

Where the Fuel Goes
A HEAVY BOMBER
 cruising at a speed of 250
 m.p.h. may use 200 gal-
 lons of gasoline an hour.

The Centre Democrat

WHERE THE FUEL GOES
 An Army Trans-
 port burns 23,900
 gallons of fuel oil
 a day.

VOLUME 62, NUMBER 50.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1943.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.50 PER YEAR.

Titan Workers Get \$107,000 Bonus

Fifth Annual Christmas Bonus Will Represent About 2 1/2 Weeks' Pay; Men in Service to Receive \$100 Each. About 1000 Persons Benefit.

For the fifth consecutive year the Titan Metal Manufacturing Company of Bellefonte announces the payment of a substantial Christmas bonus to all hourly and salaried employees. The bonus this year will represent approximately two-and-a-half weeks' additional pay.

In addition to the bonus to employees, the company announces that each of the 148 former employees now in the service, including one WAVE,

Wounded in Action



Pvt. James Shilling
 Pvt. Shilling, son of Mrs. Fred Marshall, of Bellefonte, was wounded in action in Italy on November 2, according to a message received by his mother from the War Department, Friday night. The message did not indicate the nature or severity of the wound.

Pvt. Shilling is a member of an armored division and received training at Fort Knox, Ky. He entered the service on November 23, 1942.

He attended the Bellefonte public schools and the State College High school and prior to enlisting, the service was employed by the Wolf Furniture Company in Bellefonte.

MISSING FLIER IS HONORED AT DINNER HERE

Father of Cpl. William Fetzer Receives Awards Won by Son

STATE OFFICIALS AMONG SPEAKERS
Commander Calls on Government to Aid Returning Soldiers

Medals won by a Bellefonte youth for distinguished service before he was lost in action in the South Pacific were presented to the boy's father at impressive ceremonies during the fifteenth annual dinner of Jackson Crisman Saylor Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Bellefonte, at the Brockerhoff Hotel, Saturday night.

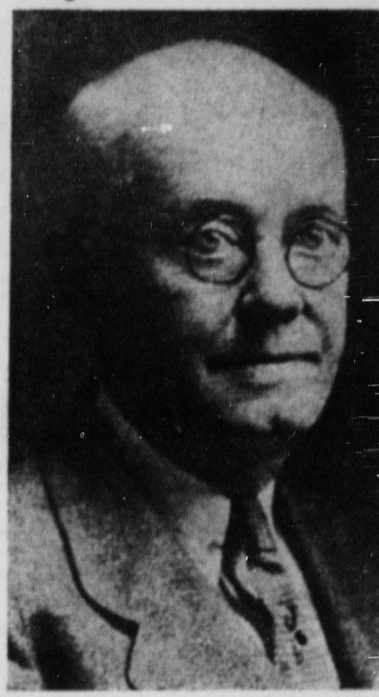
Charles H. Fetzer, of the I. O. O. F. apartments, West High street, received the Distinguished Service Cross and two Oak Leaf Clusters won by his son, Cpl. William H. Fetzer, for a long series of missions in which he took part as an Air Force radio operator in the South Pacific. Presentation of the awards was made by Captain Thomas E. Leet, commander of the Air Force trainees at Penn State.

Principal speakers included state department commander of the VFW, Earl Seitz, of Nash Pittsburg, and Lt. James E. Cashon, adjutant to Capt. Leet. Members of the state department officers' staff, Bellefonte VFW officers and members, and their guests were introduced by John G. Love, Bellefonte attorney, who served as toastmaster.

"In honoring Cpl. Fetzer we honor his family, his friends and his community," Capt. Leet said as he presented the medals to Cpl. Fetzer's father. Citations outlining the type of service Cpl. Fetzer rendered

Meek Resigns As Postmaster Here

Increasing Duties, Poor Health Given As Reason; Has Served in Office Since July 1, 1934; Will Devote Time to Personal Business.



Postmaster Geo. R. Meek.

George R. Meek, postmaster at Bellefonte since July 1, 1934, has tendered his resignation from that post. It was announced yesterday. Mr. Meek asked that his resignation become effective at once, but it is the custom for a retiring postmaster to remain in office until his successor is appointed.

Mr. Meek, who is 73 years old, is resigning because the steadily increasing duties of the office together with an illness from which he has suffered for some time, make the duties of the post quite burdensome. He had been advised by his physician to give up work some months ago.

Mr. Meek became postmaster here during President Roosevelt's first administration when the term of the late John L. Knealy as postmaster at Bellefonte expired.

