

Odd and CURIOUS in the NEWS

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The Centre Democrat

SECOND SECTION

NEWS, FEATURES

Random Items

VOLUME 61.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1942.

NUMBER 13.

Former Altoona Youth Is Suffocated During Rioting At Eastern Penitentiary

Joseph Annenski Smothered to Death by Smoke, Fumes from Burning Mattresses In Protest Against Sugar Rationing

Joseph Annenski, 23, former Altoona youth serving a six to 20-year term at the Eastern State Penitentiary, Philadelphia, died Saturday as an aftermath of a riot started by convicts protesting the wartime rationing of sugar for their coffee.

The riot started, according to Dr. Goddard, the coroner, when disgruntled convicts set fire to mattresses in their cells in protest against a normal war-time rationing of sugar for their coffee.

Described by Dr. Goddard as "troublemakers," the convicts protested all day Saturday in the isolation block. They told the guards they would give them until noon to restore their former sugar rations. When their demands were not met

Religious Leader



REV. BESSIE F. HATCHER

of Yardville, N. J., will be the engaged evangelist in charge of revival services at the Pilgrim Holiness Church of Fort Matilda, beginning March 29 to April 12. Everybody welcome.

TYRONE POLICE CHIEF GETS FEDERAL POLICE JOB

Chief of Police A. D. Mencer, of Tyrone, veteran of World War I, last week received orders from Captain H. H. Martin, United States Army Air Corps, Washington, D. C., to report for duty at Washington, Wednesday, March 25, for assignment to the division of industrial plant surveys and protection.

Chief Mencer is a graduate of the police school at Pennsylvania State College and the FBI police academy in Washington, D. C., and also took a special course of instruction with the FBI in Pittsburgh recently. Mencer was given a leave of absence by the Tyrone borough authorities.

Saved From Drowning

Eugene Emery, 16, who attends school at Towanda, narrowly escaped drowning in the Susquehanna River, near his home in Asylum township. With other youths, he had gone to the river to see the high water, and when they saw an old boat caught in some brush, they attempted to salvage it. When the boat upset, Emery was hurled into the icy-cold water, carried 200 feet down stream and caught in underbrush some distance from the shore. He was rescued, after a rope had been thrown to him, which he fastened about his waist. He had been in the water about an hour.

Woman Pays Traffic Fine

Mattie E. McCool of Centre Hall, paid a fine of \$10 after being involved in an accident at a street intersection in Lock Haven last Wednesday evening. The McCool car, traveling south on Fairview, stopped at a stop-sign and then entered Peach street allegedly without yielding the right of way to the other car involved, operated by Clifford H. Shady. Damages were slight and there were no injuries.

Tyrone Man Arrested for Theft

Ray Brown, of Tyrone, charged with the theft of an automobile, was among those named in indictments handed down by the Federal Grand Jury sitting at Erie on Thursday.

Read the Classified ads.

Motor Cop Brings Home Bacon

Pvt. Joseph Mekuta, of the Bloomsburg State Motor Police detail, armed only with a rope, tackled over 200 pounds of pig, and after it was "hog tied," half dragged and half led it to a farm between Bloomsburg and Eyrsgrove, where it was kept for the owner. The pig fell from a truck and the owner had reported his loss to the motor police. After long search, it was found contentedly grazing along the highway.

War Duties Calls Pair Past 90

Two Northumberland county men, both past 90, have been called out of retirement by the war. David C. Adams, 82, sexton of the Lutheran church at Reed's Station and his neighbor, both of whom quit farming several years ago, have decided to return to tilling the soil, and are busy getting out stored farm equipment and preparing for an active summer.

Disconnected



MEN, 45 TO 64, MUST REGISTER

The government last week ordered the oldest group of men under the selective service law—45 to 64 inclusive—to register on Monday, April 27, for possible non-combatant service in the future.

The new registration date proclaimed by President Roosevelt will leave only one group not yet registered, those of 18 and 19 years. Estimates of the total registration for the 45-64 age group range around 15,000,000.

While none of these comparative odds will be taken into the fighting forces, there is the possibility that some or many of them will be assigned eventually to essential war work. Brig. General Lewis B. Her-

JAPANESE WIVES NOT A HAPPY LOT

American sweethearts better make certain that their boy friends don't come back from Tokyo with a lot of cockeyed ideas about women. The Japs seem to think woman's place is in the doghouse. This makes it nice, of course, for men thinking only of their own selfish pleasures, but makes woman's lot a hard one. This lot is not made any easier just because she can share it, if her husband is wealthy, with several of his concubines living in the same house with her, and each of whom probably enjoys more favors than the lawful wife.

Although missionaries and a few Jap leaders have tried to better the lot of the gentle sex, especially wives, not much has been accomplished. The old quasi-religious traditions which the Jap men like to keep sacred in order to preserve their liberties and selfish ease, still persist and the women of Nippon truly lead a dog's life in more ways than one.

