

TITAN DISTRIBUTES \$38,000 BONUS

62 Employees Share In New Year "Gift"

Each Worker Receives 5% of Total Earnings For Year

PLANT PAYROLL AT ALL-TIME PEAK

Largest Check Was For \$134.31; Smallest Drawn For \$3.77

The Titan Metal Manufacturing Company's New Year's greeting to its 558 hourly and 70 salaried employees consisted of a generous slice of a \$38,000 bonus melon cut by the prominent Belleville industry.

The amount received by each employee represented 5 per cent of his earnings from December 3, 1939 to December 2, 1940. The smallest check received by an hourly wage employee was \$3.77, and the largest check to an hourly employee was for \$134.31.

The announcement of the bonus distribution was accompanied by a statement which noted that the fourth quarter for 1940 reached an all-time peak for Titan, with a payroll of approximately a quarter of a million dollars. This increase brought the yearly payroll to approximately \$830,000. Hourly wages, it is noted, have reached an all-time high, averaging 38.8 per cent higher than in 1929.

"This bonus distribution," the announcement sets forth, "is in line with the company's policy of returning to workers in the form of dividends and higher wages the maximum yield based on past earnings. Other voluntary policies developed by the company include vacations with pay, promotion of group life, health and accident insurance, establishment of the weekly pay period, and the development of the Federal Credit Union. The

Farm Home Is Razed By Fire

Centre Hall Family Makes Hazardous Escape From Bedrooms

A family of ten near Centre Hall was rendered homeless and eight of them suffered burns about 10:15 o'clock Sunday night when their home on the Earlstown road was destroyed by fire.

Victims of the fire are: Mr. and Mrs. Dayton Lansberry and eight young children, who escaped down a ladder from a porch roof. Mr. and Mrs. Lansberry and six of the children received treatment at the offices of a Centre Hall physician for burns about the feet and legs. None of the wounds are of a serious nature.

Centre Hall firemen, using their pumper for the first time, were powerless to save the ancient house, but they successfully prevented the flames, driven by a high wind, from reaching the barn and other nearby outbuildings.

The stone house, believed to be

Hannah Girl Reads 5684 Chapters In Bible Last Year

Peter Poulos, teacher in the Methodist Sunday school at Hannah, believes his daughter has established some kind of record for Bible study during 1940.

During the year, he reported yesterday, the girl, Dorothy Poulos, aged 15, read a total of 5,684 chapters in the Bible. To attain that number, some chapters were read more than once.

Another student in Poulos' class, Irene Walk, also aged 15, was second high with a total of 3,754 chapters for the year.

Poulos believes the world would improve if more people became better acquainted with the Bible.

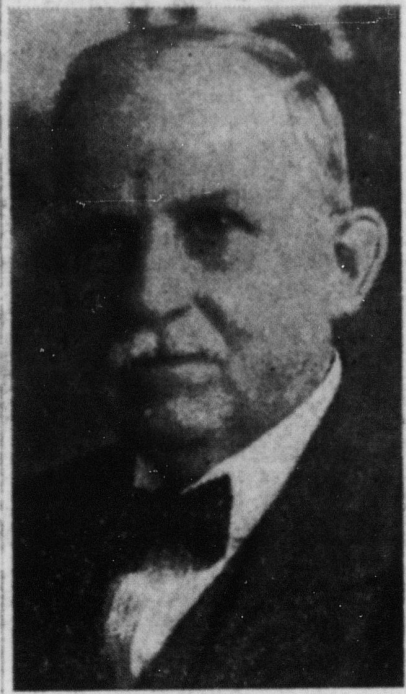
Institutions Serve Turkey on Christmas

Turkey dinners with all the trimmings were served Christmas Day to 1123 persons who are in institutions in Centre county.

The penitentiary population at Rockview, 967 all told, ate gobblers, while 40 in the Centre County Hospital and 16 in the county jail also had a taste of turkey.

Fifty-three guests at the county home had chicken—because they had their turkey dinner on Thanksgiving.

Editor Succumbs



CHARLES L. GATES

Brief Illness Fatal To C. L. Gates

Veteran Newspaperman Dies at 77; Was Editor Here Over 35 Years

Charles Lewis Gates, veteran Belleville newspaperman, an editor of the Democratic Watchman for 35 years, and for the past 18 years Belleville Borough Auditor, died at the Centre County Hospital, Belleville, at 1:20 o'clock Thursday afternoon, December 26, 1940.

Had Mr. Gates lived until Sunday, December 29, he would have observed his 78th birthday anniversary. For the past 56 years he has been numbered among Belleville's working newspapermen.

