

ACCUSED SLAYER TO PLEAD GUILTY

Court to Fix Degree of Gardner's Guilt

Death Penalty Possible For Man Who Fatally Wounded Neighbor

HEARING TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY

Testimony Will Be Confined to Establishing "Intent"

Garfield Gardner, 60-year-old Edendale miner charged with first degree murder in the death of his neighbor, Mrs. Jane Miller, 40, will throw himself upon the mercy of court here next Wednesday when he will enter a plea of guilty to the charge, it was reported late yesterday by county officials.

Gardner will plead guilty to an "open" charge—that is, the degree of the crime will not be specified. A hearing will be held so that the court may determine whether the crime was first degree murder, second degree murder, or voluntary manslaughter. Sentence will then be passed accordingly.

The case is an unusual one in this county. Usually persons accused of a serious crime stand trial and permit the jury to fix the degree of guilt after hearing all testimony in the case.

At the hearing next Wednesday the only testimony to be heard will be that which has to do with showing that Gardner either did or did not "willfully, feloniously and with malice aforethought" fire the bullet.

First National Names Officers

All Board Members And Officers Re-elected For Enslowing Year

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Bellefonte was held in the banking house, Tuesday morning.

All members of the old board were re-elected, namely: W. Fred Reynolds, Paul M. Corman, Henry S. Linn, L. Frank Mayes, C. C. Shuey, James C. Furst, Thomas B. Beaver, and Newell B. Long.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Newell B. Long, president; W. Fred Reynolds, vice president; Louis S. Schaefer, cashier; Charles MacC. Scott, trust officer, and J. Jackson Spangler, assistant trust officer.

The president reported that while income on high grade investments had been drastically cut, the bank enjoyed a very satisfactory year.

The bank's capital position, as of December 31, 1940, is as follows: Capital \$200,000, Surplus, \$200,000, Undivided profits and reserves, \$89,365. Total capital accounts, \$489,365.

Four Slightly Injured In Fire at Lemont

Fire early Saturday afternoon damaged a summer kitchen at the rear of the Harry Kustenbender home, about two miles east of Lemont, to an estimated extent of \$200, and indirectly resulted in four of the Kustenbender family sustaining minor cuts and bruises.

Mrs. Kustenbender had been washing clothes in the small frame building shortly before the flames were discovered by one of her children. While the alarm was being phoned to State College, Mrs. Kustenbender and three children, Ruth, Anna, and James, attempted to push the fire under control with buckets of water.

All four fell and were slightly injured. They received first aid treatment by Fred Weber of State College.

Two Alpha Fire Company trucks responded to the call and the flames were brought under control with the use of the booster tank. In addition to the building itself, an electric washing machine and cook stove inside were badly damaged by the flames.

The directors, elected for a three-year term, are: Henry A. Brocknerhoff, E. K. Anderson, Lewis Orvis Harvey, C. C. Rhoads, and E. E. Widdowson.

Officers for 1941 will be elected at a meeting of the board of directors to be held in the near future.

A policy regulating participating agencies soliciting funds other than (Continued on page three)

Relief Payments Continue On Increase

Direct relief payments to needy Centre Countyans during the week ended yesterday, show an increase of \$143 and 16 checks over those of the previous week, according to State Treasurer F. Clair Ross.

Payments for the week amounted to \$2,091 which was \$1,864 lower than those for the comparable week of last year. Current payments required 221 fewer checks than those of a year ago.

Payments by the Bureau of Assistance Disbursements in the Treasury Department follow: Current week, \$2,091, 469 checks; previous week, \$1,918, 433 checks, and comparable week 1940, \$3,225, 690 checks.

Impressive Rites Mark Ordination

Bellefonte Man Rewarded For Years of Work as Lay Minister

A very unique ordination service was held last Sunday afternoon, at the Advent Church, several miles west of Milesburg, when C. C. Shuey, 64 years old, of Bellefonte, was ordained as a full-time minister of the church.

Although Mr. Shuey had been preaching for the past 33 years he had never been duly ordained but had held a quarterly conference license under the Methodist Church.

