

RULE NONE ENTITLED TO REWARD

Official Statement Is Expected Soon

Decision Affects Four Claimants to \$5000 County Fund

HAVE RIGHT TO APPEAL TO COURT

Reported Action is Final Chapter in One of County's Murders

None of the claimants to the \$5,000 reward offered by the Centre County Commissioners for the arrest and conviction of the slayer of Faye Gates will receive the reward or any part of it, according to unofficial reports yesterday.

The information is that the Commissioners will soon notify the four claimants by mail that they are not entitled to the reward.

It is reported that the Commissioners will inform claimants that their claims have been considered carefully, fully, and impartially, but that none of them furnished information which led to the arrest and conviction of Richard Millender for the brutal crime near Mt. Eagle last May 5.

In considering the claims, the Commissioners are reported to have (Continued on page three)

Nittany Scene Of \$3000 Fire

7-Car Garage Owned By C. M. Long Burns to Ground; Car is Destroyed

A two-story seven-car garage at Nittany, owned by C. M. Long, well known livestock dealer, was burned to the ground last Wednesday afternoon in a fire which is believed to have originated from a stove which was used to heat the building.

Included in the loss are Mr. Long's car; a large number of chicken crates, lumber, tools, and other equipment. The total damage was placed at \$3,000, with some insurance.

When the blaze was discovered by residents of the area, a call was sent to the Mill Hill Fire Company, but when firemen arrived on the scene the structure was doomed. They devoted most of their efforts toward preventing the spread of flames to nearby buildings. Mr. Long is undecided as to whether the building will be replaced.

Dread of 'Solitary' Reason For Escape

Henry Brewer, colored, who escaped from Rockview prison, December 17, told Judge Ivan Walker at a special session of Court here Monday morning that his reason for escaping was his dread of confinement in a "basket cell" at Rockview for violating prison regulations.

Brewer had been taken before Deputy Warden C. C. Rhoads for a reprimand and was ordered to spend some time in solitary confinement, on a bread and water diet, as punishment. While being taken to the "basket cell" Brewer broke away from guards and hid himself in a building inside the stockade. At 12:30 o'clock the next morning he scaled the stockade and fled.

He was picked-up near State College the same day by a truck driver who recognized him from a prison photo he had seen.

Brewer was sentenced to serve from 3 to 6 years in Western Penitentiary. His original sentence was from Allegheny County.

Elks Club To Hold Christmas Dance

The Bellefonte Elks Club's annual Christmas dance will be held at the Elks home, West High Street, Christmas night, December 25, beginning at 9 p. m. The dance is limited to members and their escorts.

The Club is completing plans for the annual New Year's eve party.

COUNTY BUYS PICTURE PROJECTOR FOR SCHOOL USE

The County Commissioners have donated for use in the county Agricultural High School classes a picture projector.

This is a tri-purpose projector in which slides or films may be shown. It will make it possible for many farm boys to see actual improved farm practices in picture form thus helping them gain valuable information. The machine has been turned over to the County Supervisor of Agricultural Education, W. J.

State College Woman Heads VFW Contest

Mrs. Riggs Mingle of State College has been placed in charge of the V. F. W. Auxiliary essay contest for the entire state of Pennsylvania, it was announced at department headquarters.

Mrs. Mingle will head the work of assembling all entries from the many competing Pennsylvania communities, and will select judges who, in turn, will pick Pennsylvania's entry in the national contest.

Displays Open For Inspection

Three Bellefonte Men Completing Intricate Xmas Layouts

Bellefonte's three principal designers and builders of intricate Christmas displays are working feverishly on the finishing touches of their 1940 contributions to the Yuletide season.

The three men are George Emel, of North Spring Street; Albert Smith, of Beaver and Hoy Row, and John Benner, of West Beaver Street.

Emel's outdoor display is scheduled to be ready for public inspection Monday night, December 23. It includes a yard full of townships, mountains, streams, farm scenes, and numerous other features, all done with painstaking care for detail. The display is larger and more complete than ever.

