

**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

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An Army Trans-  
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VOLUME 63, NUMBER 19. BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1944. SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.50 PER YEAR.

## 61 From Board 2 To Be Examined

**Group Scheduled to Go to Altoona Examination Centre Monday, May 15; Board Awaits Call for Quotas.**

Sixty-one men from Draft Board No. 2, Bellefonte, have been notified to report Monday morning, May 15, at the Bellefonte postoffice to go to Altoona for pre-induction examination. Board officials announced yesterday.

The men who pass the examinations will go into the board's pool of selectees from which quota calls for the Army, Navy and other branches of the service are filled.

Board No. 2 yesterday expected to receive a call late this month for men to go into service early in June. There was no information available as to the probable size of the call, or whether both the Army and Navy would be represented.

Following is the list of those called for pre-induction physicals on May 15:

Charles B. Pletcher, Oak Harbor, Wash. (Howard)

Joseph E. Falls, Monument, Sherwood W. Dunkel, Pittsburgh (Milesburg)

Ellsworth E. Shope, Milesburg. Elery M. Watkins, Howard. Earl R. Page, Lock Haven (Bellefonte)

Luther E. Kane, Bellefonte. Philip L. Witcraft, Bellefonte. Robert I. Shearer, Orliston. Blair F. Young, Bellefonte. Samuel H. Shilling, Bellefonte. Stewart E. Miller, Blanchard. Chester E. Spicer, Bellefonte RD 3. Edward W. Sellers, Bellefonte. Lester C. Miller, Howard RD 1. Gilbert W. Woodring, Port Matilda.

Richard H. Haagen, Bellefonte RD 3.

Robert D. Lane, Altoona RD 3. Maurice E. Klingler, Harrisburg (Bellefonte).

David E. Arnold, Baltimore, Md. (Bellefonte).

Richard M. Mabius, Bellefonte. Donald M. Kunes, Blanchard. James E. Hinds, Mingoville. George H. Kane, Howard. Richard L. Weyman, Bellefonte.

(Continued on page Two)

### Missing in Action



S/Sgt. Eugene Harpster

Staff Sgt. Eugene Harpster, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Harpster, of Pennsylvania Furnace, is reported missing in action since April 13 as a result of a bombing mission somewhere over occupied Europe, according to a War Department telegram recently received by his parents.

S/Sgt. Harpster was serving as a radio operator-gunner aboard a B-17 Flying Fortress operating from bases somewhere in England with the Eighth Air Force.

The Pennsylvania Furnace flier entered the Army Air Forces on January 11, 1943. He was first stationed at Miami, Fla., and then attended various training schools in Chicago, Ill., Arizona, Utah and Texas. After spending a brief time in New Hampshire he flew overseas with his bomber crew the last of February, 1944.

His last letter, written on April 16, just two days before he was reported missing, was received by his parents on April 25.

S/Sgt. Harpster attended the Pine Grove Mills grade schools and was graduated from the State College High School in the class of 1942.

Following his graduation he was employed at the Hollidaysburg State Hospital until shortly before his entry into the Air Force.

A sister, May, is employed at the Army Supply Store on East College avenue, State College, while another, Vernie, is a student at the State College High School. A third sister, Emaline, is at home.

### Operate Speed Trap At State College

Twenty-one motorists were arrested Monday and Tuesday at the speed trap being operated on State College streets by members of the State College borough police, Chief John R. Juba announced.

Violators who exceeded the 25-mile-per-hour speed limit of the borough by only a small margin will be merely fined according to borough ordinance. However, those who are caught while traveling at an excessive rate of speed will be recommended to the State Department of Revenue for suspension of operator's licenses and for higher ration boards for loss of gasoline rations, Chief Juba said.

The speed trap will be operated day and night until motorists in State College reduce their speeds enough to make the streets safe for children on their way to and from school, the State College police head indicated.

