

The Centre Democrat

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1943.

NEWS, FEATURES

Random Items

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Man Who Fell From Large Airplane Near Selingsgrove Identified As Naval Pilot

Body Sent to Navy Hospital in Philadelphia On Order by Intelligence Officer; Cause of Accident Unknown

The mystery surrounding the man killed in a fall from a high-powered airplane near Selingsgrove, Snyder county, on Tuesday of last week, was partly solved this week by announcement from the Fourth Naval District, Philadelphia, that the victim was Carroll Rex Byrd, of Tecate, Calif., first class aviation pilot, U. S. Coast Guard. The cause of the accident still remains undisclosed, pending an official Navy inquiry.

The incident which led to much curiosity among the Snyder county folks, because of the secrecy connected with the victim's name and the cause of the tragedy, is dramatically told in last week's Selingsgrove Times, which we quote as follows:

"Arthur F. Brouse was picking tomatoes in his patch along the road just west of Kratzville Tuesday afternoon. As he bent over he heard an airplane approaching from the Brouse schoolhouse sector. But he bothered not to look up. The cold nights were threatening frost ruin to his crop and airplanes were rather ordinary tracers anyhow.

"Suddenly Brouse heard a whizzing noise. It sounded something like a whistle. He peered into the sky. The big airship was aloft a little to the south of him. An object was descending thru the air. It looked like a big bag of mail to him. An instant later the object landed in the harrowed lower part of the field.

"Mr. and Mrs. Arthur R. Whitmer, of Selingsgrove, were helping load the tomato baskets on Whitmer's truck for transport to the cannery at Milton. The three rushed to the crumpled object, which struck the soft ground with a thud, imbedded the soil about a foot, bounded into the air eight or ten feet and descended again, a crumpled mass.

"The limp form was that of a man wearing a khaki military uniform. "Brouse hurried down the road to the neighboring home of J. Edward Maurer and telephoned the Pennsylvania State Police sub-station at Selingsgrove. The police notified the sub-station at Milton and the office of County Coroner Dr. Charles F. Straub, at Middleburg. The county-seat physician detailed to the scene his brother, Deputy Coroner Dr. Howard F. Straub, at Selingsgrove, county coroner-elect.

"The Selingsgrove physician, police and local people, tipped off instantly, started to the scene. "The airplane crew had sped on (Continued on Page 3)

Mrs. Hill, who lived at Lock Haven, R. D. 1, with her year and a half old daughter, Sharon Rose, was on her way to visit relatives. The daughter, who was also burned, was recently discharged from the hospital.

They were riding in a Lock Haven Beverage Co. truck, driven by Dominic J. Clement of Lock Haven. The truck turned over and burned as the driver tried to avoid another car.

The driver, Ben Coleman, his helper, and a passer-by, who helped in the rescue, received minor injuries and burns.

Mrs. Hill's husband, Pvt. Kalin Hill, is stationed with the Army at Little Rock, Ark.

The body was brought to the Selingsgrove Army Chapel in Lock Haven where funeral services were held by Capt. Richard D. Atwell of the Salvation Army, and the Rev. Reyburn L. Fritz of the E. Main street Methodist church. Burial was made in the Dunstons cemetery.

Other survivors are her father, Roy Shaffer of Lock Haven, R. D. 1, a brother, Leroy Shaffer of R. D. 1, and two sisters and a half-sister, Isabelle, of R. D. 1, Mrs. Ruby Johnson, of Williamsport, and Miss Edith Snook, of Elmira, N. Y.

Fire, reported to have started when live coals came in contact with some oil being used to "thaw" a pipe, caused an estimated damage of \$30,000 at the Grovania plant of the Interstate Amestis Company at Danville, putting the plant out of operation until spring. The plant had large orders for construction in adjoining counties. Bloomsburg and Danville firemen aided in fighting the fire.

Photo Finish
Albert Young, a 49-year-old photographer with studios in downtown Indianapolis, charged with possession of obscene photographs, told Judge John L. Niblack that "it's all in the mind of the person, whether they are art or obscene." "Well," Judge Niblack replied, "I was brought up in a Methodist family and they look obscene to me, so it will be \$100 and costs and 180 days."

How Pennsylvania Helps Exceptional Children

(This is the seventh of a series of articles by Dr. Eugene McDonald, Supervisor of Special Education for Centre and Clinton Counties.)