Albert Smith's display this year consists of a large room practically (Continued on page three)

Chemical Lime Transfer Nears

National Gypsum Co. Expected to Assume Control Late This Month

Final papers will be signed before the end of the month completing the transfer of the Chemical Lime Company to the National Gypsum Company, according to reports. The plant will be operated immediately by the new management.

This action will complete the re-organization program brought about in January 1938 when the company filed in bankruptcy under section 77B of the bankruptcy law. The company has been operated by Clarence P. Wynne of Scranton and the late Spencer Townsend of Shawnee-on-the-Delaware, as trustees since January 8th, 1938 when they were appointed by Judge Wat-

Has Hand Mangled In Electric Wringer

Late last Monday afternoon, Miss Lottie McCool, chief operator of the Millheim exchange of the Bell Telephone Company, was the victim of a very painful accident.

Miss McCool used the laundry at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Stover, every Tuesday morning, and had gone to the Stover home on Monday afternoon to fill the laundry tubs with water in readiness for the next day's task. Mrs. Stover turned on the wringer of a new electric washer and was showing Miss McCool how it was operated when the latter got too close to the revolving rubber rolls and her right hand was drawn into the machine.

She was rushed to the office of a physician and then to the Centre County Hospital. The index finger of the hand was most severely torn, but the back of the hand was also lacerated, although no bones were broken. Miss McCool suffered from shock and it was thought advisable to keep her at the hospital after the surgical treatment had been administered.

Guardsmen To Leave Jan. 6; No Farewell Planned

Monday, January 6, Bellefonte's National Guard unit is scheduled to leave for Camp Shelby, Miss., for a year of intensive training.

The troop represents Bellefonte's most valuable contribution to National Defense. Officers and members of the organization are leaving their jobs, their homes, their families, so that they may be better prepared to protect all of us in case we should become involved in war.

None of us knows what lies ahead for the United States. It could happen that our troops are called to actual war duty. It could happen that before the Guardsmen return to Bellefonte as an organization they will have undergone service on the front lines. We hope not and we don't believe such a thing will happen.

But if they do nothing more than devote one year of the best part of their lives to the interests of national defense, doesn't the community owe them a real debt?

As things now stand the troop (Continued on page seven)

Predict Changes In State Election Laws

Indications are that Pennsylvania election procedure will be subjected to drastic revision during the 1941 legislative session opening January 7. There is some evidence of Democrats and Republicans seeing eye to eye on such major proposals as:

1. Barring Communist party nominees from the ballots.
 2. State reimbursement of political sub-divisions toward cost of state-wide elections.
 3. Legalization of absentee balloting.
 4. Consolidation of voting districts.
- Less likelihood of agreement was indicated on measures drafted to make uniform accounting of political campaign expenditures mandatory, require separate ballots for voting for president and vice-president, exempt nominees for school director and the minor judiciary from the "anti-party raiding" law, and restore the tax qualification for voting.

Turnpike Extension For Defense Urged By Moerschbacher

Leo Moerschbacher, Phillipsburg State Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, asked Federal Loan Administrator Jesse H. Jones to expedite construction of the proposed extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike from Harrisburg to Philadelphia.

Need for it is now under way to obtain the necessary funds from the reconstruction finance corporation, which Jones heads.

From a defense standpoint, Moerschbacher wrote Jones, construction of the 100-mile extension is "vital" and the Veterans' Commander demanded quick action.

"If your agency is not the bottleneck in achieving reality," wrote Moerschbacher, "we should like to know where the responsibility lies for the delay. Let us here avoid the confusion, the indecision and the fatal delay that marked the downfall of France."

The public is entitled to know," he added, "what officials are allegedly delinquent in failing to make more tangible progress on a project authorized by its elected representative." (Continued on page three)

Howard-Beech Creek Highway Link Seen

College Firemen Inspect New Truck

Four State College borough officials went to Allentown Thursday to inspect the new Mack fire-truck being assembled for the Alpha company.

The four were Walter Hosterman and Daniel Krumrine, representing the Alpha Fire Company; Horace Gulden, borough engineer; and L. R. Porter, head of the borough council fire committee.