### Aged Man Hurt In Fall at County Home

Frank Lee, aged 80, of Centre Hall, a guest at the Centre County Home, Bellefonte, suffered a fractured right hip recently in a fall at the institution.

According to reports Mr. Lee was walking along a hallway when he fell. The fracture was not revealed until several days later when a portable X-ray machine from the Centre County Hospital was taken to the home to examine the injured man. Latest reports from the institution are to the effect that he is resting as comfortably as can be expected under the circumstances.

Mr. Lee is the father of Mrs. Earl Tibbens, of East Howard street.

**WCTU To Meet**  
The regular monthly meeting of the Bellefonte WCTU will be held Wednesday, May 17, at 2:30 p. m. in the WCTU rooms in Petrikin Hall. A good attendance is desired.

A peaceful world will be a policed world; let's help police it.

## Anglers Stranded By Flood Waters

**Two Couples Spend Night Marooned on Island in Bald Eagle Creek; Howard Residents Effect Rescue With Boat.**



WILBUR J. ORNDORF

### Killed Under Fall of Rock

**Gypsum Plant Employee Fatally Injured in Underground Quarry**

Wilbur J. Orndorf, 31, employed in the National Gypsum Company mine near Bellefonte, was fatally injured about 7:45 o'clock Friday morning when he was struck by a large boulder which fell from the roof of the mine.

Since the mine was first opened in 1936, Orndorf is the first person to lose his life in the National Gypsum's underground operations.

The tragedy happened less than an hour after the man had begun work for the day. The standing rule for all limestone miners upon beginning to work is to bar down from the roof any rock which seems to be in danger of falling. Although this ruling usually is observed with great care, the miners sometimes overlook stones which seem to be safely locked in place.

A fellow miner, Roy Shaffer, was beside Orndorf until a moment or two before the stone fell. Shaffer was in another section of the stope when a rock measuring about 3 by 6 feet in size, and approximately 8 inches thick, suddenly dropped from the roof.

The falling rock struck the man on the head, threw him down and pinned his shoulders to the ground. Shaffer ran to the scene immediately and was able to bar the stone off Orndorf's body. Other workmen carried him to the surface on a stretch-er and the E. E. Widdowson ambulance was waiting there to bring him to the Centre County Hospital. He was pronounced dead on arrival at the institution.

Mr. Orndorf had been employed at the operations since 1933, having continued work there several years ago when the National Gypsum Company purchased the holdings of

(Continued on page Three)

## Two Couples Spend Night Marooned on Island in Bald Eagle Creek; Howard Residents Effect Rescue With Boat.

Two Clearfield county couples who set up a fishing camp along Bald Eagle Creek Saturday afternoon, borrowed a boat from Richard Hevner and who were stranded overnight when the creek rose in a few hours mid-train the boat overturned, but Walker clung to the craft for Sunday afternoon by residents of the area who used a boat to carry them to safety.

One of the men in the fishing party nearly lost his life Sunday morning in an unsuccessful attempt to land a boat on the island where his companions were stranded. He swam to high ground and was trying to maneuver the boat across the swift current when it capsized, carrying the man nearly a mile downstream.

The stranded couples were Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Holt, of Clearfield, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Walker, of Woodland.

Scene of the marooned group's experience was Jackson's Island just below Mt. Eagle. The four anglers walked to the island through a dry channel and pitched a tent to spend the night safely "in the warm and dry."

Shortly after midnight they discovered that the land on which they were camped had become completely surrounded by water which was rising steadily. Before midnight the water was well above their knees and almost phenomenal. At Milesburg Bald Eagle was at its normal level at 5 p. m. Five hours later the water had risen to the extent that it crossed highway route 229 west of the Wetzel Memorial Chapel.

Residents of Bald Eagle Valley said the creek rose Saturday morning and that he had been carried under until they saw him emerge from the water downstream.

