

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.

WHERE THE FUEL GOES
 An Army Trans-
 port burns 23,000
 gallons of fuel oil
 a day.

VOLUME 63, NUMBER 9.

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1944.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.50 PER YEAR.

278 Men Stated For Examination

247 of Group Are Fathers; 1 Who Pass Will Receive Notices to Report For Induction in From 21 to 45 Days.

A group of 278 men—247 of them fathers—will be examined for induction in the new group by Local Draft Board No. 2, of Belleville, Pa., on Saturday, March 4. It was announced yesterday by board officials.

Those who pass the physical examinations will become part of the pool of men in Board No. 2 available for induction at any time. However, those in the new group will not receive notices to report for induction until from 21 to 45 days after they pass examination, so that they will have opportunity to get their affairs in order before entering the service.

In the first "pool" call by Board No. 2 on February 12, the group consisted of 191 men, 138 of them fathers. Names and addresses of the March 4 group, with the initials "NF" after the names designating non-fathers, appear below. All the others are fathers.

Gets Jap Plane



Lt. J. Ned Corman
 Lt. J. Ned Corman, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. John N. Corman of Zion, who in April 1943 was graduated from the U. S. Naval Aviation Cadet School at Dallas, Texas, is in the thick of the air fighting in the South Pacific, according to a dispatch received this week.

The following story about his most recent exploit was written by Sergeant Dan Bailey, of Atlanta, Georgia, a Marine Corps combat correspondent.

"Vella Levels—(delayed)—When First Lieutenant J. Ned Corman, 22, Belleville, Pa., Marine fighter pilot, sighted a Jap Zero over Rabaul today, he found he had only one gun. But that was enough to give him credit for his first Jap plane."

"The bombers had dropped their loads. I had turned toward home when I saw these five zeros to my right some distance away."

"I started down toward them and slid in behind the last one in the formation. I gave him a short burst and discovered only one gun was working. It did the job though."

"The Zero started smoking. Just as I passed over him, he pulled up. We missed each other by ten feet. Then he rolled over, caught fire, and hit the water."

The fight was not completely over. After he had knocked down the Zero, two others jumped the Marine pilot, but his single gun forced a hasty withdrawal.

A graduate of Pennsylvania State College, Lieutenant Corman enlisted in April, 1942, and won his wings at Corpus Christi, Texas, April 1, 1943.

ARREST PAIR IN 4 THEFTS IN THIS AREA

Youths Arrested in Baltimore Implicated in Series of Crimes

STOLEN TIRES LEAD TO ARREST

Burglary of Sears Store, Quarry and Gas Stations Solved

Six burglaries, four of them in the State College area, were believed cleared up early this week with the arrest in Baltimore, Md., of Philip Confer, 18, of Lakeland, Md., formerly of Bouslog, and Frank Rosenberger, 21, of Baltimore, described as a U. S. Navy "straggler," according to a report by Pvt. John Eisenhoth, of the Rockview sub-station State Police.

The pair was picked up by Baltimore police last Thursday with several stolen Sears-Roebuck brand tires in their possession. When Baltimore Sears-Roebuck officials were notified they informed police that their State College store had been robbed of several tires and the investigation proceeded rapidly from that point.

Pvt. Eisenhoth said the total amount of loot obtained by the pair in the six robberies was about \$1000 of which a considerable amount has been recovered.

Robberies which police claim were committed by the pair are as follows: State College Sears Roebuck store, last Wednesday morning, entrance being gained by breaking a window in the men's room in the basement. Loot consisted of 10 grade 3 synthetic rubber four-ply tires valued at \$164.

J. D. Neidigh quarry at Oak Hill, sometime between December 30 and January 28. Eight equipment trailer tires, tubes and rims, valued at about \$600 were taken.

The James O'Bryan service station in College township between February 16 and 17. About 50 pounds of butter, 12 smoking pipes, and 30 cartons of cigarettes were taken. The thief broke into a juke box, taking records and about \$2 in cash.

Rishel's service station at Bouslog, February 24. Three cases of oil, 2 cartons of cigarettes, cakes and other articles valued at a total of about \$15 were taken.