Construction of Section is Predicted Early in New Year

CREEK BOTTOM ROUTE ABANDONED

Claim Route 220 Will Be Shifted From Nittany to Bald Eagle Valley

All indications point to the construction of the "missing link" on Route 64 between Howard borough and the end of the concrete pavement west of the bridge at Beech Creek early in 1941. Surveys have been in progress since last spring supplementing those made over a period of several years.

It is understood that the line surveyed through the creek bottom lands for much of the distance has been entirely abandoned, reportedly because the commissioners of Centre county would not approve it due to the excessive damage to farms enroute.

Apparently the route to be followed, after the approach to a new, long bridge across Bald Eagle Creek above the dam at Howard, will use the old highway right of way to a point near the top of Schenck's Hill, where an entirely new layout makes the crossing of Hunter Run north of the present highway and entails a deep cut for a long distance, going back of the Neese farm buildings, crossing Marsh Creek close by the house and barn of Joseph Beecher's farm and in a straight line back of the town of Blanchard, of north side of it, to curve through another deep cut to join up with the end of the concrete in front of the (Continued on page three)

Illness Fatal to W. R. Houser

Former Court Officer Dies Here; Funeral Scheduled Tuesday

William Riley Houser, native of Centre county and former County court officer, died at his home on South Water street, Bellefonte, at 1:10 o'clock Sunday afternoon, December 22, 1940, after a lingering illness with a complication of diseases. Mr. Houser, who was aged 79 years, 1 month and 27 days, had been bedfast for the past five months.

Funeral services were scheduled to be held at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at the family home, with the Rev. Clarence E. Arnold, pastor of the Bellefonte Lutheran church, officiating. Interment was to be (Continued on page seven)

16-Year-Old Girl Held in Jail Here

A 16-year-old girl, giving her name as Helen Baker, of Watkins Glen, N. Y., was picked up at State College Sunday afternoon by Chief of Police John R. Juba, of State College, on complaints that she was selling jewelry in that community. She was brought to the County jail to await the arrival of the Sheriff of Schuylkill County, N. Y., who has made arrangements to come here for her. No charges have been lodged against the girl. Upon arrival at the jail she said she had not slept for 68 hours.

Claim Coburn Man Posed As G-Man

Flashing a shiny junior G-man badge on trappers around Bellefonte and inspecting their traps, Ralph Kerstetter, a 40-year-old trapper living near Coburn, has been impersonating a game officer for the past several weeks, in an effort to keep other trappers out of his territory, evidence presented at a hearing before Justice of the Peace Harold D. Cowher revealed last Wednesday.

Kerstetter was arrested by Game Protector Thomas Mosier and Samuel B. Reed, his deputy. After the hearing he was held in the Centre County jail on \$300 bail. The charge was impersonation of an officer.

Back Loretto As Hospital Site

Charles Schwab Estate is Reported Available For New Vets' Institution

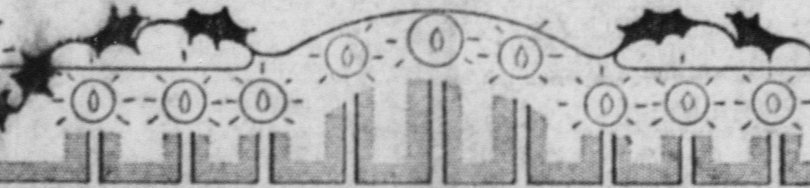
Legionnaires in the Ebensburg district are renewing their efforts to have the government purchase the estate of the late Charles Schwab at Loretto as a site of the proposed veterans' hospital.

It was disclosed that those in charge of the Schwab estate are willing to sell the estate of the late steel tycoon at a price considered to be extremely low.

Congressman Harry Tibbott and Ebensburg Legionnaires believe that a strong possibility exists that the government may purchase the 940-acre estate.

In addition to giving hospital care to the government, will also construct barracks where domiciliary care will be provided for veterans. It is pointed out by Congressman Tibbott that the Loretto site offers an ideal location for this type of veterans administration facilities.