Mr. Gates had been in failing health for some months, but remained at work until Thursday, December 19, when the last issue of

Local Couple Married 50 Years

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Grove Quietly Observe Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Grove, who reside along the old Lewistown pike just south of Belleville, on December 24th quietly observed their 50th wedding anniversary at their home. Because Mrs. Grove has not been in good health for some weeks, no celebration was held.

Mr. Grove and Elizabeth Evey, of Lemont, were united in marriage on December 24, 1890, at Boalsburg, by the Rev. Mr. Hawshauer, then pastor of the Boalsburg Lutheran church. The wedding party drove through two feet of snow to the ceremony. Attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Al Shuey, now deceased, the bridegroom's brother, the late Daniel A. Grove, of Belleville, and Miss Fetterolf, of Pleasant Gap.

Immediately after the ceremony

Driver Fined After Crash Near Millheim

Bruce F. Zettle, of Spring Mills R. D. was fined \$10 and costs at a hearing before Justice of the Peace J. R. Miller, Millheim, after his car crashed into a coupe driven by Paul B. Ritter of Britton, Mich., on Route 45 between Millheim and Spring Mills at 8:30 o'clock Friday night. The cars were traveling in opposite directions, it was said.

Zettle was charged with driving on the wrong side of the road. Damage to each car amounted to about \$50.

KATZ STORE JANUARY CLEARANCE OPENS FRIDAY

The annual January clearance sale at the Katz store Belleville, will open Friday morning, January 3, at 9 o'clock, and will continue for ten days. It was announced yesterday. The store is closed all day today in preparation for the sale.

According to a two-page advertisement appearing in this issue, the January clearance this year will surpass all others in exceptional values. Many items are marked at factory close-out prices and all winter merchandise is drastically reduced. Consult the advertisement for additional information.

Board Passes Measures For New Building

Will Issue \$17,000 Councilmanic Bonds; \$55,000 Issue is Tabled

APPROVE SALE OF SITE FOR \$25,000

Tax Levy of 34 Mills Beginning Next Spring Will Finance Program

A new \$400,000 high school building for Belleville, to replace the one destroyed by fire on February 13, 1939, was given substantial impetus Monday night of last week when the local school board passed four measures in connection with the financing of the new structure.

A \$55,000 bond issue approved several years ago by the voters was tabled for the time being because no suitable legal way could be found

Bell Announces Building Program

\$300,000 of \$30,000,000 Outlay in 1941 to Be Spent in Belleville Area

Present plans of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania call for the expenditure of nearly \$300,000 throughout the State during 1941 for telephone construction activities. It will exceed the 1940 outlay for construction by about \$5,000,000.

Jesse H. Caum, manager for the company, said approximately \$300,000 is being spent in this exchange area for a new central office building at 113 North Allegheny Street, the installation of dial mechanisms and the construction of associated equipment. Transfer of Belleville to dial service is scheduled for late in 1941.

An additional \$127,000 will be spent for a new Belleville-Lock Haven telephone cable and about \$30,000 for a new repeater station and its equipment approximately 17 miles northeast of Belleville. A repeater station is an integral part of a long distance telephone transmission.

State College Girl Is Struck By Car

Barbara L. Horner, six-year-old daughter of Bruce M. Horner, of South Allen street, State College, suffered painful but not serious injuries Saturday night when she was struck by a car at the intersection of Beaver avenue and Allen street, State College.

The car, driven by Carl E. Bechtel, also of State College, was traveling north toward College avenue and crossed the intersection with the traffic light. The child, who was accompanied by her father, a sister, and a brother, stepped in front of the machine.

She suffered a small cut on the forehead and brush burns on both legs. She was treated by a State College physician and taken to her home.

Three Cars Damaged In Mishap at College

In a collision at State College last Tuesday cars driven by Burgess Wilbur F. Lettzel and Mrs. W. E. Kenworthy, Arbor Way, were damaged.

According to the police report, the Kenworthy car pulled out from the curb as the Lettzel car was going by. The impact forced the Kenworthy vehicle against a car owned by Rev. R. A. Selby, North Patterson street, which was parked along the curb. Total damage was about \$80.

Infant Resuscitator Given To Hospital

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Centre County Medical Society this week presented to the Centre County Hospital an infant resuscitator.

The instrument is to be used in the delivery room.

NOTICE TO READERS Because of the holidays The Centre Democrat last week consisted of only eight pages. This week's edition also is an eight-page one for the same reason. For the benefit of readers who are uncertain whether they receive the full edition, we will each week in the future indicate the number of pages in the issue in the small box at the upper right side of the first page.