Walker then enlisted the aid of residents of the area, and P. C. Holter, N. J. Weikert, Frank Miller, and Dr. H. L. Ishler, all of Howard, set out to rescue the stranded trio. Holt, who was the only one with a boat, and the craft was carried upstream above the island. Wilbur Brumbaugh, of Howard, and Raymond Gates and John McCarty, of Mt. Eagle, also were on hand to assist with the rescue work.

Several trips were required to bring all the anglers to safety, and despite the night spent in the open all of them were in good physical condition. Walker, who recently underwent an operation on one of his knees, was able to walk only with difficulty.

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Sgt. WILLIAM McNICHOL

### Sgt. McNichol Gunner, Dead

**War Department Reports Bellefonte Man Killed in Action**

Mr. and Mrs. John McNichol, of East Lamb street, Bellefonte, Sunday morning received a war department message reporting that their son, Staff Sergeant William McNichol, 29, tail-gunner on a Flying Fortress, who previously had been reported missing in Italy since March 2, was killed in action on that date.

The message explained that no details are available but that any additional information received will be forwarded.

In a letter to his parents, written on February 25, Sgt. McNichol reported he had been on 37 missions and had only 13 more to go before he would be entitled to return home for a rest. He expected to complete those assignments so he could be home for his birthday, May 3. All but two members of the crew he originally was with have been lost in action since February 24. Sgt. McNichol said in a letter.

Sgt. McNichol was widely known as an athlete during his career at the Bellefonte High School, where he was an outstanding member of the football and basketball teams. He left school in his senior year to accept a position with the Pennsylvania Railroad, and was employed by that company on November 2, 1942, when he was called into service.

At the reception center in New Cumberland he was assigned to the Air Corps and was sent to Miami, Florida. Subsequently he received training at Salt Lake City, Utah; Buckley Field, Colo.; Amarillo, Tex.; and Delhart, Tex. A month after being granted a furlough in August 1943, Sgt. McNichol was sent overseas, going first to North Africa and from there to Italy.

Surviving in addition to his parents, are a brother, Sgt. Samuel McNichol, who is with the Army Engineers, and another brother and two sisters, Edward and Betty, at home, and Mrs. A. W. Gilliland, of State College.

## C of C Seeks Open Paradise Season

**Fish Commissioner Promises Matter Will Be Brought Up at Next Meeting; May Ask OPA For Statement.**

A possibility that Fishermen's Paradise, southwest of Bellefonte, may be opened for a time this year, despite earlier reports that no fishing would be permitted there during 1944, gained some strength this week when the Bellefonte Chamber of Commerce was informed the matter would be brought up for discussion at the next meeting of the Fish Commission.

In a letter of complaint to the Commission the board of directors of the local Commerce Chamber alleged that failure to open the Paradise would work a great injustice on many anglers who bought licenses principally in the hope of fishing there.

The Chamber letter added that the resort also offers valuable relaxation for servicemen home on leave. As to the matter of fuel and tires, the Chamber letter avers that the feeling in Bellefonte is that any gas used for fishing would be used anyway in non-essential driving.

In closing the Chamber added: "We have the sincere opinion that the fishing season means much to the public's morale and that the desire to fish cannot be construed as being un patriotic."

Charles A. French, Commissioner of Fisheries, responded with an assurance that the matter will be placed before the Fish Commission at the next meeting.

In addition Hon. John L. Neiger, of Scranton, a member of the Fish Commission, to whom a copy of the Chamber's letter was sent, wrote in detail explaining that the Commission's earlier decision to keep the Paradise closed this year was reached.

(Continued on Page Three)

### To Speak Here

Frederic Snyder

Widely-known lecturer, world traveler and authority on Japan and the Far East, Mr. Snyder will speak on "Keeping Ahead of the Headlines," at the high school auditorium, Bellefonte, at 8 p. m. Tuesday, May 16, under the auspices of the local Kiwanis Club.

Tickets for the public meeting are now on sale at the DeHaas Electric Store, at Scheibler's Drug Store and the Penn. Bell Hotel. Tickets are 50 cents each.