When Mr. Meek entered the office gross business was about \$30,000 annually. This year the office grossed \$60,000 and the volume of business is being handled with exactly the same number of carriers and clerical help as when Mr. Meek took the office, the official said. In addition, various govern-

COBURN YOUTH IS WOUNDED BY STRAY BULLET

Wendell Musser Struck in Thigh While Resting on Mountain Path

WOUND NOT OF SERIOUS NATURE

Other Victims of Earlier Hunting Accidents Reported Improving

Wendell Musser, 17, of Coburn, struck in the thigh by a stray bullet while hunting near Coburn last Thursday, is recovering rapidly from a wound which is described as being not serious. He is a patient at the Centre County Hospital where an examination revealed that the bullet did not strike any bones.

The shot was fired by Ralph D. Savage, 59, of Lewisburg, according to Pvt. Keith Dane, of the Rockview sub-station State Police. Savage was a member of another hunting party and was at a considerable distance from Musser when he fired the shot.

Musser was hunting with a group of about 10 men from the Coburn vicinity who had just completed a drive. Musser stretched out in a fire lane for a rest and was in that position when he was struck. When the Lewisburg man discovered his shot had struck the man he ran at once to his aid.

Savage took Musser to Millheim where he was given treatment at a physician's office before being brought to the County Hospital. The wound is on the left thigh midway between the knee and hip, and an

Gets 7 to 15 Years On Morals Charge

Lemont Janitor Found Guilty of Attack on 14-Year-Old Girl; Juries in Two Other Cases Recommend Mercy.

Found guilty by a jury on a charge of statutory rape, Paul B. Weaver of Lemont, janitor of the College township school at Lemont, Tuesday morning was sentenced by Judge Ivan Walker to serve 7 to 15 years in the Western Penitentiary at Pittsburgh.

Weaver's trial, the first of the December criminal court which began Monday morning, occupied most of the day, and the jury returned its verdict after about one hour's deliberation.

The man was charged with attacking a 12-year-old school girl at the Lemont schoolhouse several months ago. Weaver has served previous sentences in the Allegheny County Workhouse and in the penitentiary on other charges.

Steward Ross, aged 72, of Woodcrest, near State College, was found guilty by a jury on a charge of incestuous fornication, but since the jury recommended mercy because of the defendant's age, Ross received a penalty of one year in the county jail instead of a maximum of 5 years in prison which could have been imposed had the mercy recommendation not been made.

Ross was charged with having illicit relations with a daughter, who appeared on the witness stand to testify in the case.

Another plea of mercy was made by a jury which found Henry Edward Schindler, 18, of Milesburg, guilty of a charge of arson. Schindler set fire to an outbuilding on the James Wallace property in Milesburg, police said, and he also is said

MACHINE REPAIRS COURSE TO OPEN

Farmers of Walker And Nearby Townships Asked to Bring Implements

On Monday evening December 29 the first meeting of a Farm Machinery Repair Course will be held in Stitzer's Garage at Hubbsburg.

This will be the first of a series of twenty-four, three-hour meetings to be held over a twelve-week period beginning December 29. In December the meetings will be held Monday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 10 p. m. The Repair Course will be under the direction of Robert Corman, supervisor, and Leroy Fye, of Millheim, instructor for the classes.

The Farm Machinery Repair Course was organized for the express purpose of giving the farmers of Walker and adjoining townships a chance to repair farm machinery in the evenings during the winter months. Walker township farmers can bring in their machinery to Stitzer's garage and make the needed

FIRE DESTROYS FARM RESIDENCE

High Wind Converts Blazing Building Into Inferno; Heavy Loss

Fire, starting from an overheated stove in the kitchen, destroyed the large frame tenement house on the Arthur Garbrick farm just west of Zion, shortly before noon, Friday.

Fanned by a strong and steady wind from the west, the flames spread through the house and within a half hour after the start of the fire, the building had caved in. Nothing remained standing as the high wind converted the flaming structure into a kind of giant blowtorch. Loss was estimated at between \$3,000 and \$4,000, with some insurance.

Members of the Russell Yearick family, tenants of the building, succeeded in saving much of the household goods and a quantity of clothing and bed clothing. Lost, however, was a quantity of meat from a recent butchering, a large quantity

Jesse Sowers 30 Years With West Penn

Jesse M. Sowers, Mill Street, Milesburg, received recognition yesterday by the West Penn Power Company as he completed 30 years of service with the utility.

Employed as engineer for the Keystone Power Corporation on December 15, 1913, he was transferred to watch engineer at Emporium in 1929, when the Keystone Division was organized. Later that year he was moved to Milesburg and made substation operator there January 15, 1932.