The ordination of Mr. Shuey was promoted by the officials and members of both the Die Run Baptist Church and the Congregation of Upper Hill's Hollow, worshipping in the Advent Church, which church he has been faithfully serving as pastor for a number of years.

Orvis V. Scholl, of Milesburg, who has been Mr. Shuey's assistant for the past several years, presided at the ordination service, which opened (Continued on page 4)

Life Underwriters To Hold Annual Banquet

The Centre County Life Underwriters' Association will hold its first annual banquet at 6:30 o'clock Thursday evening, January 16, at the Nittany Lion Inn, State College.

The speaker of the evening will be Frank Wigninton, of Pittsburgh. All members of the Association are urged to be present.

Lime Workers Get Back Pay

180 Employees of Chemical Lime Receive Checks Totalling About \$12,000

Some 180 employees of the Chemical Lime Company, Bellefonte, now a subsidiary of the National Gypsum Company, Saturday received checks totalling about \$12,000, representing back wages due them, it was announced from the offices of the company.

Payment of the back wages was made by Clarence P. Wynne, of Scranton, trustee of the Chemical Company and originator of the plan under which the local industry became a part of the National Gypsum Company. Part of the reorganization plan was the payment of overdue wages.

Mr. Wynne will continue as trustee of the Chemical Co., until all affairs of the company have been concluded. The personnel of the present office staff will remain unchanged, it is reported.

Retired Professor Suffers Stroke

Dr. Erwin W. Runkle, 71, professor emeritus of philosophy at Penn State College, was painfully injured Monday morning when he suffered a stroke while taking his usual morning walk and fell to the ground, badly cutting his right eye.

Dr. Runkle, in a serious condition at his home in State College, was found after he had fallen on Foster avenue near Allen street by Jack Womer of Axemann, who was doing construction work on a house near where Dr. Runkle fell.

Rushed to the office of a State College physician by Police Chief John B. Juba, Dr. Runkle received treatment for the severe cut under his eye resulting when his glasses broke.

Dr. Runkle taught philosophy at the College from 1893 until his retirement on July 1, 1936. He assumed the rank of professor emeritus of philosophy with his retirement.

Financial Report Of County Library

Receipts of the Centre County Library and Historical Corporation in 1940 were \$4,179.91, and expenditures were \$4,098.70, according to a financial report of the treasurer.

In addition, receipts of the book fund, a separate account, were \$1,890.08 while expenditures were \$1,639.82. The balance in the treasury in this fund, January 1, 1941, was \$259.26, while the balance in the general fund at the beginning of the new year was \$71.11.

In the general account, receipts are itemized as follows: balance January 1, 1940, \$51.70; from County Commissioners, \$1,660.55; rents, \$1,391.50; endowment, \$575; Elks Club, \$106.92; friends of library, \$324.91; First National Bank, \$30.

(Continued on page eight)

Physician Dies



DR. M. A. KIRK

Death came to one of Centre County's most colorful "old time" physicians yesterday morning when Dr. M. A. Kirk, aged 85, for 60 years one of Bellefonte's leading medical men, passed away at his home on West High Street.

Dr. Kirk had continued to practice to some extent up until September 19, 1939, when he suffered a fractured hip in a fall at his home. Since then he had been confined to bed and for the past number of months had been in a semi-conscious condition most of the time. Death resulted at 7 o'clock yesterday morning, January 14, 1941.

Dr. Kirk, the last of Bellefonte's physicians to continue the traditions of the so-called "old-fashioned country doctor" was widely known and was held in high esteem throughout the county. Of solid (Continued on page 6)

Boob Named Head Of Firemen's Relief

Arthur Boob, of Bellefonte, was elected president of the Bellefonte Firemen's Relief Association to succeed Benton D. Tate, at a meeting of the organization Tuesday night at the Undine house.

Other officers chosen were: O. A. Kline, vice president; Russell Beezer, treasurer; and Philip Saylor, secretary. Delegates to the Central District convention, Phillip Gross and Melvin Wright; alternates, Ambrose Smead and Ralph Eyer; delegates to the state convention, William B. Chandler and Vincent Flynn; James H. Chanties, William Segar and Albert H. Carpeneto.