Icy Highway Fire Causes \$2000 Loss

W. J. Dorworth, Jr., Injured as Cars Collide on Centre Hall Mountain

William J. Dorworth, Jr. of East Linn street, Belleville, suffered a head injury and his sister, Miss Ann Dorworth, escaped injury about 9 o'clock Christmas night when their car was involved in an accident on the Centre Hall mountain about one-half mile south of Pleasant Gap.

The two, both Penn State students, were returning to Belleville from Philadelphia where they had spent Christmas day with their father, William J. Dorworth, who has been undergoing medical treatment at Jefferson Hospital since the Thanksgiving holidays.

A freak icing condition on the highway was assigned as the cause

Couple Observes 57th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Haupt Guests of Honor at Family Dinner

Theodore Haupt, well known retired Belleville contractor, and Mrs. Haupt, on Friday were guests of honor at a family dinner held at their home in Bush Addition in celebration of their 57th wedding anniversary.

Present during the day were many of the elderly couple's six children, 23 grandchildren and 32 great grandchildren.

Mr. Haupt and Isabel Conter, both of the Belleville area, were united in marriage on December 27, 1883. They went to housekeeping on West High Street, opposite the United Brethren church, and

Belleville Woman Receives 8000-Mile Christmas Greeting

Mrs. E. N. Parker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hunter, of East Curtin Street, Belleville, received what was probably Belleville's most unique Christmas greeting.

The greeting was in the form of a telephone conversation with her husband, Lt. Commander E. N. Parker, of the United States Navy, who is stationed in the Philippine Islands. Lt. Parker called from Manila at 6 a. m. Christmas morning, and the connection was completed eight minutes later.

Although the voices during the three-minute conversation traveled over some 5000 miles of the Pacific Ocean and some 3000 miles of the United States, Mrs. Hunter had no difficulty in understanding her husband. "It was as though he talked from the other side of town, instead of half-way around the world," she told friends later.

Turner Store To Move Into Crider Bldg.

Lease Two Large Adjoining Rooms, Additional Space in Basement

CHANGE SCHEDULED BEFORE APRIL 1

New Fixtures, Shelving, Counters Ordered; Will be Air Conditioned

An outstanding business deal of the year just closed was announced yesterday by the A. C. Turner Co. to lease two large adjoining Crider Exchange, for two large adjoining store rooms and basements in that building.

One store room is that occupied by McCrotry Stores Corporation for

Philipsburg Man Gets NYA Post

George W. Bratton, Jr., Is Named Interviewer; Will Receive Applications

George W. Bratton, Jr., of Philipsburg, has been employed as an interviewer for the National Youth Administration, it was announced Monday morning by W. I. Scott, of Belleville.

During this week, Mr. Bratton is confining his activities to the townships of Rush, Burnside and Snow Shoe and all boroughs lying there.

All youths between the ages of 18 and 25, out of school and in need of a job, are urged to file applications for NYA employment with Mr. Bratton. For their convenience NYA job application offices will be established in various communities.

The object of these interviews is to obtain a roster of youth awaiting assignment to aid local project development. In addition, there are now many vacancies in the greatly expanded Resident Work Centers of the National Youth Administration. These work centers are located in New Castle, Shippensburg, Williamsport, State College, Harrisburg, Match Chunk, Reading, California and West Chester. At Resident Centers youth may "earn" while they learn" about machine operation, welding, automatic mechanics, radio, ground aviation mechanics, and construction trucks. The whole NYA program is geared with national defense.

Total of 1030 Aliens In County Registered

At midnight December 26 when the alien registration period closed, a total of 1030 aliens in Centre county had complied with the requirements of the new law.

Philipsburg led with a total of 700. Belleville was second with 241, and State College was low with only 89. Contrary to expectations, there was no last-minute rush, only two persons registering at Belleville and State College offices on the final day.

Nearly every nation on the face of the globe is represented in the registrations in this county. At State College, women were the first and last to register, one being from Poland and the other from Czechoslovakia—both nations—now victims of German's blitzkrieg.

Announce Program For Week of Prayer

The Week of Prayer will be observed among Belleville churches with a series of union services, January 6 to 10, inclusive. Each service will begin at 7:30 o'clock and will be in charge of the pastor of the church in which the service is held.

Members of all the churches are cordially invited and those who do not belong to any of the local congregations will be most heartily welcomed.

The following schedule of places, subjects and preachers has been arranged by the Ministerial Association:

Monday, January 6—The Evangelical church: "The World and Its Need of Christ"—Rev. C. E. Arnold. Tuesday, January 7—The Lutheran church: "Jesus Christ is the Answer"—Rev. H. H. Jacobs. Wednesday, January 8—The Methodist church: "The Church and Its Business"—Rev. H. W. Hartsock. Thursday, January 9—The Presbyterian church: "The Responsibility of America"—Rev. C. N. Stamm. Friday, January 10—The Reformed church: "The Coming Kingdom"—Rev. G. E. Householder.