Sowers is still serving the Company in that capacity at Milesburg.

SAVES MAN FROM DEATH IN ITALY

Sgt. Edward Hall, Snow Shoe, Rescues Soldier As Boat Overturns

First Sergeant Edward Hall, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Hall, of Snow Shoe, recently saved one of the men in his battery from drowning in a canal that flooded by his outfit's anti-aircraft position in Italy, the War Department announced this week.

Private Michael Gingerski was rowing a boat in a canal. It hit a strong current and overturned. Unable to swim, Gingerski disappeared under the water. Sergeant Hall dived into the stream fully clothed and pulled Gingerski to safety.

Hall is seeing extensive action with the Fifty Army in Italy, the War Department announcement adds.

Sgt. Hall, better known in the Snow Shoe area as "Duke," entered the service on September 29, 1942, and received his preliminary training at Ft. Bliss, Texas. From there he was transferred to Camp Sutton, N. C., and later was sent to Camp Davis, N. C. He was sent overseas in May 1943 and took part in the battle for Salerno. He has been with the Fifth Army in Italy since then.

Sgt. Hall is married to the former Margaret Sherman, daughter of the late Rev. H. H. Sherman, a former pastor of the Snow Shoe Methodist church. He has one son, Eddie, who is now 15 months old. Mrs. Hall and young son are residing with Mr. Hall's brother, Fred Hall and family, in Snow Shoe, during Sgt. Hall's absence.

Prior to entering the service he was employed at the knitting mills at Clarence.

Lock Car Doors, Police Head Warns

Chief of Police Harry Dukeman yesterday issued a warning to Christmas shoppers to keep the doors of their cars locked.

In previous years, the Chief explained, there always have been some losses through theft of packages placed in unlocked cars. "We'd like to have no losses at all this year through this type of theft," the Chief declared.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS TO BEGIN FRIDAY

Board Grants Pupils' Petition for More Vacation; Committees Named

Appointment of committees and granting of a petition by Bellefonte school pupils for an additional three days' vacation during the Christmas season Monday night highlighted the first regular meeting of the Bellefonte School Board since its annual re-organization. R. C. Blaney, new president of the board, presided at the session.

The unanimous vote on extra vacation time came after a lengthy discussion by the board on a petition signed by several hundred pupils asking that the holidays begin Friday, December 17, instead of at 4 p. m. Wednesday, December 22, as originally planned.

The petition set forth that many students who are employed could thus earn extra money and help out their employers in a rush season; that the three days at Christmas time "mean more" to pupils than a corresponding time in June; that it is the "general practice" of schools to give two full weeks' vacation time at Christmas, and that the closing of schools would help the war effort in the saving of coal, transportation, and light.

In granting the petition the board specified the class and home room Christmas parties and Christmas programs, are not to be held before 12 o'clock noon this Friday. These events had been planned for next week.

In naming committees for the year, Mr. Blaney placed two board members on each committee and to-

TITAN METAL TO OPEN PLANT NO. 3

Former Beezer Garage on North Water Street, Added

Continuing the steady expansion which has marked its growth for the past two decades, the Titan Metal Manufacturing Company, one of Bellefonte's leading industries, yesterday announced the acquisition of the Lingens Motor Company, formerly the George A. Beezer garage, on North Water street, which will be known as Titan Plant No. 3.

With the announcement, Titan officials pointed out that the garage is to be converted into a plant for the manufacture of a vital part for a war device and that production in the new plant must begin by January 15 if the first monthly quota is to be reached.

In order to begin production, officials declared, a total of about 105 new employees—mostly women—will be needed. Persons without any experience in the type of work concerned.

STEWART RENAMED HEAD OF SCOUTS

Annual Dinner and Meeting Held at High School Cafeteria

The Muncy District of Boy Scouts of America held its annual dinner and business meeting in the cafeteria of the Bellefonte High School, Tuesday night. Parents of Scouts, committee members and district officials attended the dinner served by the school home economics department.

Speakers were Robert Smith, of Lewisport, new executive of the Juniata Council; Karl Disque, field executive of the council; Theodore Gates, of State College, council chairman; and Ralston Derr, of Pleasant Gap, field director for the American Red Cross who recently returned from the Aleutian Islands.

Clyde M. Stewart of Bellefonte was re-elected chairman of the district. Others re-elected are William J. Tucker, Pleasant Gap, vice-chairman; Earl M. Cartwright, Bellefonte, district commissioner; and Thomas

Local Couple To Observe Anniversary

In celebration of their 36th wedding anniversary, Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Jacobs, of Bellefonte, plan to hold an open house at their home in the Evangelical rectory, Willowbank street, Christmas day.