Trapper Reports Strange Encounter

A strange encounter with two unknown men was reported Friday by Ernest Gardner, of Howard, Gardner, who spends the winter trapping in the Allegheny mountains north of Howard, says he was shot at by the men. He was not injured and the incident is being investigated by Clinton county authorities.

Alpha Firemen Get New Pumper

The Alpha Fire Company, State College, last week received its new pumper which is to be used principally on out-of-town calls.

The pumper, mounted on a Mack chassis, features a seven-man enclosure, cabin with heater. It has a 300-gallon booster tank and a centrifugal pump with a capacity of 500-gallons. The machine is powered by a six-cylinder, 150-horsepower motor and has a road speed of 65 miles an hour.

Specially designed, the pumper carries 1,000 feet of hose, has a dual ignition system, and a 4-speed transmission. It is now being tested by Alpha members before being finally accepted.

DAMAGE TOTALS \$105 AS DRIVER LIGHTS CIGARETTE

Three cars were damaged Monday morning in Pine Grove Mills when Frank W. Dean of Pine Grove Mills, attempted to light a cigarette.

Cars owned by Guy Harpster and Howard Harpster and parked along the street of the town received approximately \$30 damage when Dean's machine struck them. Damage to the Dean car was \$75.

CLEARANCE SALE AT WAGNER & CO. STORE

The first January Clearance sale at the J. B. Wagner & Co. store, Bellefonte, will open at 9 a. m., Friday, January 17.

The new owners of the store, formerly Hazel & Co., plan to make unusually attractive bargains. Sundry (Continued on page eight)

New School Building Stresses Convenience

The Bellefonte School Board, virtually assured of the realization of a two-year dream for a modern and adequate building to replace the one destroyed by fire on February 13, 1939, Monday night heard a detailed report on the now completed plans for the \$400,000 structure.

P. M. Heyward and H. F. Lenz, of the firm of Hunter & Caldwell, Altoona architects, presented drawings and explained in detail the layout and construction of the proposed building.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was brought out that the Board should be ready to advertise for bids about the middle of February. Bids should be received within two or three weeks after that date, and barring complications, construction on the building could get under way in the not too distant future. It was estimated that from 10 months to one year would be required for construction.

The proposed structure will consist of three principal units, all joined together. In the east wing, facing on Allegheny Street, will be a modern new auditorium, which with its balcony, will seat approximately 1000 persons. It will be reached by a flight of five steps up from street level. At the entrance will be a lobby with terrazzo floor.

To the rear of the auditorium and extending along Linn Street will be the main classroom section. This section will be one story in height as far as a small open area. There the araway will be bridged into a section which will be two stories in height, and as the building nears Spring Street, it will consist of three stories. This arrangement of floors is provided in order to keep excavation to a minimum. Retaining walls will be required along Linn Street and for some distance along the Spring Street side of the building.

The third unit will be the gymnasium and laboratory wing, which will occupy much the same position at the west end of the structure that the auditorium occupies at the opposite end.

The Allegheny Street side of the building will be considered as the "front" of the structure. It will contain (Continued on page 6)

Four Women Hurt As Car Upsets

Two Admitted to Hospital; Icy Roads Cause Other Accidents in County

Four Centre Hall women were injured early last Thursday afternoon when the car in which they were riding skidded on the icy road near Penn Hall and turned over several times. The victims were on their way to attend the funeral of Miss Adah Smith, at Millheim, when the accident happened.

Two of the injured were admitted to the Centre County Hospital. They are: Mrs. David T. Stoner, suffering from fractured ribs, and her daughter, Mrs. Alma R. Rickert, injured pelvic bone and fracture of the right shoulder.