For the meeting the Bellefonte Legion Junior orchestra will furnish music and the Bellefonte Kiwanis Singers, quartette of Kiwanis Club members, will entertain.

Mr. Snyder will address the weekly Kiwanis luncheon at noon next Tuesday, and in the afternoon will appear before the public at the Bellefonte High School. The day before his appearance in Bellefonte he is scheduled to address several groups at State College.

One of the few Americans who have been received by a Japanese premier, Mr. Snyder has had many experiences with the Nipponese.

The lecturer led the round-table American-Japan Student Conference and has made addresses at the Tokyo, Shanghai, and Mukden, Manchukuo chancelleries, Europe.

(Continued on page Three)

### To Exhibit Prints At Coupty Library

An exhibition of photographic prints will be held at the County Library, Bellefonte, for two weeks beginning Saturday, May 13, by Miss Margaret Eckerson.

Miss Eckerson, a native of Mt. Vernon, New York, has lived in Bellefonte since November, 1943. She is well known in literary and artistic circles and has been an art critic for the New York Times. Although she has always been interested in photography as a hobby, it is only recently that she has devoted her time to it exclusively as a profession.

The prints on exhibition are of local interest and aim to interpret the human drama as it is lived in contrast to posed subjects. Miss Eckerson is especially interested in outdoor scenes and informal pictures of children in their home environment.

## TO HOLD SERVICES FOR PVT. WATSON

**Snow Shoe Youth Killed While Firing Large Artillery Piece**

Memorial services will be held in the Snow Shoe Methodist church at 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon, May 14, for Pvt. Harry C. Watson, of Snow Shoe, who recently died in England.

Rev. Ralph D. Schlabig will conduct the services. Neighbors and friends will be welcome. The American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts of Bellefonte will participate in the services.

James S. Emsel, step-father of Pvt. Watson, said that the soldier was serving in an artillery unit under Captain William F. Cox, of Bellefonte, at the time of his death. Pvt. Watson was firing a large artillery piece when he grabbed his abdomen and dropped to the ground. He was rushed to a hospital but was dead on arrival. It is believed here he was standing too close to the gun and that the concussion caused his death.

### V. F. W. Auxiliary Issues Handbook

Copies of "The Victory Handbook," a most interesting little book prepared by members of Jackson-Crisman-Saylor Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Bellefonte, is now being sold in this area by Auxiliary members.

The booklet, published with the generous assistance of local business houses, contains many recipes designed to aid the faint-hearted housewife. There is diet for those who wish to gain weight and another for those who wish to lose weight. The rear section of the booklet contains the names of all service men as listed on the Bellefonte Honor Roll on the Diamond.

The handbook, at 50 cents each, may be purchased from any Auxiliary member.

### Lt. Col. Hoffman Returns to States

Lt. Col. Richards Hoffman, Bellefonte physician who had been with the medical unit of the Air Corps in the African, Sicilian, and Italian campaigns, recently arrived in Charleston, S. C., from Italy and expects to enter the Walter Reed Hospital at Washington, D. C.

Col. Hoffman is reported to be suffering from a condition of the larynx and vocal cords and was sent back to the United States for treatment. He had been overseas exactly 19 months.

### County Office in New Location

Two offices of County Superintendent of Schools, E. Glenn Rogers were moved yesterday from the Court House to the rooms in the Masonic building on North Allegheny street formerly occupied by the Co-operative Potato Growers Association.

The offices being vacated by the superintendent will be turned over to John R. Doty, of State College, who is the Chief Assessor of Centre county. This new office was created in compliance with state law.

### High Per Capita Cost Resulted From Light Ballot

Every vote cast at the primary election on April 25 cost the county approximately 66 cents, a survey of election expenses here yesterday revealed.

