

**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 23,000  
gallons of fuel oil  
a day.

VOLUME 63, NUMBER 12.

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1944.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.50 PER YEAR.

## 211 To Be Called For Physical Exam

**Will Go to Altoona April 20 and 21; 63 Men  
From Board 2 to Leave Bellefonte for  
Navy Service, March 31.**

With 211 Centre county men slated to be sent to Altoona for pre-induction physical examination April 20 and 21 from the county's two draft boards, Board No. 2, of Bellefonte, and Board No. 1, of Altoona, yesterday released the names of 63 men from the Bellefonte area who will leave Friday, March 31, for induction into the Navy. The men passed physical examinations at Altoona on March 4.

Board No. 1, of State College, will send 105 men for pre-induction physicals on Thursday, April 20, and the following day Board No. 2, of Bellefonte, will send 106 men to the examining center.

Of 152 men examined March 11, from Board No. 1, 119 were accepted for either Army or Navy service, and 33 were listed for limited service or declared 4-F. It was reported that three men who passed the Navy pre-induction physicals volunteered for immediate service and left Monday morning of this week. They are: Walter F. Dippery, Centre Hall; Earl Markle, Bellefonte.

### Now a Major



Major George P. Curtin following in the military footsteps of his father, the late Major H. Laird Curtin, Captain George P. Curtin, with the U. S. Army in England, has received a promotion to the rank of Major, according to the record received this week by his mother Mrs. H. L. Curtin, of Curtin.

Curtin who is 25, is probably one of the youngest men in the U. S. Army to receive the rank of Major. He entered the service in January 1941 when Battery B, Bellefonte, was activated.

## LT. SHULTZ IS MISSING AFTER BOMBING RAID

**Former Centre Democrat  
Employee Unaccounted  
For Since March 2**

### RECEIVED HONOR FOR ACHIEVEMENT

**Had Participated in More  
Than 20 Missions  
Over Germany**

Lt. Eugene Shultz, heavy bomber pilot stationed in England and former pressman for The Centre Democrat, during the weekend was reported to have been missing in action since March 2. He had been on more than a score of bombing missions.

Lt. Shultz, grandson of Mrs. William Alkey, of North Spring street, Bellefonte, is a son of Mrs. Lila



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## Bride and Groom of 50 Years



Tuesday, in addition to being the first day of Spring, marked the 50th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel F. Houser, prominent residents of Willowbank street, Bellefonte.

Mr. Houser, who is 76 years old, is recuperating from a five weeks' illness, no celebration was held and the day's festivities consisted principally of a family gathering. A number of expressions and messages of congratulation were received by the well known and well liked couple.

Daniel Houser, son of Frederick and Sara Fye Houser, and Sarah, daughter of Adam Y. and Susan Wagner, were united in marriage on March 21, 1894 in the Reformed parsonage at Boalsburg, by Rev. A. A. Black. Attendees at the ceremony included Mrs. George Hazel, of East Logan street, Bellefonte, and sister of the bride. Both Mr. and Mrs. Houser were born at Rock Forge, near Bellefonte.

The bride and groom moved to the farm of Mr. Houser's parents and remained there until 26 years ago when they moved to their present home in Bellefonte.

They are the parents of one son, Paul Houser, of Lemont, and there is one grandson, James Daniel Houser, also of Lemont. Mr. Houser had a brother, Emanuel, who died in 1923.

Mrs. Houser's brother and two sisters are: C. Y. Wagner, Mrs. George Hazel, and Mrs. M. B. Runke, all of Bellefonte. Another brother, Harry Wagner, of Oak Hill, died in 1942. Mrs. Houser, who is the same age as her husband, enjoys excellent health and Mr. Houser had been in good health until his recent illness. He is recuperating rapidly and is now able to be about in the house.

## ESCAPING GAS FATAL TO MAN, WIFE RECOVERS

**Former Snow Shoe Resi-  
dent Asphyxiated at  
Wilkinsburg Home**

### FUNERAL TO BE HELD AT SNOW SHOE

**Tragedy Discovered When  
Couple Fails to Attend  
Celebration**

Woodrow W. "Woody" Hoover, 30, former resident of Snow Shoe, died of asphyxiation at his home at Wilkinsburg, Pa., last night, when in reality he was killed by gas which escaped from the kitchen stove when they were overcome by gas in their Wilkinsburg home. Mrs. Hoover was rushed to the Columbia Hospital at Wilkinsburg, where she was revived.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoover were discovered about 3 p. m. by friends who looked through the kitchen window of their home and found them lying on the floor. The friends had begun a search for the couple when they failed to appear at a wedding dinner they were to attend Sunday.