The other two treated at the hospital were: Mrs. Reuben Rickert, bruised shoulder and collar bone, and Mrs. W. K. Hosterman, bruised knee and shoulder. All (Continued on page 6)

County Ag. Unit Elects Officers

Henry Stover of Aaronsburg, Named President; Year's Work Reviewed

Officers elected at the annual meeting of the Centre County Agricultural Extension Association in the Court House at Bellefonte on Thursday last week are: Henry Stover, Aaronsburg, president; L. E. Biddle, Bellefonte, vice president; W. P. Campbell, Centre Hall, secretary, and W. C. Smetzer, Bellefonte, treasurer.

At the morning session Mr. J. B. Dickey, Extension Agronomist of State College, advised Centre county farmers to study their seed corn needs carefully for planting this spring. He stated that poor germination of seed corn is to be expected. Germination tests should be run before planting. Mr. Dickey discussed (Continued on page 4)

Local Guard Unit Now In Regular Army

Troopers Mobilize Here Monday; Prepare For Year's Encampment

FAREWELL PARTY HELD BY LEGION

Early Departure For Mississippi is Anticipated

Bellefonte's National Guard troop Battery B, 160th Field Artillery, has become a regular army unit and is no longer under the jurisdiction of the state. Captain Frederick L. Shope declared Tuesday.

The troop was automatically inducted into federal service Monday the date set for mobilization by the federal government.

The men will take a formal oath sometime in the near future, Captain Shope said.

In the meantime the original 65 men and four officers and the additional 30 men on the inactive list are busy with preparations for leaving for training at Camp Shelby, Miss. No actual orders have been received designating the time when the troop will leave for camp.

The men are occupied with special training. (Continued on page three)

Telephone Building Under Construction

Beauty and utility are combined in plans for the Bell Telephone Company's new central office building under construction at 115 Allegheny street, Bellefonte, shown in the architect's drawing above. The state, two-story structure of the Georgian style architecture will be of red brick with a white trim.

Granite steps, with wrought iron handrails, will lead to bronze doors framed by a Colonial doorway. Shutters will emphasize the Colonial aspect of the building. The walls will be of stone. The company's business offices will be on the first floor. The second floor will provide ample space for dial telephone mechanisms and associated equipment. The building is to be completed in June, 1941.

The Bellefonte exchange area is to be transferred to dial later in 1941. Jesse H. Caum, manager of the company, said the entire dial program will cost approximately \$280,000.

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Old-Tyme Bakery To Become A Partnership

The Old-Tyme Bakery Corporation, Bellefonte, has been dissolved and legal steps are now under way to organize the business as a partnership, with the original stockholders as partners.

C. M. Thompson, manager, announced that there will be no change in the operation of the bakery, the step being taken to simplify business transactions.

Gov. Earle Has Operation

Mrs. George H. Earle, Jr., was informed by cablegram Tuesday that her husband, U. S. Minister to Bulgaria and former Pennsylvania governor, underwent an operation at Sofia about a week ago.

Attend Hearing On Vets' Hospital

Two-Hour Meeting Today Last Phase Before Site is Chosen

This Thursday morning the Pennsylvania sub-committee of the Federal Board of Hospitalization is conducting a two-hour open hearing at Washington, D. C., as the final act before selecting a site for Central Pennsylvania's proposed \$2,500,000 veterans' hospital.

It is reported that the site will be announced soon after the hearing.

In preparation for today's session, and to assure Bellefonte adequate representation in the final phase of the selection of the site, a four-man delegation was chosen last week by Bellefonte organizations.

Members of the delegation: Earl (Continued on page six)

William H. Otts Wedded 50 Years

Retired Bellefonte Carpenter And Wife Spend Day Receiving Well Wishes of Friends

Yesterday Mr. and Mrs. William H. Otts, well known residents of Bellefonte, quietly observed their golden wedding anniversary at their home on West High Street.

Although no special festivities were held, Mr. and Mrs. Otts broke their usual daily routine with a dinner at the Penn Belle Hotel, and spent most of the day receiving friends who called to offer congratulations. They also received a number of letters and cards of felicitation.