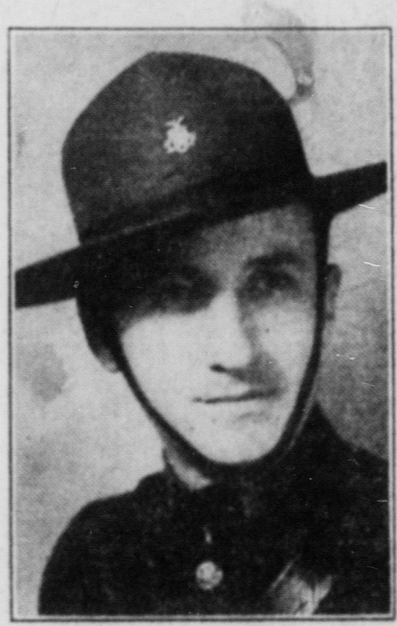
In addition the pair is said to have taken two tires valued at \$100 from a Lewistown service station and a large tire from a New Cumberland station.

John R. Juba, State College chief of police, and Pvt. Eisenhoth went to Baltimore to check on the prisoners' activities. The men have answered charges lodged against them in Baltimore. Eisenhoth and Juba were added in the investigation by Pts. Gene Barrie and C. N. Schreckengast, of Rockview sub-station.

Arrest of the pair came when a (Continued on page 5)

Former Resident Killed in Action

Lt. Howard W. O'Donnell Believed Casualty of Anzio Beachhead; Served With State Police Before Becoming Officer in Belleville.



Lt. Howard W. O'Donnell

Lt. Howard W. O'Donnell, former Belleville police officer and at one time a member of the State Police at Rockview sub-station, was killed in action in Italy, presumably on the Anzio beachhead below Rome, on January 26, according to a War Department telegram received in Belleville, Tuesday.

Sunday a message was received here reporting that Lt. O'Donnell was missing in action, and there was some hope that he might have

been taken prisoner. Tuesday's telegram cancelled that hope. The landing at Anzio took place only four days before the date of his reported death.

Lt. O'Donnell was widely known through Centre county, having made his residence in Belleville for some years. Last June he left the United States and was stationed for a brief time in Casablanca before he was sent to Italy. In a recent letter to Belleville friends he indicated that he was scheduled for a promotion to a captaincy.

The former police officer was a member of a tank destroyer division and received his commission as first lieutenant just before going overseas. He visited friends in Belleville shortly before his departure.

He had been in the army for approximately four years, and had previous military service, having served an enlistment before he became a member of the State Police. He was a member of the latter organization for about seven years, and in 1936 served as a local police officer. Subsequently he entered the employ of the Prudential Life Insurance Company in Belleville, and for a time before re-entering the army was employed in Detroit, Mich.

Lt. O'Donnell, former husband of Louise Tanner O'Donnell, of Belleville, is survived by a daughter, Judith O'Donnell, of Belleville, and these brothers and sisters: Capt. Charles O'Donnell, stationed in England; Miss Kathleen O'Donnell, of New York City; and Mrs. Wylie Conklin, of Detroit, Mich.

A. J. Lambert, OF MILESBURG, WAR CASUALTY

Young Seaman Reported Killed in Action; Was in Pacific

MASS FOR VICTIM HELD HERE TUESDAY

No Details of Death Given in Message; In Service a Year

Announcement that Andrew J. Lambert, known locally as "Nevin" Lambert, of Milesburg, has been killed in action, was contained in a Navy Department telegram received about 4 p. m. Wednesday of last week by his mother, Mrs. Tracy Lambert, of Milesburg.

No details of his death were included in the message, but he is believed to have been serving in the South Pacific area.

Seaman Lambert volunteered for Navy service and was called for training in February, 1943. He received his boot training at Bainbridge, Md., after which he was given advanced work at the University of Chicago. Following that he received further training for two months in California.

Seaman Lambert is believed to have left this country for sea duty about six weeks ago, and no word had been received from him since that time until his mother received a letter about three hours before the telegram announcing his death. The name and type of ship on which he was serving are not known here.

Saturday, Mrs. Lambert received another letter from her son, written a short time after his ship left a west coast port.

Seaman Lambert was born in Milesburg on March 12, 1925, a son of the late Tracy Lambert and Agnes Kane Lambert. His father died about seven years ago. "Nevin" attended the Belleville schools and was graduated from Belleville High School in the class of 1942. (Continued on page 5)

Couple Observe 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dukeman, of Belleville, Married in February 1894; 'Dukie' Has Been Police Chief Here for 34 Years.

It was a raw day in February, 1894, when Harry Dukeman, 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Miles Dukeman, of Curtin, and Elizabeth Deeters, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Deeters, of Curtin's Rolling Mills, went to the office of Squire P. W. Barnhart in Curtin and exchanged the vows which made them man and wife.

Squire Barnhart, who performed the rituals, was the father of the late James K. Barnhart, former well known Belleville banker.

