afternoon with her friend Miss June Erley.

On Saturday morning our vicinity was added in a double fashion which seems some what like a mystery that on Friday noon the Death Angel visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Thiel of Clayburg and claimed the husband, Mr. Thiel, for several years owned and lived on the farm called the Joe Hoy farm 2 miles west of Jacksonville.

Sunday afternoon callers at the R. J. Spangler home were Mr. and Mrs. George Speary and sons of Bellefonte.

Mrs. Anna Bechtel returned to her home Sunday afternoon, after spending several months in Williamsport.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Streeter of Williamsport, visited various relatives in town on Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Charles Williams spent the weekend with her friend Betty Bechtel of Hunters Run.

Miss Anna Mae Rupert visited friends in Bellefonte during the weekend.

A Townsend Club was organized at Woodward last Saturday evening in the P. O. S. of A. hall in that community. Clubs in Penna and Blue Valley were present. L. A. Romenaker, national representative, was the speaker, and organizer of the club.

Ralph Meyers of Millsburg and Anthony DeLallo of Bellefonte, last week opened a radio repair shop in the room in the Friedman building, Bellefonte, formerly occupied by the James Bailey barber shop. Mr. Meyers was recently an NYA instructor at the Bellefonte Y. M. C. A.

Five cows in the herd of Roy S. Bowen, Wellsboro, have produced a quantity of milk in the last 12 years which, if placed in regular shipping cans, would fill 33 railroad cars, according to R. R. Welch, dairy extension specialist with the Pennsylvania State College. Their completed production for the period totals 690,839 pounds of milk or 21,065 pounds of butterfat. All of the cows are living and producing.

Approximately twenty-five prospective motorists are taking the safe driving school now being held at the Y. M. C. A. In fact there are several taking the course who do not have an automobile in the family. When the course of twenty lessons is completed the student will then be given actual driving lessons. Completion of the course and a certificate of proficiency is tantamount to an examination by State motor police.

Dr. George Swartz, of Dallas, Luzerne county, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Swartz, in State College, last week. Dr. Swartz spent his boyhood days at Tusseyville, where his father conducted the wellknown and long established Swartz general store. Dr. Swartz during his short stay at home was called into consultation regarding the condition of John Harkins, Jr., a patient in the Centre County hospital, as the result of an automobile accident. Dr. Swartz and Rev. Hawkins, the young man's father, were college mates at Susquehanna University.

At a meeting in the home of Mrs. P. V. Goodhart, at Centre Hall, a group of eight members of the Woman's Club met, last Tuesday night, to organize a music society. These officers were elected: president, Mrs. J. F. Wetzel; vice-president, Mrs. Shannon Boozer; secretary-treasurer, Miss Helen Odick; director, Mrs. William Campbell; pianist, Mrs. D. R. Keener and chairman of the program committee, Mrs. Roy S. Jamison. The third Thursday in every month has been set tentatively as a meeting night and the next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Shannon Boozer, March 21. Mrs. Goodhart will report on the life of one of the composers and Mrs. Keener will play several of his compositions.

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