Rev. and Mrs. Jacobs were married in Carlisle on December 25, 1913, by the Rev. L. A. Fuhrman, brother-in-law of Mrs. Jacobs. There are three children in the family: H. H. Jacobs, Jr., of Williamsport; Mrs. Vance Dimmock, of Bellefonte; and P. Jay B. Jacobs, with the Army in England.

Rev. Jacobs entered the ministry in 1915 at New Kingston, Pa., and served in various pastorate before coming to Bellefonte five years ago from Danville.

The couple will hold open house from 2 to 5 o'clock Christmas day and extend a cordial invitation to friends to call during those hours.

State College Man Is Nazi Prisoner

Capt. Phil Foster of State College, missing in action in Italy since October 10, is a prisoner in Germany, according to the Naal short wave radio.

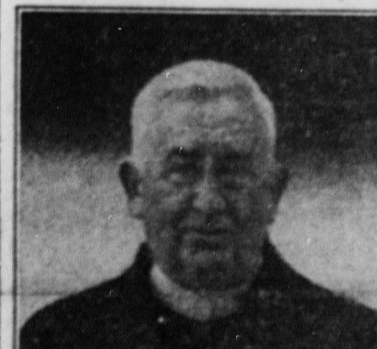
The news was received by Capt. Foster's wife in Harrisburg and his mother, Mrs. Philip Foster of State College from various sources of short wave radios who picked up a German broadcast Sunday night and telephoned the Fosters.

He told of this experience in his broadcast, Capt. Foster spoke over the radio and reported that he was well.

He was with an artillery unit in the thick of the Fifty Army's advance. Shortly before his capture, his unit was surrounded for two days by enemy troops but finally escaped. He told of this experience in his last letters home dated October 8.

His mother also learned this week that her grandson, Lt. John Crandell, a prisoner of the Japanese since the fall of Bataan, is still alive and well. They had heard from him some months ago but more information arrived just recently.

Priest 40 Years



Rt. Rev. William E. Downes
 Tuesday, December 21, Rt. Rev. William E. Downes, rector of St. John's Catholic church, Bellefonte, will observe the 40th anniversary of his entrance into the priesthood. On July 1 of this year, he completed 26 years of service as rector of the local parish.

"Father" Downes—for he remains "Father" to hundreds of parishioners and friends here despite his elevation in 1941 to the office of Monsignor—was born in Tyrone in 1897 and studied at Emmetsburg, Md., and Catholic University, Washington, D. C., receiving his degree in theology in the latter place.

He served in Johnstown and Altoona for a number of years before being assigned to take charge of the Bedford parish. He came to Bellefonte in 1917 upon the death of the late Father P. McArdle, of St. John's church.

In addition to many honors received from the church and from

Three Injured As Car Rams Truck

Three persons were slightly injured about 7:30 p. m. Sunday when a car ran into the rear of a truck at Hanna Furnace. Damage to the car owned and operated by Ross H. Griffin of Port Matilda, R. D. 2, was approximately \$600, and loss to the truck owned by Eugene Orwick of Port Matilda, was about \$50.

Injured were Griffin, who received bruises of the chest and a laceration of the mouth; Roy McGuire, Port Matilda, lacerations of the face; and Joseph Ebbes, Port Matilda, slight lacerations of the nose. Griffin and McGuire were taken to the Phillipsburg State Hospital for treatment.

Pleasant Gap State Police who investigated the accident said Griffin's car hit the back of the truck which was parked. The driver of the car told police that visibility was poor and that his windshield was covered with ice.

Rotarians Here Buy \$52,675 In War Bonds

The Bellefonte Rotary Club met at the Penn Belle Hotel Monday evening, David E. Washburn, of the Warner Company, gave an interesting talk on the chemical uses of local lime products.

Lt. Frank Gryctko was a guest. Three more of the club projects for the year were announced as completed.

Musser W. Gettig, club president, called the members' attention to the fact that Rotary International had requested its club members to subscribe to War Bonds to the amount of at least \$200 for each member. He added that 19 of the Bellefonte members had so far subscribed \$52,675, or approximately twelve times the amount asked for.

Only one member was absent from the meeting, which closed with a session of the aims and objects committee.

PLEASANT GAP SOLDIER GETS \$1,028.50 BACK PAY IN ARMY

Sgt. Rex W. Hoy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hoy, of Bellefonte, who is stationed in England, was the subject of a feature story in a recent issue of the "Stars and Stripes," publication of the armed forces.