CRIPPLED OR PHYSICALLY DELICATE CHILDREN
Crippling conditions vary in severity from causing the sufferer to be completely bedridden to minor ailments which merely inconvenience the subject. These crippling conditions are of several types. Among these are children suffering from brain injuries occurring at the time of birth or from some later accident, who frequently have difficulty in walking or talking. Others are handicapped by a malfunctioning heart or because they have suffered from tuberculosis. Still others have been crippled by infantile paralysis, etc. Any child whose mental ability is such that he should be considered an educable child in the public schools but is handicapped because of some physical deficiency should have special educational attention. Unless these children are given special types of training they frequently fail to become socially competent and may develop personality maladjustments. With proper training and psychological attention they not only can become financially independent, but in many cases are able to make a real contribution to society.

In caring for these children the services of many agencies and persons are utilized. First of all, any one of these conditions should have a medical examination. Clinics where crippled children may be examined by a specialist are conducted regularly throughout the state. Appointments for examination in these clinics may be made through the state nurse or your family physician.

In some cases, medical or surgical treatment extending over a long period of time will be recommended. The state-owned hospital for crippled children at Elizabethtown and church or privately owned institutions provide medical and educational attention for crippled children who need to be institutionalized.

In cases where the child is home-bound and unable to attend school because of his difficulty, it is now possible to arrange for instruction in the home either through the employment of a properly certified teacher who visits the home regularly, or where this can't be arranged, through the use of correspondence materials. Of course the success of either of these programs depends on the cooperation of the parents.

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RECOMMENDED FOR JUDGE
"To fill the unexpired term of associate judge for Cameron county, made vacant by the recent death of C. W. Reichel, the Republican county committee has recommended Chas. Council, of Sinnemahoning, for Governor Martin's approval.

TOO MUCH MAN
William A. Sackel, Jr. was anxious to get into the Army and into the quartermaster corps, so he told recruiting officers at Camp Lee, Va., he was only 6 feet 6 inches tall. However, examining physicians noted he was 6 feet 10 inches tall—too much of a man for Uncle Sam's supply service, who just couldn't fit him in a uniform, bed or shoes.

WOUNDED SOLDIER MOVED
A telegram was received by Mr. and Mrs. Harold (Dan) Packer of Blanchard, from the War Department that their son, Pvt. Malcolm Packer, had been moved from the fighting zone and they could cable him a five-word message. Previously they had received word that he had been seriously wounded in action Aug. 11 in the South Pacific area. The word received would indicate that he may be recovering from his wounds.

NO SPECIAL SESSION
Governor Martin Monday declared "there's nothing to indicate a special session of the Legislature at this time but there's always a possibility."



Fire Destroys Airport Hangar

Structure Had Been Used For Training Cadets at Lock Haven

A fire which caused an estimated \$26,000 damage disrupted the Navy air cadet training program at Lock Haven last Wednesday.

A hangar, in which 14 airplanes had been stored and where there was located a repair shop, burned to ruins. Ten of the planes were removed from the building but the other four which were being repaired, were prey to flames.

The blaze started from a small oil stove used to heat the office. After it was discovered it was thought to have been extinguished, and broke out a second time, evidently from unnoticed sparks.

The building, 70 by 60 feet, was owned by Louis Vannucci and was leased to Max Rappaport, who had charge of the training of students.

The planes were the property of Federal Government's Defense Plant Corporation.

Man Convicted Shooting Doctor

Case Grew Out of Wounding Physician of Defendant's Mother

John Francis Murphy, 38, was found guilty in Lycoming county criminal court last week of assault with intent to kill Dr. Louis M. Orr.

The shooting for which Murphy was tried occurred last June 14, in a West Fourth street tourist home in Williamsport where Murphy had rented a room under an assumed name. He telephoned the physician on the pretext of requiring his services and then shot him four or five times immediately after the physician entered the room.

The defendant claimed that the shooting was the result of temporary insanity. Other evidence was intended to show that it was prompted by a desire to avenge the death of Murphy's mother, who was a patient of Dr. Orr in her final illness.

A motion for a new trial was announced last week.

The jury which convicted Murphy comprised nine women and three men.

Penn State Innovation

The Blue Band, once the exclusive property of men students at the Pennsylvania State College, will open its ranks to women for the first time this fall. To bring the unit to its full strength of 70-80 pieces women students and members of the various military units stationed on the campus have been added to this year's personnel.

Lock Haven Man Hurt
T. C. Eason of Lock Haven, suffered three cracked vertebrae last Tuesday, near Newark, N. Y., when a motor car on the Pennsylvania Railroad on which he and other workmen were riding, was hit by a truck at a crossing near Newark, and was struck in the back by the motor car lever and hurled from the car. Eason was rushed to the Newark Hospital, and on Saturday was taken to the Lock Haven Hospital where he has been placed in a cast. He is a signman and electrician for the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Finders Not Keep It
While examining a used couch in a furniture store at Taylorville, Ill., two women customers found a handkerchief containing \$430. A circuit judge, however, ruled that the furniture dealer had to turn the money over to the estate from which the couch had been purchased.