Mrs. Hoover, who was expected to be released from the hospital Tuesday to go to Snow Shoe for her husband's funeral, said she woke sometime in the early morning with a pain around her heart. Mr. Hoover got up to get her some soda and call a physician.

He went to check the gas furnace in the cellar. He found the cellar steps and cut his head. When he was able to climb the stairs to the kitchen, his wife was there and while she was attempting to give first aid to the cut they were overcome by gas.

It is claimed that a downdraft

## Council Sets Tax Rate At 13 Mills

**Continue Last Year's Schedule, But Esti-  
mated Income Shows Borrowing of \$13-  
400; Budget Adopted.**

Bellefonte Council at a regular meeting Monday night voted to retain the tax millage at the same level for the current year as it was in 1943—11 mills for general borough purposes and 2 mills for interest, or a total of 13 mills.

At the same time Council approved the 1944 budget showing estimated expenditures of \$45,256.72. Last year's expenditures were \$54,093.26 as compared with estimated expenses for that year of \$50,367.52.

In order to balance the 1944 budget and bring estimated receipts to equal the estimated expenditures, Council had to take an optimistic view of the receipts.

Hence, in the budget passed, income from fines, forfeits and costs was estimated at \$623.09, when receipts from this source last year were only \$525.75. Similarly, parking meter receipts were estimated at \$1,690, when in reality the borough collected only \$1,089.52 from that source last year.

Another possible source of trouble is that this year's income budget shows \$13,400 from temporary loans. Last year Council had only \$9,200 in temporary loans. It must be remembered that such income is not a revenue receipt—it's what Council has to borrow from the banks or elsewhere to meet its bills.

Borough Engineer A. C. Hewitt reported that he is now surveying lines for the proposed extension of Burnside street. The engineer was asked to be present at the next session of Council, April 3, to explain the proposed zoning ordinance which recently has been revised. It is expected that a number of changes will be made in the instrument which has been dormant since 1939.

The Special committee, authorized to investigate a request by Nicola Lailli for permission to open a stairway from the sidewalk to the basement of his property on South Allegheny street, recommended that the request be denied on the ground that the proposal is not in keeping with the general trend of maintaining thorough sidewalks free of such encroachments.

## Bellefonte Soldier Has Gruesome Job at Front



Private Charles B. Anderson, Bellefonte, has been working hand-in-hand with the regimental chaplain ever since the beginning of the Italian campaign, as quickly as possible, the dead are being removed to an American cemetery in the rear for proper burial.

One of the men active with the section, which has been working hand-in-hand with the regimental chaplain ever since the beginning of the Italian campaign, is Private Charles B. Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. George B. Anderson, of near Prossertown, south of Bellefonte.

The Third Division, to which Anderson is attached, has taken part in every major Mediterranean campaign as well as being the driving force that spearheaded the invasion of the Anzio beachhead.

The Division is solving the casualty problem in one of its units with a small graves registration section that sends patrols into dangerous sectors to bring out the men of the unit who have fallen there. This is Private Anderson's gruesome duty. Equipped with jeeps, 2 two-and-a-half ton trucks, and two trailers, the section gets its first reports from line officers as to the location of the dead, then proceeds there under cover of darkness.

The crew carries no weapons and wears no brassard, as worn by Red Cross field men, to insure its safety. Good judgment and alertness are its only safeguards.

"Luck is probably the most important factor of all," Anderson declared. "Without it we'd all be sunk. One time we were clearing some

## ABOUT 300 ATTEND UNDINE BANQUET

**Members And Guests Entertained at 45th Annual Event Here**

Approximately 300 members and guests attended the 45th annual St. Patrick's Day banquet of the Undine Fire company at the Knights of Columbus hall at the Farmers National Bank building, Friday night.

Armstrong L. Francis presided as toastmaster during the program which followed the dinner prepared and served by members of the Catholic Daughters of America.

