

### Where the Fuel Goes

A HEAVY BOMBER cruising at a speed of 250 m.p.h. may use 200 gallons of gasoline an hour.

# The Centre Democrat

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1944.

### WHERE THE FUEL GOES

An Army Transport burns 33,000 gallons of fuel oil a day.



SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.50 PER YEAR.

## List 75 Countians For Induction

56 of Group to Go to Ft. Meade, Md., from Local Board 2, Belleville, on March 23; State College Board on March 19.

Within the coming week a total of 75 more Centre county men will be inducted into the armed forces, according to reports released yesterday by the county's two draft boards. Fifty-six men from the area served by Board No. 2, Belleville, will leave here on Thursday, March 23, for induction into the army at Ft. Meade, Md. These men are a part of the large group which passed physical examinations in Altoona on February 12.

### Fleming Soldier Keeps Fox Hole Under Bed



Pfc. Oscar D. Rhodes

Cape Gloucester, New Britain—(Delayed)—The technique of quick arrival in foxhole is demonstrated by Marine Private First Class Oscar D. Rhodes, 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. David M. Rhodes, of Fleming, Centre county. He has his foxhole directly under his single hammock.

"It's like this," he explained, climbing into his hammock. "If we get the warning at night—and you know you've got to move fast—all I do is rip open the zippers and just fall into the foxhole. "I don't get hurt because I have the bottom sandbagged. Besides, when I make a half-turn getting out of the hammock, I fall face down and have my hands in front of me. Like this." He hopped out of the hammock, dropped easily in the foxhole, and grinned in delight.

### Local Man Named Hotel Representative

Harry E. Vonada, 29, son of Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Vonada, of East High street, and manager of the Milner Hotel in Sunbury, has been promoted to road supervisor for the Milner Hotels, Inc., and will take up his new duties next week. His territory will include Milner hotels located from northern New York state to Florida, and from the east coast to Cleveland, Ohio. He will visit hotels owned by the company and will supervise their operation and repair. He will maintain headquarters at the Sunbury Hotel, but he and Mrs. Vonada expect to be in other parts of the territory most of the time.

### Man Sentenced, Two Civil Cases Heard

At a special session of court here Monday morning Hillary Viard, 36-year-old Phillipsburg man, entered a plea of guilty to a burglary charge and was sentenced to serve from one to two years in the Western State Penitentiary. Viard was charged with stealing \$135 in cash and other articles from the home of James Dayton in Phillipsburg. Judge Ivan Walker, who presided, also heard arguments in a number of civil actions, among them being the plea of Josephine Armstrong, of Zion, for arrest of judgment and motion for a new trial on an involuntary manslaughter charge, and an argument in the case of Burr & Co. vs. the Belleville School district, in which Ward Tate, formerly of Burr & Co. is seeking payment for services he claims he rendered the school district and for which he has received no remuneration. No decisions have been filed in either of the cases.

## ESCAPES DEATH AS MOSHANNON HOUSE BURNS

Irvin Berger, Alone in House, Aroused From Sleep By Smoke

### BUILDING, CONTENTS TOTALLY DESTROYED

Belleville and Snow Shoe Firemen Arrive too Late to Save Structure

Irvin Berger, well known resident of Moshannon, narrowly escaped death early yesterday morning when his home burned to the ground, together with all its contents with the exception of the few clothes he was wearing when he fled from the blazing structure. Mr. Berger was alone at home at the time, his wife and child being absent on a visit with relatives in Ebensburg. He was aroused from sleep about 4 a. m. by smoke which filled the seven-room frame structure. Grabbing a few clothes, Mr. Berger ran to the stairs and found the first floor a mass of flames. He succeeded in making his way to a door and got to safety just as portions of the first floor rooms began to collapse. A call was sent to the Belleville and Snow Shoe fire departments, and from Belleville the Logan pumper and ambulance were dispatched to the scene. When firemen reached the end of their 25-mile run the home was a complete loss, and nothing could be done to save any part of it, or of its contents. Mr. Berger, who purchased the home about three years ago, had a new roof put on a year ago. From evidence obtained at the scene it is believed an overheated furnace, or a spark in the basement caused the fire. Mr. Berger is employed in the mines at Pine Glen operated by his father, Clyde Berger. The total loss from the fire was placed at \$4000 or more, part of which is covered by insurance.

## Gray Furey Named B.H.S. Grid Coach

Bellefonte Native to Return Next Fall as Football Mentor; School Board Vote Is Unanimous.