Sgt. Hoy, now stationed in England, enlisted in the service after the U. S. entered the war. Prior to that time he had served an enlistment in the Hawaiian Islands, and Friday after spending nine months as a medium bomber pilot with the Army Air Forces in the Mediterranean area, during his service in that theatre, Lt. Warnock took part in 50 bombing missions against the enemy without injury except for scratches, received when the windshield of his plane was twice shattered by enemy gunfire.

Lt. Warnock, who took part in campaigns in Tunisia, Pantelleria, Sicily, and Salerno, made his 50th combat flight on the east coast of Italy. The State College flyer will remain at his home until January 3, when he is to report to Atlantic City, N. J., for routine examinations and reassignment to another station.

The Sarge, a baker in the EM's mess here, was called in by his squadron adjutant, 2 Lt. George F. Pina, of Schenectady, N. Y., and handed the tidy sum of 254 pounds 18 shillings—\$1,028.50—in back pay.

The last regular pay Hoy received was on Sept. 30, 1942, when he was attached to a service squadron. Shortly thereafter he was transferred to his present outfit. A case of over-allotment developed prior to his reporting here, and when this fact was determined it was too late to clear up the matter. The service squadron had departed for another theatre of operations.

Hoy's pay was held up pending word from Finance in Washington. The long-awaited mess finally came through the other day—all of Hoy's allotments had been discontinued a year ago. All during this period he had received but two partial payments, one for \$40 in December, 1942, and another for \$10 in February, 1943.

So today Golden Boy Hoy started out on his 48-hour pass, loaded for

Pfc. Nevin Rhine, Killed in Bomber Blast, Is Buried

Funeral services were held Friday in Mt. Belhel Reformed church, Nittany, for Pfc. Nevin D. Rhine, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orvis S. Rhine of Mackeyville, who was killed Monday of last week when an explosion demolished the Flying Fortress in which he and three other Air Force men were preparing for a routine flight. Brief service was held at the home of his parents at 1:30 p. m., followed by services at the Mt. Belhel church at 2 p. m., with the Rev. David Strasser, Reformed pastor, officiating. Military rites were conducted under the direction of members of William Marshall Crawford Post, American Legion, of Lock Haven, and burial was made in the church cemetery.

Pfc. Rhine was born Feb. 21, 1921, was graduated from the Hubbsburg High School in 1939, and worked in the P. R. R. shops in Renovo before entering the service. He had attended armor school at Denver and was stationed at Lockbourne Air Base, Columbus, Ohio, where the accident happened, as a member of the Fortress crew.

Surviving him in addition to his parents are three brothers, and his fiancée, Miss Henrietta Clevenshine, of Mifflinville.

Bartges Family Hears From Interned Minister

Last Friday was a day of rejoicing for Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bartges of Millheim for on that day they received their first letter in over two years from their son, the Rev. Woodrow A. Bartges, who with his wife was arrested by the Japanese in the Philippine Islands in the month following the Pearl Harbor incident.

The letter, dated August 21, 1943, reveals that the couple have been interned since December 31, 1941, at Camp Holmes Internment Camp, Baguio, P. I., and that both had been well up to the date of writing.

Camp Life Revealed

An interesting informative picture of life in a Japanese prison camp is contained in the letter, which is quoted in full, as follows:

"Dear Dad, Mother and All:

"Through the services of the International Red Cross and the courtesy of the Japanese Imperial Army we are enabled to write.

"We are living under the protective custody of the J. I. A. here on our three acre camp. Of the 517 British and Americans here, about 150 are missionaries. Our living quarters: three barracks, one man, two women, five cottages. Our

mountain climate is comfortable and healthful. The weather is very pleasant except for the two to three months rainy season. We had a 23-day typhoon in July. We are glad for our raincoats, rubbers, adequate clothes and covers. Our supply of soap and precious personal articles is not yet exhausted.

"The variety of our food is naturally limited, but with such regulars as rice, bananas, string beans, sweet potatoes, gabi, etc., we are getting along O. K. A dietitian plans the meals. A former hotel chef is our chief cook. Memories of mother's cooking linger indelibly.

"Our medical care is adequate. A surgeon, four medical doctors, and 10 nurses compose an efficient hospital staff. A very good dentist does essential work on our teeth. Neither of us has been ill with any of the local diseases such as dysentery, malaria, jaundice, etc.

"We are blessed with regular church services which have been held weekly since June, 1942. I teach a class of boys each Sunday and preach once in three months. We are many denominations. In the 10 by 12 foot space in which I live there are two Mennonites, one

(Continued on Page Three)