Two Girls Molested; Burglary Attempted

Married 50 Years



ME. AND MRS. BRUCE PETERS

Milesburg Couple Wedded 50 Years

Anniversary Celebration Is Held Christmas For Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Peters

Christmas 1940 marked the fifty-fifth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Peters, well known residents of Milesburg, and in honor of the occasion a celebration was held at the home of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis G. Peters, in that community.

Bruce Peters, of Milesburg, and Miss Amanda May McClintock, of Chestnut Grove, were united in marriage at the home of E. H. Carr, in Milesburg, by the Rev. G. W. Bruce, of the Methodist church, at 4 p. m. December 25, 1890.

Mr. and Mrs. Peters have spent

Car Sideswipes Bus On Road at Axemann

A car operated by G. Max Gamble, of Belleville, and a Johnston Motor Bus Co. bus were involved in a slight accident at Axemann Saturday night about 10:45 o'clock. The bus was being driven by Philip B. Gross, of Belleville.

According to reports the Gamble machine, passing the bus, sideswiped the larger vehicle. No one was injured and damage was estimated at about \$10.

A sedan driven by Thomas A. Anderson, of Belleville, and another sedan operated by Joe R. Polik, of Clarence, collided near the brick yard at Clarence Saturday afternoon. Damage to the car driven by Anderson was approximately \$70 and loss to the other sedan was about \$8.

Income Tax Forms Available January 3

Income Tax forms for the taxable year 1940 will be released on January 3, 1941, Joseph T. McDonald, Internal Revenue Collector of Scranton has announced. Corporation Returns, Forms 1120 and 1121 will be available on the same date.

At the present time the Corporation Returns are in the process of preparation, but the Bureau of Internal Revenue at Washington expects to have them ready for release to the public by January 3rd.

PLEASANT GAP WOMAN DESCRIBES LIFE IN FLORIDA

Treated to a tropical downpour. For the past three days we have had little sunshine, much misty weather, some gentle showers and this morning sheets of rain.

From the window it looks like old fashioned bead portiers of translucent gauze, hung between us and the green of palm and live oak. The oak are festooned with Spanish moss, greenish gray. Scarlet poinsettias are higher than my head; burnt orange colored flame vines along the white trellis and a purple something that resembles morning glories, open all day—all are drooping and beaten, casting their older leaves, and apparently discouraged with life. Tomorrow the sun will shine—if not, it will next day, and we will walk out again in a clean world with everything blooming and refreshed by this much needed soaking.

On Friday afternoon everybody (Continued on page six)

3 New Offenses Credited to Mysterious Purse-Snatcher

TERRORIZES BISHOP STREET RESIDENT

Assailant Flees After Striking Coleville Girl in Abdomen

Adding two more victims to his rapidly-growing list, Belleville's mysterious street assailant, within the week branched out into a new form of crime when he entered an East Bishop street apartment.

The victims of street assaults were Miss Mary Elizabeth Sloop, daughter of Arthur H. Sloop of East Curtin street, and Miss Sarah Esther Rhoades, aged 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Rhoades, of Coleville.

Less than an hour after Miss Sloop was attacked, Miss Agnes Sprish, who resides in the second floor duplex apartments owned by District Attorney Musser W. Gettig, was badly frightened when a man, after unsuccessfully attempting to get Miss Sprish to open the door, raised a window but for some unexplained reason left without following through.

Miss Sloop was halted about 6 o'clock last Thursday night while she was walking on East Curtin street in front of the home of Dr. J. J. Kilpatrick. She heard steps behind her, but thought nothing of it. Even when hands grasped her around the neck from the rear, she believed some friend was "surprising" her. When she was forced to the sidewalk, while her assailant pounded her head with his fist, Miss Sloop realized her danger and screamed.

A member of the Kilpatrick family went to the door, and the man after making an unsuccessful grab for Miss Sloop's purse, fled south between the Rhoades and Lockington (Continued on page 6)

To Call 17 In County Draft

12 Volunteers Ready To Qualify For January 22 Contingent

Centre county's draft quota for the January 22 call will be 17 men. It was reported by Belleville and State College local draft board officers.

Local Draft Board No. 2, Belleville, will send nine men, and Board No. 1, State College, will send eight men.

For its quota of nine Draft Board No. 2 has six volunteers at this time. They are: George Stasko, Willard Herr and Ben Krone, all of Clarence; Robert Park, Belleville; R. D. 2, Charles Wolske, formerly of Unionville, now of Inverness.

(Continued on page three)