The County Commissioners declared that total costs of conducting the primary election, including payment of wages and fees to election officials, delivering election supplies, printing ballots and other costs, was approximately \$4,100. Election returns revealed that 1505 Democrats and 4709 Republicans went to the polls, or a total of 6214 voters.

Had all of the county's 19,682 voters exercised their rights to vote, the cost per vote would have been only about 21 cents, the figures revealed.

Election machinery for every election has to be set up so that every qualified voter in the county can cast his ballot. The cost, therefore, remains the same whether the vote

(Continued on page Six)

### Primary Votes Cost 66 Cents

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### Two Mammoth Trout Are Caught

Former Fish Commissioner Gets 33-Inch Rainbow in Spring Creek

Two exceptionally large trout were caught in Centre county during the past week. Both were rainbows, one measuring 33 inches and the other 30 1/2 inches.

Oliver J. Deibler, of Greensburg, former State Fish Commissioner, caught the 33-inch trout during the weekend while fishing on his private preserve in Spring Creek just below Fishermen's Paradise. He was using a bukkalt as a lure. The mammoth fish, when opened, was found to have dined only a short time before on a seven-inch trout.

The 30 1/2-inch trout was caught in Penns Creek below Penns Cave last Wednesday afternoon by William McHenry, of Ebensburg. It was hooked on light tackle with a minnow as bait, and was netted by R. K. Dippery, of State College, after a 10-minute struggle.

It is generally believed that the trout caught by Deibler is the largest ever reported in Centre county.

### Man Suffers Bullet Wound in Thigh

Lloyd L. Smith, well known Milesburg stock dealer, is confined to bed as the result of a gunshot wound suffered Wednesday of last week.

Mr. Smith was about to destroy a mule and placed a 22-caliber revolver under his arm while he removed a halter from the animal's head. While in the act the trigger of the gun was released and the bullet penetrated the upper inside part of Mr. Smith's left leg, traveling downward toward the knee.

The following day Mr. Smith came to the Centre County Hospital where surgeons removed the bullet, after which he was permitted to return home.

### Lime Worker Escapes Injury in Accident

Charles Tierney, 52, of near Bellefonte, a member of a mucking crew at the Warner Company lime plant, Bellefonte, was caught between a car and shovel early last Thursday morning and painfully pinched.

He was taken to the Centre County Hospital for observation but was discharged Friday when no serious injuries were found. It was at first believed both legs had been fractured.

## B. H. S. GRADUATION SCHEDULED JUNE 8

**Commencement Will Be Day Before Last Day of School**

The annual Bellefonte High School commencement exercises will be held in the high school auditorium on Thursday, June 8. It was announced at a regular meeting of the local school board Monday night. The exercises will be held the day before the last day of school for Bellefonte high and grade pupils.

Details of the commencement program, which may be changed this year to conform with the modern trend in closing ceremonies, are expected to be announced in the near future.

Board member Samuel D. Rhine-smith reported that a concert by the combined Bellefonte High School and American Legion Junior Bands will be held on Sunday, June 11, in the high school auditorium, with Edward Calhoun, new director of the two musical organizations, in charge. The public is invited to the concert.

A motion to continue the present school tax office in the old armory building instead of merging the office with the Supervising Principal's

(Continued on page Six)

## ASSOCIATION PLANS NEXT CONVENTION

**County Sabbath School Group Met Sunday at State College**

Representatives from the annual spring convention occupied the main attention of the Centre County Sabbath School Association staff as it met in its regular monthly business session on Sunday afternoon, May 7, in St. John's Evangelical church, State College.

The convention will be held in the First Methodist church, Bellefonte on Thursday, May 25, beginning with registrations at 9 a. m. Dr. Lee J. Gable of the state staff, and Dr. H. Lamont Henninger of Sunbury, superintendent of the Sunbury district of the Methodist church, will address the convention. A demonstration of visual and auditory aids, and a number of conferences on rural and urban Sabbath school work will highlight the program.