Gray Furey, 38, native of Bellefonte, for the past year football coach at Mechanicsburg High School, was unanimously elected coach of the Bellefonte High School grid team, at a meeting of the school board Tuesday night. Furey will begin his duties here in the fall.

The new coach, who comes here with an exceptionally fine record to his credit, is a son of George Furey, of East Linn street. He was graduated from the Bellefonte High School and from Slippery Rock Teachers' College in the class of 1935. He was coach and teacher at Mill Hill High School until 1941, and was coach at the White Hill Industrial School the following year. From White Hill he went to Enola for a year, and last year went to Mechanicsburg High.

Other staff members elected at the session which was held Tuesday night so as not to conflict with the home-talent show "Our Town" at the high school, Monday, were Miss Virginia Confer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Confer, of Milesburg, and Miss Ruth Confer, of Milesburg.

## Seaman Home From Pacific

South Pacific Islands upon his return to Bellefonte, Monday, after 23 months of service there with the Sea-Bees, construction battalion of the Navy.

Seaman Smith departed for the South Pacific in April 1942 and landed first in the New Hebrides, west of Australia. After some time spent there he was transferred to the Solomon Islands, and upon completion of construction work in that group of islands was returned to the New Hebrides. At various times he was sent to other South Pacific islands for short assignments.

"Which of the islands do you like best?" a reporter asked the six-foot youth, who is streamlined from stem to stern by physical exercises in equatorial climates. "None!" came the definite and conclusive answer. Seaman Smith clarified his statement by saying that it's always hot and damp, the flies and mosquitos are a constant nuisance, and the mosquitos in addition are an ever-present threat of malaria. Rats swarm over the islands, chew up clothing and cause other destruction and annoyance. There is no entertainment, no place to go. All you see is service men, and after a time you get used to their over-all impression.

That sentence from Seaman Smith, son of Mrs. Louise A. Smith, of West High street, Bellefonte, summed up his over-all impression of the islands.

## PUPILS BATTLE FIRE AT SCHOOL

Use Frozen Snow to Save Henderson Building From Destruction

Prompt and effective work by pupils of the Henderson school along the Jacksonville road about 4 miles east of Bellefonte, was credited by school officials with having saved the building from destruction by fire shortly after classes began Friday morning. Miss Maude Miller, of Ferguson township, teaches in the school, and pupils first noticed the fire when smoke began to seep down through the ceiling into the school room. In a short time fire ate its way through the ceiling around the stove pipe, and charred pieces of lath and plaster began to drop to the floor. School was immediately dismissed, and after all were outside the older pupils took matters into their own hands. While the smaller ones carried out books, tablets and smaller pieces of furniture, the larger ones, using a long bench as a ladder, crawled up into the area between the ceiling of the school and the roof of the structure, and hurled large chunks of frozen snow on the blazing rafters. Others stood under the fire and tossed pieces of snow up into the flames, while a few buckets of water obtained from a nearby well aided in quenching the fire.

## COUNTY OVER IN WAR BOND DRIVE

Tops Quota by \$45,700, According to Final Check by County Chairman

Although final figures released by the Federal Reserve Bank at Philadelphia last week showed that Centre county had fallen short of its Fourth War Loan quota by a small margin, a subsequent check completed by Claude G. Aikens, of State College, chairman of the County War Finance Committee, reveals that the county over-subscribed its \$1,942,000 quota by \$45,700. Total sales, Mr. Aikens reports, were \$1,987,700.

## County Home Head Is Seriously Ill

Rev. A. H. Herr, superintendent of the Centre County Home, who suffered a severe heart attack Wednesday of last week, is reported to be showing some improvement but his condition is still regarded as being serious. He is under medical care at his quarters in the County Home, and is not permitted to see callers. Because of his illness all the Herr children were called here during the latter part of the week. They are: Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Harrison, of Franklin; C. W. Herr, of Washington, D. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Hughes Smith, of Elizabethtown, and Mrs. Grace Brown, of Everett. All have returned to their homes with the exception of Mrs. Smith, a registered nurse, who remained here to aid in caring for her father.

## 99 COUNTIANS TO GET FARM MERIT AWARDS

Friday by Judge Walker

### FSA SUPERVISOR LAUDS FARM EFFORT

Cites Figures Showing Large Increase in Production

Kyle M. Alexander, Farm Security Administration supervisor for Centre county, yesterday reviewed the 1943 accomplishments of the 189 farmers in his area who borrow from FSA, as a prelude to the distribution of Merit Awards to 99 of them for their achievement in increasing production for war needs.