At the time of the ceremony Harry Dukeman, who is better known to most of you as Chief Harry Dukeman, of the Belleville police, and former Centre county sheriff, was employed at Curtin's Iron Works at Curtin. He was a husky youth and when there came occasion for him to take his own in a fight, he usually came out the winner.

The date of their golden wedding anniversary, Friday, February 25, passed without any special observance on the part of the bride and groom, a half-century ago, Chief Dukeman, who by profession has learned the value of keeping silence, didn't break that rule when the anniversary rolled around, but

TITAN CHORUS ENTERTAINS CLUB

Representatives of Woman's Field Army Speaks at Session Here

The Titan Male Chorus under the direction of Mrs. Ernest Martin with Mrs. William Matthias as accompanist, presented a program of music at the Belleville Woman's Club meeting Monday night, in the Presbyterian chapel.

Numbers were: "Winter Song," by Bullard; "By the Light of the Silvery Moon," by Edwards; "Gospel Train," by Cecil; "Beautiful Dreamer," by Foster; "For Jack," by Squire; "Trader John," by Flagler; "Big Bass Viol," by Bohannon, solo by James J. Sieg; "Come Thou Almighty King," "Softly Now the Light of Day," "Abide With Me," "My Buddy," "This is the Night," "For," "We Did it Before," "I Love a Parade," and "Star-Spangled Banner."

Mrs. Martin, program chairman, introduced Mrs. Ronald Robinson of State College, captain of the Woman's Field Army for Control of Cancer, who introduced Mrs. R. S. Kirby, also of State College, Mrs. (Continued on page 5)

Mrs. William Kline Red Cross Treasurer

The National Red Cross drive opened yesterday, with a quota of \$12,800 for the Belleville Chapter. Contributors and others are asked to make checks payable to, and to turn contributions over to Mrs. William Kline, of Belleville, who succeeded the late Miss Anne M. Fox as local treasurer of the Red Cross.

Miss Fox resigned her post several weeks ago and Mrs. Kline was appointed in her place. Lewis Orvis Harvey, local chairman of the Red Cross War Fund said.

152 Men to Have Physicals March 11

Draft Board No. 1, of State College, will send 152 men to Altoona for physical examinations on Saturday, March 11. Board officials announced this week.

Although Selective Service rules have been used to permit publication of the names of men called for examination, Board 1 officials have adopted a local policy of not releasing such names until the men are called for induction. It was reported.

Four men from the area served by the board will report to Altoona on Thursday, March 9, for induction into the Navy. They are: Warren Schreckengast, of Woodard; James Staveley, of State College; Howard Lee, of New York; and Robert Houts, of Lemont.

ANNOUNCE CAST FOR LOCAL DRAMA

C. Nevin Stamm, Ruth Gill and George Stenger in Leading Roles

C. Nevin Stamm, Ruth Gill and George Stenger will play the leading roles in "Our Town," a play in three acts by Thornton Wilder, which is to be given on March 13 in the High School Auditorium, by the Belleville Drama Club.

Miss Arlene Denny, teacher in Belleville High School, who will direct the play, is a graduate of Ohio University School of Dramatic Art. She was an active member of Ohio University Theatre Play Shop and of Chagert Dramatic honorary club.

Miss Denny has directed a number of hit plays "Our Town" being her first real production in our community.

Mrs. Gill will play the part of Emily, the leading lady, with George (Continued on page 5)

278 Called For Examination

- Laurence New, Belleville.
- Robert O. Bechdel, NF, Butler.
- Wesley C. Peters, Howard.
- Lloyd R. Wertz, Birmingham.
- Melvin C. Williams, Belleville.
- Armas Tamminen, NF, Barborton, Ohio.
- Joseph E. Smead, Orviston.
- Rollin B. Leathers, NF, Howard.
- Paul B. Wert, NF, Howard.
- Torsten Blahne, NF, Philadelphia.
- James A. Barrett, Jr., Howard.
- William H. Bechdel, Blanchard.
- Clarence L. Confer, NF, Belleville.
- Elwood G. Spicer, Milesburg.
- James B. Darr, Belleville.
- Gerald K. Williams, Port Matilda.
- Nickolas M. Mattis, Belleville.
- Jesse W. Cunn, NF, Elkins Park.
- Fred N. Peters, Howard.
- Robert A. Myers, Lock Haven.
- William E. Williams, Julian.
- William F. Shull, Pleasant Gap.
- John A. Summers, Belleville.
- William E. Fisher, Milesburg.
- McDowell P. Walker, Orviston.
- Donald K. Hassinger, Belleville.
- Carl H. Spotts, Julian.
- Paul H. Jones, Port Matilda.
- Russell Copenhaver, Belleville.
- Joseph A. Gingery, Belleville.
- Clark C. Shultz, Belleville.
- George E. Irwin, Belleville.
- Carl R. Jones, Beech Creek.
- Robert M. Hood, Belleville.
- Leroy J. Brooks, Belleville.
- Elton B. Tait, State College.
- Fred R. Fisher, Belleville.
- John S. Spangler, Howard.
- Orrin M. Bedell, DuBois.
- James E. Decker, Jr., Belleville.
- James C. Dillon, Julian.
- John E. Moore, State College.
- H. Hoy Barnhart, Belleville.
- E. Leroy Davis, Belleville.
- James H. Gampel, Howard.
- Frank J. Sasserman, McConnellsbury.