Registration will be seventy-five cents and all Sabbath schools, it is hoped, will be represented by at least one delegate. The host church

(Continued on page Six)

### Gets Air Medal

Headquarters of the 7th AAF in the Central Pacific announces that 2nd Lieutenant Philip E. Haupt, of Bellefonte, who has participated in 7th Air Force aerial action since last October, has been awarded the coveted Air Medal in recognition of successful missions against Japanese positions in the Marshalls. Lt. Haupt, a bombardier-navigator, also has received the Oak Leaf Cluster.

In a recent letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Haupt, of South Allegheny street, Bellefonte, Lieut. Haupt reported that he had completed 77 bombing missions against the Japanese. Some weeks ago during a rest period granted airmen after a series of combat missions, Lt. Haupt went to the Hawaiian Islands, where he met another Bellefonte soldier, James Caldwell, who is with the Air Forces in those islands. He attempted to see Joseph Herman, also of Bellefonte, who is stationed with the Sea-Bees near Honolulu, but was unable to locate him at the time.

Lt. Haupt has a brother, Pfc. James R. Haupt, who is in the Field Artillery.

### URGES UNITY IN LABOR PROBLEM

Greater cooperation between farmers themselves, and between the farmers and nearby city and town people is needed to meet farm labor shortages this year, County Agent R. C. Blaney says.

Farm people can help themselves by using labor-saving machinery instead of wasting time hunting hired hands. More cooperative use of machines and sharing each other's problems will go a long way toward meeting those situations, which are expected in the next few months. The "Good Neighbor Policy" can be practiced right here at home.

The Centre County Emergency Farm Labor Office is trying to recruit summer help among high school boys and girls and even though this is untrained help, it is surprising how many youths became proficient in a short time among the hundreds of youths used in Pennsylvania farms last year.

Marginal farmers, industrial workers willing to help on days off or during off shifts, and similar help will provide hands for seasonal work, but the farmers themselves must try to anticipate what help will be needed and for approximate

(Continued on page Three)

### Claims Farm Help Difficulties Can Be Solved by Cooperation

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(Continued on page Three)

### CRIMINAL, CIVIL COURT CALLED OFF

No Business, So Judge Directs Jurors Not to Report for Duty

For the first time in the memory of Bellefonte's older attorneys, a complete term of Centre County Court is to be "skipped" because of lack of business.

This became known yesterday when Judge Ivan Walker, after scanning the prospects for Criminal Court beginning May 15, and Civil Court beginning May 22, issued an order to Sheriff John Galaida instructing him to notify jurors summoned to appear for the two weeks, not to appear.

Judge Walker, in issuing the order, pointed out that only one criminal case and only one civil case are listed for trial. The defendant in the criminal case is out on bail and there is a possibility the civil case will not be tried. For those reasons, the Court declares, the expense of calling jurors would not be justified, particularly since no one will be injured by postponement.

In past years civil court has been postponed time and again because of lack of sufficient cases to justify holding court, but never in the past, insofar as is known, has criminal court here gone begging for cases.

### Notice to Subscribers

It has been our custom for years to send out statements to subscribers four times a year, as a reminder that their subscription was either due or past due. To conserve paper we are not sending out statements this month. So those folks who have depended upon a statement to remind them that their subscription is due, just check the expiration date printed on the pink label and you can readily see whether your subscription is paid in advance.

We also wish to remind parents and friends who have ordered the Centre Democrat sent to persons in the various branches of the armed forces, to see that the subscription is renewed before expiration date, otherwise the paper will be discontinued in accordance with postal regulations.

### EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPENS OFFICE HERE

The United States Employment Service of the War Manpower Commission has opened a full time office in Bellefonte, according to Lee V. Alexander, manager.

The new office is located in the Arcade building on West High street. Office hours will be from 8:30 a. m. to 5 p. m. daily including Saturday. The re-establishment of a full time office was made necessary because of the increased labor demands of local industries and the need of a more effective control of labor turnover.