The Merit Awards will be presented by Judge Ivan Walker at a meeting to be held in the Court House here at 2 p. m. Friday, March 17. Alexander said the 189 had increased food production more than farmers generally had done, borrowed about 36 per cent more money from the Government and "booked all records" in repaying their loans.

The supervisor said FSA borrowers here during 1943 had increased their production of milk 42 per cent over 1942; eggs 52 per cent; chickens 61 per cent; pork 21 per cent; beef 4 per cent; soybeans 40 per cent.

"These are foods vitally needed by the United States and the United Nations," Alexander said. "I think these figures constitute an outstanding record of wartime production. In 1942 these same farmers made great increases too. Some thought they were doing well."

## Houserville Soldier Is Nazi Prisoner

Pfc. Charles A. Smith of Houserville, army paratrooper who has been missing in action in the North African theatre of operations since September 15, is a prisoner of war in a German military prison camp, according to a report received from the International Red Cross by a friend, Miss Doris Yarnell of Spring Mills. No details were given in the message.

Pfc. Smith, who had lived with Lewis W. Baylets of Houserville for five years before he entered the army early in 1941, took preliminary training at Camp Wheeler, Va., and was stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga., and in South Carolina before being sent to England in June, 1942. The Houserville soldier was transferred to North Africa soon after the Allied invasion of November 7, 1942.

## Ralph Hartsock, 74, Victim of Stroke

Ralph Hartsock, 74, of Julian, R. D., former Centre county auditor, suffered a stroke at his home Monday morning and was brought to the Centre County Hospital for treatment. Reports from the hospital yesterday indicated that Mr. Hartsock has shown little or no improvement but his condition is described as being "fair."

## Safe Driver

Kenneth T. Barnhart, 18, electronics mate, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Willard Barnhart, 426 E. Bishop street, Belleville, has completed basic training at the Submarine School, Submarine Base, New London, Conn., for duty with our growing fleet of undersea fighters. E. M. Barnhart will be entitled to wear the twin dolphin insignia of the submarine service after further experience aboard a submarine during which he must demonstrate to his commanding officer that he is fully qualified to carry out the duties of his rate. The insignia is regarded as a mark of distinction throughout the Navy. Barnhart joined the Navy last March, was graduated from the Belleville High School in June and had initial naval instruction at Great Lakes, Illinois training station. He received further instruction in gyroscopic work at Brooklyn, N. Y. Barnhart arrived in Belleville during the weekend for a brief visit with his parents, and upon his departure Monday night was scheduled to go to the west coast to report for further assignment.



Harrison F. Housley

Three Bell Telephone Company employees, who have driven company motor vehicles a total of 400,000 miles without causing an accident, were honored last night at a special safety dinner in the Penn Belle Hotel. One of them, Harrison F. Housley, 1201 Pine street, Phillipsburg, was named a member of the company's Hundred Thousand Mile Club, organization of men who have driven safely for ten years or more. He was presented with a certificate and inscribed wallet by William T. Wooders, general plant manager of the company.

The other two, Paul F. Swatoworth, 108 Willowbank street, Belleville, and Robert L. Robison, of Clearfield, were members of the club who have completed an additional five years of safe driving, bringing each man's total to 150,000 miles. They were given special awards.

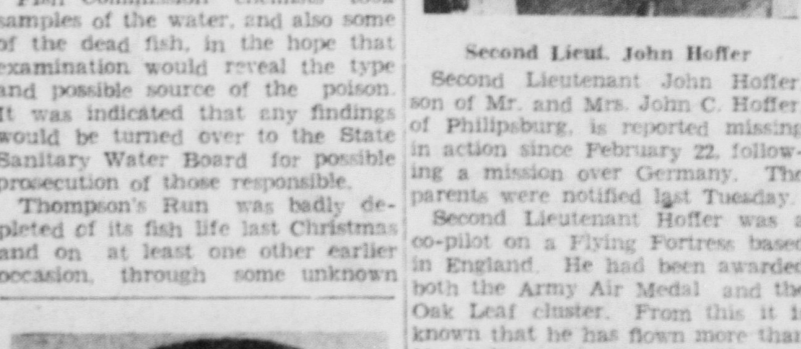
## 500 Fish Killed, Poison In Stream

State Officials Launch Investigation Into Death of Trout, Suckers, in Thompson's Run at State College.