It is believed that General Edward Hines, head of the Veterans' Administration, will probably announce within three weeks the site selected for the hospital. Bellefonte is a strong contender for the institution.



A Christmas Carol

By Charles Dickens THE AUTHOR

Since Shakespeare, no Englishman has supplied the world with as many notable parallels to every circumstance of life as Charles Dickens. In all his numerous works are characters who are as real today as the day they were created. Among the most famous of these characters are old Scrooge and "Tiny Tim" in Christmas Carol. The better part of two months were spent on the production of this little story. Dickens himself referred to his "Carol" as the greatest success he has ever achieved. This selection is rare praise from a prodigious writer whose works place him among the greatest of English writers. The stories which he produced in such great numbers include such masterpieces as Nicholas Nickleby, David Copperfield, Pickwick Papers, Bleak House, Great Expectation.



STAVE ONE
Marley's Ghost

Marley was dead. Scrooge knew he was dead? Of course he did. Scrooge and he were partners. Scrooge was his sole executor, his sole friend, and sole mourner. And even Scrooge was not so cut up by the sad event.

There is no doubt that Marley was dead. This must be distinctly understood, or nothing wonderful can come of the story I am going to relate. If we were not perfectly convinced that Hamlet's father died before the play began, there would be nothing more remarkable in his taking a stroll at night.

The firm was known as Scrooge and Marley.

Oh! But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! a squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous, old sinner!

Once upon a time—on Christmas Eve—old Scrooge sat busy in his counting-house.

"A Merry Christmas, uncle! God save you!" cried a cheerful voice.

"Bah!" said Scrooge, "Humbug!"

"Christmas a humbug, uncle!" said Scrooge's nephew. "You don't mean that, I am sure?"

"I do," said Scrooge. "Merry Christmas! What right have you to be merry? You're poor enough."

"Come, then," returned the nephew gaily. "What right have you to be morose? You're rich enough."

Scrooge having no better answer ready on the spur of the moment, said "Bah!" again; and followed it up with: "Keep Christmas in your way, and let me keep it in mine."

"Keep it!" repeated Scrooge's nephew. "But you don't keep it!"

"Let me leave it alone, then," said Scrooge. "Much good may it do you!"

"There are many things from which I might have derived good, by which I have not profited, I dare say," returned the nephew. "Christmas among the rest. But I am sure I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round—apart from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that—as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys. And therefore, unless I am very much mistaken, there should be a kindness to the poor and destitute, of whom thousands are in want of common necessities."

"Are there no prisons?" asked Scrooge.

"Plenty of prisons."

"And the Union workhouses?" demanded Scrooge. "Are they still in operation?"

"Under the impression that they scarcely furnish Christmas cheer of mind or body to the multitude," returned the gentleman, "a few of us are endeavoring to raise a fund to buy the poor some meat and drink,

and means of warmth. What can I put you down for?"

"Nothing!" Scrooge replied. "I help to support the establishments I have mentioned—they cost enough; and those who are badly off must go there."

"Many can't go there; and many would rather die," said Scrooge, "they had better do it, and decrease the surplus population."

Seeing it would be useless to pursue their point, the men withdrew.

At length the hour of shutting up the counting-house arrived.

"You'll want all day tomorrow, I suppose?" said Scrooge.

The clerk observed it was only once a year.

"A poor excuse for picking a man's pocket," said Scrooge.

Scrooge took his melancholy dinner in his usual melancholy tavern; and having read all the newspapers, went to bed.

Now, it is a fact, that there was nothing at all particular about the knocker on the door, except that it was very large. Let it also be borne in mind that Scrooge had not bestowed one thought on Marley. Then let any man explain how it happened that Scrooge saw in the knocker, not a knocker, but Marley's face.

As Scrooge looked at this phenomenon, it was a knocker again.

To say that he was not startled would be untrue. But he put his hand upon the key he had relinquished, turned it sturdily.

He closed his door and locked himself in; double-locked himself in, which was not his custom, and sat down before the fire in his gaiter.

The fireplace was an old one, paved all round with quaint Dutch

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