Witmer Buys Dewart Livestock Market

William Witmer, of East Bishop Street, until recently superintendent of the Centre County Home, has purchased the Dewart Livestock Market, near Watsonstown, from John A. Lehn, of Dewart, and is now in full charge of that establishment.

The transaction involved one of the largest sale barns in Central Pennsylvania. Livestock sales are held at the barn every Monday beginning at 1 p. m. and frequently continue up to 2 a. m. before all stock is disposed of. Sales range from 200 to 300 calves, from 500 to 1000 hogs, in addition to horses, and dairy and beef cows are put up at auction.

Mr. and Mrs. Witmer continue to reside at their home on East Bishop street, but may move to Dewart in the future.

ZION WOMAN IS FOUND GUILTY

Josephine Armstrong Is Convicted by Jury; Asks for New Trial

Found guilty by a jury of a charge of involuntary manslaughter here Monday, Josephine Armstrong, of Zion through her attorney John G. Love, asked for an arrest of judgment and a new trial.

A decision on the request is expected after the petition has been heard before Judge Ivan Walker.

The criminal prosecution resulted from the death of Ray Deltrich, aged 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Deltrich, of Hubersburg, who was fatally injured the day before Christmas when he was struck by Miss Armstrong's car while he was walking home from a Christmas entertainment at the Hubersburg school. The accident happened in Hubersburg.

During the trial District Attorney Musser W. Gettling called six witnesses for the Commonwealth while Mr. Love called two witnesses for the de- (Continued on page five)

FAMILY STRANDED IN BELLEVILLE

C. of C. Secretary Supervises Aid to Man, Wife and Six Children

Chamber of Commerce secretary sometimes gets some odd assignments in the course of his official duties.

Take Karl E. Kusse, secretary of the local C. of C., for example.

Last Thursday night he was, all of a sudden, confronted with the matter of taking care of a man and wife and six young children who became stranded in Belleville when the big 1933 Packard sedan in which they were traveling from New York State to Florida had motor trouble.

First intimation of the family's troubles came when R. C. Blaney, chairman of the Associated Charities (Continued on page 5)

SPRING SALES IN FULL SWING

Heavy Season Foreseen With 50 Farm Sales Slated in March

Judging from the number of farm sales scheduled for March—the traditional month for spring farm sales—the war and wartime conditions have had little effect on this annual highlight in the county's farm calendar.

The Centre Democrat Public Sale Register, long known as the leading index to public sales in Centre county, carries about 50 farm sales for March. While this number is somewhat in excess of last year's total, the elderly man, who was alone in the car at the time, is believed to have fallen asleep while driving west on the Brush Valley road near Penns Cave. The car left the highway and crashed into a tree.

Mr. Strunk was thrown forcibly against the steering wheel, suffering severe bruises about the chest. His pet dog, a large German pointer, was hurled against the windshield and was stunned for a time.

Mr. Strunk crawled from the badly damaged machine and worked his way along a fence when he was discovered by passersby and taken to his home in Mill Hill, where his condition is considered serious. His ett had been a patient at the Centre County Hospital since the crash in which he suffered a head laceration and a fractured leg.

Plane Crash Victim Taken to Youngstown

Forrest Beckett, co-pilot who was painfully injured in the plane crash in which Jack Elmer Terry was killed here Sunday night of last week, was taken to his home in Youngstown, Ohio, Friday.

The injured pilot made the trip in the Widowson ambulance. Beckett had been a patient at the Centre County Hospital since the crash in which he suffered a head laceration and a fractured leg.

J. B. Strunk Injured In Motor Accident

J. B. Strunk, 71, of Mill Hill R. D. suffered severe injuries last Thursday morning in an automobile accident while he was enroute to Centre Hall to make some arrangements for the big two-day public sale of his livestock, farming machinery, and household goods on March 16 and 17.