Among the speakers were: the Rt. Rev. William E. Downes, rector of St. John's Catholic church; Abraham Shaffer, fire marshal of Lebanon county; and Art Espy, adviser of fire training of the Public Service Institute, Harrisburg.

Mr. Francis, introduced as toastmaster by Russell Torzell, chairman of the banquet committee, opened the program by calling for a minute of silence in memory of the late Harold D. Cowher, active member of the Undines and former president of the Central Pennsylvania Volunteer Firemen's Association.

Music throughout the evening was furnished by the Little German Band of Lock Haven. The Kiwanis

## GETS HEAVY TERM FOR SEX CRIME

**Benner Township Man  
Pleads Guilty to Statu-  
tory Rape**

Pleading guilty to a charge of statutory rape, Orville Harris Hockenberry, 31, of Benner township, at a special session of court here Monday morning was sentenced to serve from 7 1/2 to 15 years in the Western Penitentiary at Pittsburgh.

Hockenberry, who declined the court's offer to provide an attorney to represent him, admitted illicit relations with a 14-year-old Benner township girl on March 14. The charge of statutory rape automatically is applicable to such relations with a girl under 18 years old. He also was charged with rape, the information being that he forced his advances against the victim's will.

Before passing sentence Judge Ivan Walker reviewed Hockenberry's past record, which revealed four or more sex crimes in the past, most of them being paternity cases.

When asked whether he had anything to say in his own behalf, Hockenberry asked for the "mercy of the court."

Pvt. Clifford N. Schreckengast, of the State Police at Rockview, prosecutor in the case, submitted to the court a signed confession made by Hockenberry, and added that investigators learned the man had been drinking when he called at the girl's home in the absence of her parents and committed the crime.

## Join Probe Into Killing of Fish

The State Sanitary Water Board joined the State Fish Commission this week in investigating the cause of the death of some 500 trout last week in Thompson's Run, a stream just east of State College.

Fish Commissioner, C. A. French said that engineers of the bureau of sanitary engineering in the Health Department were assigned to help trace the cause of the fish destruction, possible polluted water.

## Saturday Is Last Day to Register

The Court House will be open until 5 p. m. Saturday, March 25, for registration of voters, for correcting voters addresses, and for transacting other matters pertaining to registration, it was announced yesterday.

Saturday is the last day for registering in time to vote at the Primary election.

## Special IOOF Meeting

A special meeting of the Bellefonte IOOF Club will be held in the lodge hall at 8 o'clock this Thursday night. All members are urged to be present.

## HOLD AUTOPSY IN DEATH OF MINER

**Inquest Reveals Clair W.  
Boob, Osceola Mills, Died  
of Natural Causes**

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon for Clair W. Boob, 48-year-old resident of Stumptown, Osceola Mills, Pa., who died Friday night at the Philadelphia State Hospital.

An autopsy was performed at the hospital Monday morning to establish the cause of death. Mr. Boob died of a cerebral hemorrhage which, it was thought, may have resulted from a bump on the head suffered five days before while working on a Putnam and Green coal stripping near Osceola Mills.

The autopsy, however, disclosed that the hemorrhage was due to natural causes and did not result from the bump suffered when the shovel operator raised up after being jolted down on the shovel. While the bump didn't seem to amount to much at the time, it had heretofore been felt that it may have caused his death.

The deceased was born October 4, 1895, at Wilgate, Centre county. He was a son of Daniel and Elizabeth Bechdel Boob. His widow, the former Gertrude Sankey, and the following children survive him:

Harold, Osceola Mills; Jack, with the U. S. Army in Italy; Maxine, Washington, D. C.; Robert, James, and Janice Rae, all at home.

(Continued on page two)

## 6 COUNTIES IN BOND CONFERENCE

**Prepare Plans For 5th  
War Loan at Session  
Held in Altoona**

Chairmen and War Finance Committee members from six Central Pennsylvania counties met at the Sun Alto Hotel, Altoona, Monday night for a review of the 4th War Loan Drive recently completed and to make plans for succeeding drives later this year. Six counties represented at the session were Centre, Blair, Cambria, Huntingdon, Clearfield and Bedford.

The principal speaker was O. Howard Wolf, executive manager of the State War Finance committee, who is on leave from his duties as vice president and cashier of the Philadelphia National Bank.