WOUNDED IN AFRICA
Pvt. Wilbur W. Gummo, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Gummo of Beech Creek, R. D., is among the 323 soldiers, including 25 Pennsylvaniaans, who have been injured on five fighting fronts in the war. The War Department says Gummo was wounded in the fighting in the North African area, including Sicily. The nature or degree of his wounds are not known. The Gummos live on a farm in the Sugar Run area, on what is known as the back road from Beech Creek to Lock Haven.

Announce Engagement
Mr. and Mrs. Earl H. Runkle of Howard, announce the engagement of their daughter, Dorothy Marie Runkle, to Sgt. Harold A. Dress of Ft. Benning, Ga., son of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Dress of Mackeyville. No date has been set for the wedding. Miss Runkle was graduated from Howard High school in the class of 1941 and is now employed at the Sylvania plant in Mill Hall. Prior to his enlistment in the service in October 1941, Sgt. Dress was employed at the Piper Aircraft plant in Lock Haven.

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MILL HALL BOY BURNED
Thomas Mann, 14-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Mann, Mill Hall, received severe burns of his left hand Saturday when fluid which he was putting into a cigar lighter suddenly ignited.

Bellefonte Native Tells of Vacation Spent at Work in Federal Ordnance Plant

Writer Has Interesting Experience in Breaking Down Age Barrier to Enter War Work. Finally Succeeds

After reading the following letter, we are convinced that the spirit of '76 or it is '58, the near-grip of the writer) still has a firm grip on our former townsman and prominent Salvation Army officer, Brigadier C. A. McClellan, of Decatur, Illinois. A native of Bellefonte, Mr. McClellan needs no introduction here, but his interesting letter which follows deserves any outstanding space we can give it.

From his home in Illinois, where he and Mrs. McClellan reside, Brigadier McClellan this week writes us as follows:

"The newspapers were daily urging everybody not in essential war work to register with the United States Employment Bureau, and take up a part time or full time job at the Ordnance plant at Illinois, near Decatur, Ill. All of this happened while I was contemplating how and where to spend my three weeks vacation. We could not go in the car, and we could not go on the trains, and with the four boys scattered in the Army and Navy service, it was impossible to think of seeing anyone of them, so pride and patriotism gripped my heart and one morning Mrs. McClellan was surprised to learn that I intended taking my vacation working at the defense plant.

"It was a good medical examination and a revealing of family history at the personnel office before I was accepted. The girl typing my family record wanted the names and birth dates of my seven children, then wanted to know if I had any brothers and sisters. After giving her the names of nine, she sighed, and I told her that I could give her the names and ages of a half dozen grandchildren, but she said that would be enough. There were references needed, and not knowing the

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Gas, Food Stamps Due In October

Motorists and Householders Accommodated in the Same Week

Motorists and householders figuratively will kick two birds with one stone the third week in October when they go to school houses for more A gas and for a new food ration book.

Williamsport District OPA announced today that motorists will register for the new A book at the same time as filing application and receiving War Ration Book No. 4.

In this area, tentative dates, subject to the approval and convenience of the various school districts in the 14-county district, are Oct. 20, 21, 22.

Full instructions on what information, data, papers, old ration books and other matter is needed for registration will be announced later, district OPA said today.

WAR TRAINING CLASSES NOW BEING STARTED

War training classes are now being organized by the Pennsylvania State College extension services in more than 100 towns and cities of the State, to prepare Pennsylvania men and women for technical jobs in war industry.

In these classes, which are provided tuition-free by the United States Office of Education in co-operation with the United States Employment Service, men and women are prepared for jobs in the engineering, science, and management fields.

Since this program was inaugurated two and one half years ago Penn State has trained 56,500 workers for war jobs.

TWO SOLDIERS WOUNDED

Two Clinton county corporals have been wounded in action in the North African area, the War Department has announced. They are Corp. Robert O. Dutton, son of Mrs. Elsie Dutton, of Lock Haven, and Corp. Donald J. Poorman, son of Mrs. Margaret Poorman, of Renovo.

GROWS LARGE DAHLIAS

G. F. Bailey, Jersey Shore, enters the competition in size for dahlias with the record of two flower stalks eight feet in height, and one nine feet, three inches, on which the flowers, lavender in color, are six inches across. He has several 10-inch blooms on stalks; not eight feet tall.