The elderly man, who was alone in the car at the time, is believed to have fallen asleep while driving west on the Brush Valley road near Penns Cave. The car left the highway and crashed into a tree.

Mr. Strunk was thrown forcibly against the steering wheel, suffering severe bruises about the chest. His pet dog, a large German pointer, was hurled against the windshield and was stunned for a time.

Mr. Strunk crawled from the badly damaged machine and worked his way along a fence when he was discovered by passersby and taken to his home in Mill Hill, where his condition is considered serious. His ett had been a patient at the Centre County Hospital since the crash in which he suffered a head laceration and a fractured leg.

Beech Creek Couple And 21 Children Fight Axis

Mother of 8 Wed Father of 7; Then 6 More Were Born

(The following story and illustration is published by special permission of the Lock Haven Express in whose columns it appeared Wednesday, February 21. It was written by a member of the newspaper's reportorial staff.)

By ELIZABETH C. MOYER

That old saw, "His kids and my kids are fighting our kids" has an interesting counterpart in the family of Mr. and Mrs. James McCannon Confer of Beech Creek. They are writing a new modernized version which goes something like this: "His kids and my kids and our kids are fighting the Axis in Italy, Iceland, South Carolina, Texas, Texas-Arkansas, Virginia, New York, Mill Hill and Lock Haven and if we don't win the war it won't be our fault." They buy War Bonds, too.

Backing the Attack

With which statement there can be no quarrel. When Mr. and Mrs. Confer married some years ago she was a widow with eight children while he was a widower with seven young kiddies. Since their marriage they have had six more children, bringing to 21 the roster of this amazing family.

Here is the sum total of the war effort of the "Fighting Confers!"

Three sons of Mr. Confer are in the service; one son of his was honorably discharged after being wounded at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; four sons of hers are in the service; there are seven war workers in the family, including both parents; and there ten regular War



Mrs. James McCannon Confer

Pictured above are Mr. and Mrs. James McCannon Confer of Mapes Station, Beech Creek, Mr. Confer, 52, and his 45-year-old wife head the clan of Fighting Confers, both on the home front and in the armed forces, out to beat the Axis. Between them, Mr. and Mrs. Confer, both of whom were married before, have seven sons in the service. On the home front, both parents and five of their children work in local war plants. There are ten regular war bond buyers in the family.

Bond purchasers. For details see accompanying box score.

Since beginning work on this story so many extraordinary facts and coincidences have been revealed that it is difficult to select the one for first narration. Mrs. Confer, the former Isabelle Moore, was first married to John L. Confer, a distant relative one out of each pair belongs because of her second husband. Because of that fact the entire family of 21 children—his hers and theirs

daughter 18 years old—not twins, to the father and one to the mother by their first marriages. Mrs. Confer can boast four sons and three stepsons in the service, while her husband, who is 52 years of age and works the day shift at the Piper Aircraft Corp. plant, chucks up three sons and four stepsons in the armed forces.

The service roll of the family is given below, in order of ages:

"Pvt. Taylor L. Confer, 31, was inducted December 24, 1942, and was in the African campaign before going to Italy, where he is located now. His wife, who resides in Williamsport, has been notified that he has been awarded the Purple Heart, indicating he has been wounded in the fighting. They have no children.

"Pvt. Daniel D. Confer, 28, was on guard duty at Hickam Field, Hawaii, when it was bombed on December 7, 1941, and was wounded in the right hip and both legs. He spent 16 months in hospitals before being honorably discharged early in 1943. He enlisted before Pearl Harbor and was in the infantry. After his return home, following discharge, he married Miss Betty Bechdel of Howard; they now live in Flemington. They have no children. He is employed by the R. K. Griffin Co., where he sprays chimneys.

"Pfc. Lester J. Confer, 27, is with the infantry at Texarkana, Tex.-Ark. He left with the National Guard Battery from Belleville, February 13, 1943, for Camp Shelby, Miss.

"1st Lt. George L. Confer, 25, who enlisted in the Army in 1940, spent over four years in the Canal Zone before being transferred to Fort Jackson, S. C., where he is now stationed. (Continued on page 5)

—all bear the same name. Confer. She is the mother of 14, he the father of 13.

Both Parents Work

Mrs. Confer, now only 45 years of age, who works the day shift in the stem department of the Mill Hill Synthesis plant, has a daughter 33 years old; the mother was only 12 years of age when she bore her first child.

There are a son and a daughter 26 years of age and another son and