For a third time in recent years poison from an unknown source during the weekend killed large numbers of legal-sized trout and suckers in Thompson's Run, small stream just east of State College. It was estimated that 500 trout, ranging from one giant measuring 25 inches in length, down to minnows and fingerlings, lost their lives Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Most of the fish were between 15 and 17 inches in length.

It is believed the poison came from the sludge of the two State College sewage disposal plants, one owned by the borough and one by the College. The first of the dead fish were found about 300 yards below the flume where sludge from the two plants enters the stream. Dead fish were seen in the stream from that point to the run's junction with Slab Cabin Creek below Millbrook, and for several hundred yards in the latter stream. Warden David Dahlgren, of Phillipsburg, said he counted 157 dead fish in 200 yards of the stream. The poison apparently did not affect fishlife in Spring Creek, into which the run and Slab Cabin Creek empty.

Fish Commission chemists took samples of the water, and also some of the dead fish, in the hope that examination would reveal the type and possible source of the poison. It was indicated that any findings would be turned over to the State Sanitary Water Board for possible prosecution of those responsible. Thompson's Run was badly depleted of its fish life last Christmas and on at least one other earlier occasion, through some unknown cause. In the present instance not all the fish were killed, since officials saw some live fish in the waters early this week.



Second Lieut. John Hoffer

Second Lieutenant John Hoffer, son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Hoffer, of Phillipsburg, is reported missing in action since February 22, following a mission over Germany. The parents were notified last Tuesday. Second Lieutenant Hoffer was a co-pilot on a Flying Fortress based in England. He had been awarded both the Army Air Medal and the Oak Leaf Cluster. From this it is known that he has flown more than 10 missions over enemy territory.

## Sutton Re-Elected Head of Company

J. Blair Sutton of East Linn street, Belleville, was re-elected president of the Sutton Engineering Company at its annual reorganization meeting last week. Among those who were re-elected as board of directors were Hardman P. Harris, William H. Emerick, and George Hazel, all of Belleville. The other officers and board members are residents of the Pittsburgh district.

## Legion Seeks Support For Veterans' Bill

Brooks-Doll Post American Legion of Belleville is joining with other posts in Pennsylvania in seeking signers for a petition to support the Legion's Omnibus Veterans' Bill. The bill provides war veterans with loans, unemployment compensation, education, rehabilitation, hospitalization and aid in securing employment. The Legion seeks as signers not only veterans themselves, but of members of families with men in the armed forces.

## Named Court House Janitor

O. C. Bryan of Milesburg, this week was named by the Centre County Commissioners as janitor at the Centre county court house, succeeding Harry M. Williams, of Scotts, resigned. Mr. Williams was scheduled to accept a position in his regular trade as carpenter.

## SPORTSMEN'S CLUB HERE IS REVIVED

S. H. Poorman Named President; Plan Fish Fry in April

The Belleville Sportsmen's Association, dormant for two years, came to life at a meeting held at the YMCA here Friday night when officers were elected and plans made for a membership campaign and fish fry next month. Newly-elected officers are Samuel H. Poorman, president; Wilbur Badger, vice president; Rev. William C. Thompson, secretary, and Fred C. Witmer, treasurer.

A committee was named to meet Friday night of this week to arrange for a fish fry in April. The committee also will discuss plans for a membership campaign and possibly other activities to increase interest in the association.

To Purchase Horses Thomas E. Jodon, Pleasant Gap livestock dealer, will go to Iowa today to purchase a carload of horses which will be disposed of at public sale at Pleasant Gap on Monday night, April 3.

## OPA PRICE LISTS AVAILABLE HERE

Citizens May Call For Copies Showing Ceiling Prices in Stores

Community Ceiling Price Lists have been received at the local War Price and Rationing Board office and will be given away to housewives and citizens who call for a copy. John S. Sommerville, chairman of the local board announced today. "These price lists," Mr. Sommerville said, "show the ceiling prices in all classes of stores for most of the processed food items sold in Centre county stores." "This is the first time that the community ceiling price lists have been published in convenient small size forms." The chairman pointed out that "only a small supply had been printed and received this time because of the national paper shortage and until the number of consumers who desire the price lists were known."

An OPA consumer flyer showing "How to Shop With Ration Tokens" will be given to everyone who calls at the local board office for a copy of the community ceiling price list.