William H. Ott, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Ott of Centre Hall, and Miss Belle May Keller, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. (Continued on page eight)

Zion-Gap Highway Project Is Revived

State Wants County To Sign For Damages Along Route

COMMISSIONERS ASK DEFINITE FIGURES

Renewed Activity Points to Possible Early Construction

Revival of the proposal to rebuild the highway between Pleasant Gap and Zion, along what is known as the "back road" between those two communities, was indicated this week when State Highway Department officials from the Clearfield offices conferred with the County Commissioners on the long-discussed matter.

The road, which would carry considerable traffic around Bellefonte, instead of through it, was surveyed several years ago.

Highway officials reported that while no funds have been appropriated for the construction of the road at this time, the Department considers it "a desirable road to build." They added that it is entirely possible that the road may be built this summer.

The Commissioners were interviewed in regard to the amount of damages the county may have to pay in the event the road is built. The County recently has paid a number of heavy road damage claims and the budget for this expense is at low ebb.

As a result the Commissioners declined to make any commitment to (Continued on page 4)

Nurses Choose 1941 Officers

Mrs. Grayce Tressler Named Head of Group; Chose Monthly Meeting Time

At the annual organization meeting of the Centre County Hospital Nurses' Alumni Association, held at the Hospital Monday night, Mrs. Grayce Tressler, R. N., of Bellefonte, was elected president for the year.

Other officers named were: Mrs. Elizabeth Corman, Axemann, first vice president; Mrs. Rachel Seeger, Port Matilda, second vice president; Mary E. Swartz, Bellefonte, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Hazel McCoy, Bellefonte, assistant secretary-treasurer, and directors: Miss Jane Keller, of Madisonburg; Miss Swartz, Mrs. Helen Lambert and Mrs. Irene Badger, all of Bellefonte.

The time of regular monthly meetings was changed from the first Tuesday of each month to the second Monday of each month.

A luncheon which featured Monday's meeting was served by candlelight on tables decorated in a blue and gold color scheme. While illness prevented a number of out-of-town members from attending the session there was a large turnout of members from the Bellefonte area.

A number of members are planning to attend the annual meeting of District No. 5, Pennsylvania Nurses' Association, to be held in the Penn Alto Hotel, Altoona, on Saturday, January 25.

To Recondition School Furniture

Board to Seek NYA or WPA Project; Library Now Has 1136 Volumes

The Bellefonte School Board will seek a NYA or WPA project to recondition equipment now in use in the various schools in town which may be used when the proposed new high school building is completed, it was decided at a meeting of the board, Monday night.

Equipment which may be reconditioned includes chairs, tables, sewing tables, work benches and other furniture. The building committee was authorized to investigate possible projects.

Most of the board's time was devoted to a study of plans for the new building, which are reviewed elsewhere in this issue.

Reports of Tax Collector O. A. Kline and Treasurer Hays W. Mattem were read, and a library report (Continued on page 6)

2 County Physicians Called To Army Duty

Two State College physicians, both in the U. S. Army reserve corps, have received calls to active duty.

Dr. E. W. Cullen went to Carlisle last Thursday to undergo physical examination. If he passes he will be sent to Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Dr. Cullen is married, has no family.

Dr. Herbert Glenn has passed his physical examinations and has been directed to report to Norfolk, Va., for duty with the U. S. Navy, January 24. Dr. Glenn is married and has one son.

At least four Bellefonte physicians, who had military training while in medical college, may be subject to calls to active duty, it is reported. They are: Dr. Richards Hoffman, Dr. Harold B. Harris, Dr. Paul M. Corman, and Dr. Joseph A. Parrish.

Republicans To Hold Lincoln Day Dinner

The annual Lincoln Day Dinner of the Republican Party will be held at the Nittany Lion Inn, State College, on Wednesday evening, February 12, 1941.

The principal speaker will be the Honorable Daniel Alden Reed, Member of Congress of Dunkirk, N. Y. Representative Reed is an outstanding speaker. He is six feet six inches tall and a former Cornell football player. He has served continuously in the 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, and 76th Congresses. He is a member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Howard Couple Married 50 Years

Mr. and Mrs. William Schenck celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last Tuesday at the home of their son, Samuel, at Greenville where they are spending the winter months. A shower of greetings from their many friends at Howard helped to gladden the day.