Many of the young girls are sold to become wives, and the yen to indulge in say about it. But they might as well not complain, for they are lucky not to be sold for less moral purposes by their father, or by an elder brother. When a Jap family needs some extra money to buy rice, or whiskey, the head of the house looks over the daughters. If he were a farmer stung-up his cattle, decides which one would be best to sell, and hunts up a buyer who, if he likes the girl's looks will take her off her father's hands for a fair price.

And, if a man is too poor to afford even a fraction of the 80 concubines that Prince Ito had (and which the government still likes to deny) he can at least get a few hours' entertainment from a maiden who has been sold into getcha by her father. All he needs is a few yen in cash, and the yen to indulge himself. The yen in cash may not be on hand when the other yen strikes him, but that is no handicap at all in a land where women are looked upon as reincarnation of peop.

The Japs cannot understand why other races are not equally "practical." The thought of a man being faithful and true to his wife still strikes the little brown man as a queer notion of those unenlightened white folks across the ocean.

A middle-aged tourist and his wife learned from first-hand experience about other ways in which the Jap men keep women in the doghouse.

Snow Shoe Native, Missing From Veterans' Hospital, Is Found Dead at Lock Haven

Body of John C. Rankin, World War Veteran, Discovered Lying Under Shed; Thought to Have Been Dead Several Weeks

A group of children playing about a shed belonging to the Suburban Water Company on Clinton street, Lock Haven, Tuesday evening of last week discovered the dead body of a man, who was identified by police as John Calvin Rankin, II, World War veteran, who formerly resided in Castanea.

Officers William B. Ryan and Ray E. Merritts went to the scene and had to get the assistance of John F. Harvey, water company superintendent, before it could be removed. The building is used for storage purposes.

Dr. W. J. Shoemaker, coroner of Clinton county, said death was due to acute alcoholism, probably, and that the man had been dead several weeks.

Police said the man had been reported missing some time ago from the U. S. Veterans' Hospital at Aspinwall, where he had been a patient. Identification was established from his Social Security card.

The body was taken to the Brown funeral home, where burial services were conducted Thursday afternoon by the Rev. George G. Culbertson. Interment was made in the Soldiers' Plot, Highland cemetery.

Mr. Rankin was born 57 years ago at Snow Shoe, the son of the late James Darling and Mary Elizabeth Rankin. He was last employed as a brakeman by the New York Central Railroad Company. He served on the

Mexican border under Gen. John J. Pershing and was overseas during the World War with Battery B of the 3rd Field Artillery, holding the rank of corporal. He was a member of the William Marshall Crawford Post, American Legion.

He is survived by three brothers, William M. Lock Haven, who recently suffered a heart attack; Paul J. of Jersey Shore, and Robert L. of New York City.

Rock Hits Car Injuring Couple

Large Stone Rolls Off Mountainside, Causing \$250 Damage to Car

Miss Melba Boney, of Mill Hall, and William Akeley, of Lock Haven, were injured Tuesday night of last week when the sedan in which they were passengers was struck and extensively damaged by a large rock which rolled off the mountainside at the Ice Mine cut on the Bucktail Trail, three miles west of Lock Haven.

Corp. Winfield Brungard of Smethport, was driving his car toward Lock Haven when the rock bounded off the mountain into the right side of the car, damaging it to the extent of \$250.

Miss Boney suffered a broken nose, lacerations and contusions of the face, forehead and knees, while Mr. Akeley has a cut on his neck. They were treated by a Mill Hall physician and then returned home.

Sergeant Lockard Weds Sweetheart

Pearl Harbor Hero and School-girl Chum Married in Virginia

The elopement of Staff Sergeant Joseph L. Lockard, Pearl Harbor hero, and his 18-year-old schoolgirl sweetheart, Pauline Elinor Seidel, of Williamsport, was disclosed by the bride's parents last weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald E. Seidel announced the couple were married in the Evangelical Reformed church at Winchester, Va., on March 10, without attendants.

The 19-year-old Lockard was on leave at the time preliminary to receiving the Distinguished Service medal for his unheeded warning of Japanese planes approaching Pearl Harbor on the morning of December 7.

Twins Undergo Operations

Miriam and Marie Soo, 2 1/2 year old twin daughters of Mr. and Mrs. William Soo, of Castanea, underwent operations for correction of bow legs at the Crippled Children's Clinic recently at Lock Haven.

Religion suffers as much from those in the church who do not do their duty as it does from those on the outside.

Man Badly Burned In Powder Blast

John G. Royer, Water Street, was seriously injured last Thursday afternoon in a powder explosion on his property while attempting to split paper wood, using blasting powder.

Royer went out on his property about 3 o'clock and shortly after was seen walking into the gas station so disfigured that he had trouble making H. R. Metz, who recently leased the gas station from Royer, recognize him. He had walked two miles.

After establishing his identity he was taken to Dr. Malcolm, Alexandria, where he was treated for burns of the face, hands, eyes and body. He was then taken to the J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital at Huntington, where he was admitted.

Royer told hospital attendants that in attempting to light a fuse leading to a powder-filled hole in a billet of wood, sparks from the fuse jumped into the powder keg he had nearby, causing an explosion that caught him full force.