Mr. Wolf declared that the efficiency of the War Finance committees in most counties is increasing with each drive. Taking Centre county as an example, he pointed out that in the second campaign Centre county met 81 per cent of its quota; in the third campaign the

## Walker Township Farmers Attend Mechanics' School



Instructor Deroy Fye demonstrates the proper adjustment of the valves in the McCormick-Deering 10-20 tractor. Shown above (reading from left to right) are: Joe Lannen, Blair Ingram, Kenneth Vonada, Deroy Fye (instructor), J. Adan Fravel, Melvin Fravel, Nevil Lee, Robert Corman (supervisor), Donald Shuey.

Monday evening, March 13, marked the final meeting of the Walker Township farm machinery repair course, held twice weekly for the past twelve weeks in Stitzer's Garage at Hublersburg.

The course was conducted under the authority of the Rural War Production Training Program. The largest attendance on any single night amounted to thirty-six individuals and the smallest number in attendance at any meeting was seventeen.

During the course twelve major repair jobs were completed in addition to numerous smaller items. The major repair jobs included eight tractors, three mowers and one potato digger. In all cases new parts (Continued on page four)

## Tickets On Sale For Bellefonte Fish Fry

Tickets are now on sale for the Bellefonte Sportsmen's Association fish fry to be held on Tuesday, April 4, in the Bellefonte High School cafeteria, it was announced yesterday.

Tickets at 50 cents each may be purchased at the Thompson Cigar Store, at the Sam Poorman Garage or from committee members. No tickets will be sold after April 1.

Toastmaster at the dinner, which will begin at 6:30 p. m., will be Game Warden Thomas Mosier of Bellefonte. C. Ross Buller, of Bellefonte, State Fish Culturist, will show movies of some of the activities of the State Fish Commission. The public is cordially invited to attend the dinner.

Committee chairmen are: Program, H. Reeder Jodon; ticket sales, Leslie Thomas; arrangements, Fred Wilmer and Rev. W. C. Thompson, and publicity, Wilbur Badger.

## STOLEN CAR RECOVERED

A sedan owned by H. R. "Ice" Gilbert of State College, parked near Recreation Hall, State College, was stolen at 9:50 p. m. Saturday and recovered by members of the State College borough police force on Burrows street just above the College power plant at 10:29 p. m. the same evening.

## 'VALLEY FORGE CARAVAN' TO SALUTE BELLEVILLE

Bellefonte is to be saluted by KYP and its "Valley Forge Caravan," according to announcement made this week. This new broadcast—music and comments—will take place on Saturday, April 15, from 10:05 p. m. to 12:05 a. m. over KYP, Philadelphia station.

## Clear \$400 in Home Talent Play Here

The home talent play "Our Town" produced last Monday night in the Bellefonte High School auditorium by the Drama Section of the Bellefonte Woman's Club, netted \$400, club officials announced this week.

The proceeds will go to the Salvation Army, with 20 per cent to be retained for Salvation Army work in this vicinity. Members of the Drama Section express their thanks to all who aided in making the play a success.

## Titan Chorus To Appear at Howard

The Titan Male Chorus will present a recital on Thursday, March 23 at 8 p. m. in the high school auditorium at Howard. Admission will be 15 cents for children and 25 cents for adults.

It is requested that children be accompanied by their parents. Following the recital there will be a short business meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association.

## Wounded in Action

Pvt. Sheridan M. Carroll, of Osceola Mills, has been wounded in action in the Mediterranean war area, his mother, Mrs. Mary Carroll, has been notified by the War Department.

## PREPARE PROGRAM FOR BAND CONCERT

76 Boys And Girls to Participate; Vito A. Fera is Director

The program for the concert to be presented by the American Legion Band and the Bellefonte High School Band in the high school auditorium Sunday afternoon at 8 o'clock, was announced by Samuel D. Rhinesmith, chairman of the bands. Seventy-six boys and girls will take part in the program under the direction of Vito Fera.

Three members of the band, Frank Hartman, Kenneth Widdowson, and Samuel D. Rhinesmith II, will conduct marches as a feature of the program.

The program will be a farewell performance in Bellefonte for Mr. Fera whose resignation as director (Continued on page six)