SHELLS FOR HUNTERS

Hunters may purchase rationed stocks of ammunition between Oct. 1 and November 15, but individuals will not be allowed to buy more than 25 shotgun shells, 20 center fire cartridges and fifty 22 calibre non-rifle cartridges, according to the state game commission.

RELIEF REPORT

State Treasurer G. Harold Wagner reported that direct relief payments made to needy residents of Centre county during the week ended Friday totaled \$55,900. Last week payments totaled \$54,310.

IS IT CLEAR, NOW?

A State College paper Friday reported "A new quintile of aviation students arrived at the College yesterday to replace a group which had completed training and were shipped out Saturday, it was announced today." Of the word "quintile" the dictionary says: "A quintile point; sometimes used erroneously with the meaning of one fifth." We don't know how you feel about news items which can't be understood without a profound study of the English language, but we do know we'd recommend that reporters who use such words be rammed through a lap skiver.

CONGRESS

Congressman James E. VanZandt has resigned from that post to enter active duty with the Navy. We'd think better of it if Thomas E. Sheridan, of Curwensville, VanZandt's secretary for the past five years, wasn't being "immediately mentioned" as his successor. The Republican party could do a lot worse than back our townsman William W. Sleg for VanZandt's place. We don't see eye-to-eye with friend Sleg on many a political issue, but you can at least be sure, always, how Mr. Sleg stands.

QUESTIONS

A lot of Bellefonte people would like to know just why it is that the State Liquor Store most of the time is fresh out of most all brands of bottled goods—except Kinsey. No one, practically, ever heard of Kinsey products until some months ago, and now it seems that Kinsey is virtually the only distiller left in the country. Until someone offers a reasonable explanation we'll go on thinking dark things about the operation of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

SON

The eight-year-old son of a defeated Centre county candidate took his dad's recent defeat at the primaries quite seriously. "I prayed every night for weeks that you'd be nominated," he said, "but you weren't. What good is prayer anyway?" We hope the lad's confusion has been straightened out and that it has been explained to him that despite claims to the contrary, few candidates have the direct endorsement of Heaven. Even if they had, they probably wouldn't be elected, for that's what the way politics often works out.

CRUSADER

We'll know Bellefonte man is reported to be launching a crusade to have the 15th amendment to the U. S. Constitution set aside. The amendment provides for the letting of income tax.

COFFEE

Some Bellefonte people are going to have a lot of stale coffee on their hands. Paying heed to a rumor that coffee is going to be rationed, list, some persons went to their grocery stores and purchased up to ten pounds at a grab. Reason for the phoney rumor, it is said, is that there is a coffee stamp in the new ration books. When the books were printed, coffee was still on the rationed list and there were no indications that it would be removed. Now the picture is changed.

W. A. M.

Couple of well known north warders were wending their weary way home at 7 a. m. the other day, apparently from an all-night poker session. Said one: "I tell you they should have called the game at midnight!"

BOOK REVIEW

"Kings Row" interesting enough book while you're reading it, left this corner with a slightly disagreeable taste. The author picked out a particularly vicious cast of characters, it seems.

MEDAL TO GO TO MOTHER

Capt. Thomas E. Leet, commanding officer of the Air Force contingent at the Pennsylvania State College went to Curwensville under orders from Washington to deliver the air medal and oak leaf cluster to the mother of Staff Sgt. Kenneth E. Erhard, now a prisoner of war, for exceptional conduct in five separate combat missions over continental Europe. The presentation was made at a meeting of Curwensville Rotary Club.

PLUNGES THROUGH FLOOR

A large truck load of lime broke through the barn floor on the Howard Van Nooy farm near Canton and crashed to the basement. Considerable damage was done which has not been estimated yet.

Special Service at Howard Church

World Wide Communion will be observed by all of the churches of the Howard charge of the Methodist church on Sunday, October 3, when the churches of the charge will hold special divine services of Communion in the form of memorial services in honor of the young men and women of the charge who are service in the various branches of the armed services of our country.

According to the schedule released by the pastor, the Rev. Roy A. Goss, the day will begin with Communion being observed by the congregation of the historic Curtin church, at 9 a. m., followed by the Church school hour at 10 a. m. At the Kennedy church, the Church school hour will begin at 9 a. m., followed by the sacrament of Communion at 10 a. m. Howard will observe the Communion hour at 11 a. m., preceded by the Church school hour at 9:30 a. m.

At the Hunter Run church, it is planned that an afternoon service be held in order that the people of this church might have the opportunity of attending the services of other churches of the charge and still be able to have their own service. Tentative time for the service is 2:30 p. m.

Members of all the churches are urged to bring in their donations for the booth festival or Harvest Home services prior to October 10, so that plans for Harvest Home services can be completed.