Royer's condition was reported as serious.

Fishing Banned

As a defense measure, to protect the purity of the borough water supply, Ridgway Council has prohibited fishing for the duration of the war in the impounding dam on Mill Creek, supplying water to Ridgway borough, and in far above the dam as Nagel Bridge.

Injuries Fatal To Young Girl

Dies After Being Struck By Truck in Front of Her Home

Norman Jean Sinfelt, 6-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. Sinfelt, was fatally injured last Thursday when struck by a coal truck as she was walking in front of her home at Munson. She died seven hours later in the Phillipsburg State Hospital, where she was rushed immediately after the accident.

The truck was driven by David Parkes, 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Parkes, North Phillipsburg. He was delivering coal with a truck belonging to Alvin Parkes.

The accident occurred almost in front of the Sinfelt home when Norma Jean was walking along the road home. A neighbor, who was watching out of the window and saw the accident happen, said that the truck seemed to swerve out for something and then seemed to skid. The rear end of the truck struck the child.

Coroner Charles Shecker of Milesburg and State Motor Police-men from Pleasant Gap investigated the accident. Mr. Shecker announced that he will hold an inquest this week. The official stated that the child had suffered a fractured skull and body bruises.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at the Allport Methodist church with the pastor, Rev. Roy Batdorf officiating. Burial was made in Allport cemetery.

Watchers Dismissed

Watchers appointed to guard the ballot boxes and contents thereof used in the election of Nov. 4, 1941, and now impounded in the Court House annex at Sunbury, were ordered dismissed by the three judges of the court hearing the contest of the election of Judge C. K. Moran-roth to the several courts of Northumberland county. D. M. Larrabee, of the 29th judicial district, Lycoming county; Cyrus M. Palmer, 21st district, Schuylkill county, and A. Francis Gilbert, 17th district, Snyder and Union counties.

Advertising in The Centre Democrat cannot produce miracles but it can have a miraculous effect upon your business if intelligently employed.

PETER PUBLIC—A Veddly Select Auction



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MR. VANZANDT GOES TO WASHINGTON:

This department has permission from Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen, authors of the widely-read column "Washington Merry-Go-Round," to reprint their following enlightening story about the peregrinations of our Congressman, James E. Vanzandt, in Washington.

Here it is: VANZANDT'S PACKAGE: Fortunately most Congressmen co-operate 100 per cent with war regulations in Washington. But the other day James E. Vanzandt, cocky Republican from Altoona, Pa., arrived at the War Department with a package under his arm. In line with their orders, guards asked him to register the package before entering the building. But Mr. Vanzandt brusquely brushed past them.

They pursued him and one courteously but firmly insisted, "You'll have to register that parcel."

"I'm a member of the Congress!" announced Mr. Vanzandt haughtily. "I'm sorry, sir, but my orders permit no exceptions. You will have to register the parcel."

"I'll take care of it," shouted Mr. Vanzandt loudly, "I'm a member of the Congress!"

A receptionist finally intervened, took Mr. Vanzandt's name, and gave him a pass. As he disappeared down the corridor, one of the guards remarked, "These members of Congress—they think they're God Almighty!"

MOVIE REVIEW:

If it hadn't been for the superb job of sneezing done by a guy who fell into a drum after admiring a bouquet loaded with pepper, the movie "Hells-a-ppin'" would be considered by this corner as being a complete and total loss.

TIES FLIES:

Frank Pinge, 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Pinge, of West Curtin street, and freshman in the Bellefonte High School, is tying some first class trout flies these days, having learned the art from Bill Jenkins. Anglers who've inspected Frank's work pronounce it unusually fine. He's making the hobby self-supporting by selling the flies.

REASON:

They tell one about Thomas Spritzer, Penn Belle Hotel clerk who recently enlisted in the U. S. Naval Reserves. Before enlisting Tommy was talking with an official about the relative merits of various branches of the armed forces. Finally he commented, "I'd like either the Navy or the Coast Guard, I think. They both haul you to work!"

SIGN:

The "Hotel Cafe" electric sign at the Hotel Tanager, East High street, played a trick on the management during the weekend. A stooge reports that Saturday night the letters "ei" in the sign went bad and remained unlighted. The result, "Hot Cafe."

DRAFT DODGING:

A Bellefonte resident last week began a 2 1/2-year term in a Federal prison for violating the Selective Service Act. The government is fair in its provisions for those who have sincere and established objections to military service, for it places such persons in special non-combatant work camps. But the penalty for willful draft-dodging is severe and cannot be measured by years and days spent in prison. It is measured by the span of a person's life. To steal a phrase from friend Ebon Bower, it is better to "fight, bleed, and damn near die" on the field of battle than to risk the special kind of burden that usually falls to the

(Continued on Page Six)



By F. O. ALEXANDER



LIBERTY IS PRICELESS — KEEP LIBERTY'S LIGHT BRIGHT — SAVE CIVILIZATION — BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS