

Jesse ADLER Looks at the NEWS

HEADLINE: "Allies Now Only 500 Miles Apart." Not from what we read about the Big Three!

IF ALL this fighting doesn't stop between Jesse Jones and Henry Wallace, F. D. R.'ll probably wind up in a Montgomery Ward.

THE Nazi government has been reported moving all its important papers from Berlin. Don't like forged forgeries, huh?

GUESS the reason F. D. R. nominated his son Elliott to wear a star on his shoulder was to stop the wags from saying he was the only Colonel wearing Flying Dogs instead of Chickens!

JIMMY DURANTE and Frank Sinatra will go overseas for the USO shortly. Title of their show should be: "Voice of the Nose."

COLUMBIAN Earl Wilson has just gone Coast-to-Coast but finds radio presents only two problems. They censor only two things from his scripts, references to the front and the rear. Earl may solve the problem by becoming a war correspondent who constantly refers to both.

INCIDENTALLY Earl hears out LaGuardia's system of clearing away the snow in NY is mighty shrewd. They push it into the middle of the street, then to the curb, then to the middle of the street, then back to the curb—they don't take it away—they wear it out.

"If the proposed cigarette rationing program goes through," says Comic Buddy Lester, "that radio call letter phrase 'LS-MFT, LS-MFT' will have to be changed to 'LS-TFT, LS-TFT.'—Lucky Sucker, Try'n Find Them!"

A ST. LOUIS truck driver disappeared after getting 125 cartons of cigarettes and 16 boxes of cigars to deliver. Police are smoking him out and vice-versa.

COL. Larry MacPhail, former president of the Ebbw Vale Dodgers is being discharged from the army, but won't tell what he's going to do after he gets out. Probably wind up playing left field.

THE Russians are advancing so rapidly one of the war correspondents, formerly a sports reporter, refers to the campaign as the "1945 Olympics."

"BUT the real Olympic record will be smashed when the Allies go to work on Hitler," says Jean A. Brunner, Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. "He'll break every Olympic high jump record in history."

JUST ran across the ugliest girl in America. She's so ugly she only way her father can entice boy friends to the house is to run Bingo games.

A SCIENTIFIC magazine states a deadly Cydonia Beetle can only be killed by applying the lit end of a cigarette but to it. Tell that to your dealer the next time you beg for cigarettes.

POLICE in Miami investigated a woman's screams and found the cause was two owls. They're now owler but wiser.

A NEW pilot-40-6 found he could depend on his pet carrier pigeons more than he could interpret his instruments. So he'd take one along and when he wasn't sure which direction was home, he'd let the pigeon free and let it guide him back. Modern version of "Follow That Carrier."

LETTER from my nephew Bobby Adler had this inscription in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope: "It not delivered in 5 days, please try like hell on the 6th!"

Child Suffers Severe Burns. A 10-year-old youngster was treated for burns at Altoona Mercy hospital dispensary Friday, her clothing having caught fire as she was watching her brother start a fire. Edna June Frazer, 10, of Tyrone, was standing by her brother in a slip when a piece of coal fell out of the furnace, catching the garment on fire. She was badly burned about the entire surface of her back and on the back of both arms.

An Explanation. For the information of Penn's Valley subscribers whose copies of The Centre Democrat were delayed several days last week, we report that the papers were placed in the mails at the regular time, and that the delay was caused by snow-bound transportation and mail facilities. We regret the delay, and hope there will be no further trouble from that source.

Opportunity For Women To Earn and Speed Victory

In this year of 1945, American women are offered the greatest opportunity to serve their country by accepting clerical positions which are more easily filled by women than by men. The need for stenographers and typists in busy government offices and establishments in Philadelphia has reached such an alarming high, that the United States Civil Service Commission is asking every available person to apply for these positions which are vital to our success in the trying days to come. You are given a choice of working for the Army or Navy in positions which are distinct parts of the nation's war drive. Philadelphia agencies, such as the Naval Aviation Supply Depot, Quartermaster Depot, and Storage and Issue Agency, are desperately in need of your help. The Naval Aviation Supply Depot is the central procurement agency and control point for aeronautical material for naval aircraft in all combat areas; the Quartermaster Depot is the central procurement agency for the manufacture of army clothing all over the country, with

Hold-Up of Paper Truck Last Thursday May Link With Triangle Robbery

Opinion Current That Latest Attempt May Be Part of Gang Seeking to Rob The United States Mails

The hold-up of an Altoona Tribune newspaper truck at 3:45 last Thursday morning, by a bandit who insisted on searching the vehicle for mail, marked the second time within a week of a similar occurrence in Blair County.

The stocky-built bandit was working alone and on foot in contrast to the two men who used a car in the theft near the Blair-Centre county line on the morning of January 22. Two attempts at highway robbery in close succession lead to the suspicion that an organized gang may be seeking to rob trucks carrying mails.

Dan DeArment, a World War No. 2 veteran, who spent 23 months in the air corps, and who was driving

the truck Thursday morning, told his employers he was at the rear of the truck removing bundles of morning papers when the bandit, with his hat pulled down over his eyes and a kerchief tied about his face, stepped up behind and asked: "What are you carrying?"

Mrs. Margaret Fellinger, in charge of traffic for the Drenning trucking system, reported the incident to Postmaster Paul Tillard at approximately 8 o'clock Thursday morning.

She said Thursday night DeArment had reported the holdup to her and as nothing was taken but that the driver had been questioned regarding U. S. mail, she felt that she should make a report to postal authorities.

She said she understood that the aid of the state police and city police had been asked by the postal inspector in solving the holdup.

DeArment was reported to have whirled around to face the masked man, who kept his one hand in his pocket in such a manner as to indicate that he was carrying a gun.

"Newspapers," DeArment replied to his question.

Then the bandit told him he would take a look for himself and still keeping turned in such a manner as to keep the driver covered, rummaged through the truck until he was satisfied that he carried newspapers.

The first holdup occurred about 1:10 a. m. Monday, when Ralph J. Caruso, Phillipsburg, enroute to Altoona, was forced from the highway about one mile east of the Triangle, and two men, one with a rifle, got out and demanded his money. The men then got in the car and drove away.

The truck was owned by Frank Preschino, who operates a fleet of trucks and contracts the hauling of mail and newspapers between Phillipsburg, Tyrone, Altoona and State College.

Funeral Car Kills Child On Street

Holidaysburg Tot Crashes Head-on Into Funeral Procession

Robert Eckard, 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Eckard, was almost instantly killed last Tuesday afternoon when he crashed head-on into the funeral procession as it entered a coasting area street in Holidaysburg, from which the barriers had been removed 10 minutes earlier by borough police.

The car was driven by Ross Van Ailma, of Cramer and Van Ailma funeral home, Holidaysburg, and was also occupied by Rev. L. Vance Green of Dunsmuir, Mr. Van Ailma stated that the police had called the funeral home and informed him that the barrier had been removed from the restricted street and that the procession could move through the street en route to Canoe Creek.

A few minutes before the accident, Mrs. Dean Brus told the deputy coroner, that she had gone out and warned the children "not to sled inside there for a funeral would come up the street."

Child Cuts Tongue In Fall From Toy

Sammy Russell, five-year-old son of L. (Jg) and Mrs. Joseph Russell, of 720 S. Allen street, State College, suffered a laceration of the tongue last Thursday while riding on a toy metal dump truck at his home.

While no one witnessed the accident, it is believed that the truck upset, causing him to fall to the sidewalk. In falling his chin struck the walk, causing his teeth to cut his tongue.

Two Sedans, Tractor Damaged In Crash

In an accident involving two sedans and a tractor at Penn Hall about 8 p. m. Saturday, no one was injured, but damage totaled about \$400. It was reported by State Police at Pleasant Gap sub-station, who conducted an investigation.

Ground Hogs



What Was An "Old-Fashioned" Winter Like? Don't Ask. This is It!

What is an "old-fashioned" winter, like your granddaddy used to talk about?

You needn't wonder any longer. This is it.

If you'll turn to the "Fifty Years Ago" column you'll find that in 1895 we had a winter which was described as the "old-fashioned" kind the grandfathers of that day used to talk about. Seems like granddaddys have a falling for loose and irresponsible talk about old-fashioned winters.

Anyhow, fifty years ago a writer described the winter we had in that year, and if it differs one jot of little from what we've been blundering through since December 1, we'll eat this story on the Diamond, come Saturday night.

1936 Tough? Not at All! Some of us thought the winter of 1935-36 was a tough one. If we remember rightly, snow and ice formed on the streets in December that winter, and never left until sometime in February. Well, snow and ice formed on Bellefonte streets on November 30 this year, and from the looks of things youngsters will have to cut the ice off their favorite swimming holes when school is over this Spring.

Take the testimony of George Narehood, of Pine Glen, for example. George is a lumberman, whose occupation for many years has kept him

in the woods regardless of the condition of the weather.

When we asked him how this winter compared with the memorable winter of 1936, which ended up with a flood the like of which Pennsylvania had never seen before, Mr. Narehood declared there is no comparison.

"The winter of 1936 was nothing more than a cold spell compared to this," he said.

"In that year there was nearly two feet of snow and ice on the ground when the thaw came, but what is two feet compared with the tremendous blanket of snow and ice we have today," he asked.

Snow 3 1/2 Feet Deep Narehood said that at his lumber mill on Pine Run, not far from Pine Glen, there is a total of 3 1/2 feet of snow. In places the drifts reach 6 and 7 feet in height. He knows because he and three companions walked the three miles to the mill one day last week. It took them from 9 a. m. to 3 p. m. to traverse that distance through the heavy snow. It was impossible to drive into camp, for the road is completely blocked.

Deer Almost Hidden "As we neared the camp," Narehood related, "we saw three or four deer which became frightened when they saw us. They have made beautiful tracks in the snow."

Given Grant To Promote Safety Penn State To Be Used For Training Operators Of Trucking Fleets

A \$14,000 grant from the Automotive Safety Foundation was accepted last week by the Pennsylvania State College which will establish a national training center for motor vehicle fleet supervisors.

Amos E. Neyhart, administrative head of the college's Institute of Public Safety, said that a committee representing 11 safety and transportation organizations had been appointed to assist the national center in promoting fleet safety programs and that regional training centers will be set up at more than 15 institutions throughout the country during the fiscal year.

The training plan, inaugurated five years ago, reached a peak last year when 600 fleet supervisors representing approximately 325,000 vehicles received training at 19 regional institutes.

Copy of Old Bellefonte Newspaper Credited With Local Prize Snake Story

Old File of Bellefonte 'Patriot' Reveals Tale of 11-foot Blacksnake Swallowing Another Large Reptile

By Henry W. Shoemaker In the Altoona Tribune

Working in dusty files at Gov. Martin's State archives, Harrisburg, Miss B. P. MacPherson, young Adams county historical researcher, has unearthed in a pile of Bellefonte 'Patriots' for 1820, an account of a blacksnake swallowing another snake almost as big as itself, which was long the favorite snake story of the late George A. Betzer, old retired Jersey Shore baseball player, a native of Redsville, Mifflin county, whose mother was a McMinn of the Big Valley pioneer family of that name.

Mr. Betzer, who had gotten the story through his parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, asserted it was dependable, and now it is confirmed by a contemporary newspaper. The story from the Centre County paper runs as follows:

"Recently an immense blacksnake was killed near Bellefonte, measuring 11 feet, nine inches which is believed to be a record as to size. It was first noticed by a slight crack made by its tail, not unlike the cracking of a wagon's whip, not unusual, as older people sometimes called the blacksnake the whipsnake, because of its resemblance in appearance and sound to the horse whip. The huge reptile seemed to be in great agony jumping up from the ground, twisting and coiling itself. After it was killed, its strange performances were accounted for satisfactorily. Out of the mouth the tail of another snake seemed to be protruding. On pulling it out, it actually measured five feet three inches. This was the cause of the larger snake being no doubt partly strangled by its greedy mouthful. The great snake was long the terror of the cattle watchers of the adjacent mountains where it was killed. The snake was swifter than any horse, and bade defiance to the puny efforts of man to overtake it."

June 19 Set For Primary Election

Bi-Partisan Group Agrees on Change to Allow For Soldier Vote

A bi-partisan conference of legislative leaders at Harrisburg last week, agreed on June 19 as the date for the 1945 primary election instead of the peace-time September date.

The change will be made in the election laws to allow more time for distribution and return of ballots for the November election to Pennsylvania voters in uniform all over the world.

The Republican and Democratic Assembly chief decided earlier there would be insufficient time after the present September primary date to get ballots to soldiers but had some difficulty in fixing the new date.

Salvage Collection In Spring Mills Area

A collection of waste paper and tin cans in Spring Mills and vicinity will take place on Saturday, February 3, according to a recent announcement by the Salvage Committee of the Gregg Township Civic Club.

Funds for the sale of the materials will be used, as in the past, to help defray expenses of the Service Committee of the Gregg Township Civic Club, which has been doing commendable work in keeping in touch with members of the armed forces from Gregg township.

This committee also maintains the Gregg Township Honor Roll displayed in front of the school.

Salvage materials should be placed in front of properties for collection by truck early Saturday morning, February 3. Be sure that materials are securely wrapped or packed in cartons.

The Government needs paper badly to help our fighting men.

Lock Haven Home Burned

The two-story frame dwelling in Lock Haven in which Mrs. Olive Brown lived, was completely destroyed by fire last Thursday morning. Starting about 10:30 o'clock from an unknown cause, the fire blazed up furiously and destroyed the structure in spite of the work of the three fire companies who fought the fire for an hour and 15 minutes. Mrs. Brown, who lived alone, had started a fire in the range and had gone for a short visit with her mother, Mrs. Mabel Barner, who lives nearby, when the flames were discovered. She was unable to save either furniture or clothing from her home.

Has Mortician's License

Kenneth D. McCloskey, Mill Hall, has been granted a license by the State Board of Undertakers. He will be associated with his father, A. L. McCloskey, in Mill Hall.

He's Tenth Prexy

Dr. Hall's Dora Hetzel, present incumbent, is the Pennsylvania State College's tenth president.

Stork Crashes Snow Blizzard

Inconvenience of Drifted Roads Fails to Halt 'Bird's' Arrival

The Beech Creek correspondent of the Lock Haven Express reports the following: As the blizzard Wednesday noon was at its peak, Homer B. Walker, who lives on the Grover Masden farm in the township and works at the Harrison-Walker plant at Monticello, received an \$205 call. A neighbor who rode horseback into Beech Creek summoned Mr. Walker by telephone to come home quickly that his daughter was ill. He was able to drive his car from Monticello to the Claude Beedler farm where the drifts halted him.

Leaving his car he took a short cut over the hill to his home and there found his daughter, Mrs. Marie Weaver, wife of Cpl. Harold L. Weaver, now with the army in France, about to have a baby.

All roads leading in and out of the Walker home were drifted shut. He started out to summon a doctor, arranging enroute for the doctor to be picked up from the main highway and driven to the home in a bob-tail.

Mr. Walker says he called seven doctors and the only one he found in was unable to come because of an injury.

He then got a neighbor, Mrs. Elly Peters, to assist Mrs. Walker and at 2:30 p. m. a baby girl arrived. Mother and daughter got along splendidly. The name is Sandra Blanche Weaver.

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Fire Causes Slight Damage at Milesburg

Slight damage resulted to the Mrs. Mantle Pressler double house in Milesburg, last Wednesday afternoon when fire of undetermined origin burned through the weatherboarding of a bathroom located at the rear of the structure.

Members of the Logan Fire Company of Bellefonte answered an alarm and used water from a booster tank to extinguish the blaze. Damage was estimated at about \$25.

The house is occupied by the following families: Mrs. Elly Shoe and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Shep Hastings and three children, and Mrs. John Shay and two children.

Named Commissioners' Clerk

Walter Armstrong of East Bishop street, has been named assistant clerk to the Centre County Commissioners, succeeding Mark Williams of East High street, who resigned to accept a position at the Titan Metal Company plant. The change becomes effective today.

The best generals, it appears, are writing for the newspapers.

Employes Awarded Trophy For Work in War Loan Drive

In recognition of their outstanding work in the 6th War Loan Drive, West Penn Power Company employees of the Nittany District, comprised of Bellefonte and State College, were presented with a Fighter Plane trophy last Friday at a luncheon at the William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh. President H. L. Mitchell made the award before a group of company officials and war bond workers from all parts of the West Penn system to honor the Nittany employees and celebrate the fact that the company went way over the top in its recent campaign.

The Fighter Plane trophy was received by Frank E. Webster, storekeeper in the West Penn Bellefonte office, in behalf of the employees in the Nittany district. Vaughn Williams, 1st Class Serviceman of State College, also attended the luncheon, representing this group.

Acting as master of ceremonies at the luncheon, E. O. Tabor, chief counsel for West Penn, introduced Robert McClintock, chairman of the Fort Pitt Area War Finance Committee, who presented certificates

for the two fighter planes to A. J. Lois, chairman of the Employee War Bond Committee. One of the fighter plane certificates was given to the Nittany winners and the other to the Allegheny Pittsburgh City Coal Co. runners-up in the drive, who were represented by F. P. Shrum.

The Treasury's certificate for Patriotic Cooperation Rendered in Behalf of the War Finance Program was also presented to each of the company's 12 operating areas.

In making the award of the Fighter Plane trophy to the winners of the campaign, Mr. Mitchell briefly outlined the objectives of the drive and how they had been met. In the 6th War Loan campaign, the West Penn Power Employee War Bond Committee had two aims: one to sell its employees \$200,000 worth of War Bonds, and two, to sell enough extra War Bonds to buy a fighter plane. Both objectives were met, and then some. The quota of \$200,000 was oversubscribed 46 per cent, with a total sales amounting to \$291,775—and instead of one fighter plane, enough extra bonds were sold to purchase two fighter planes.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Old-Age and Survivors Insurance

The Social Security Board in Williamsport, receives many inquiries each week concerning the old-age and survivors provisions of the Social Security Act. Due to the confidential nature of these inquiries we cannot use the names of the individuals. However, we are listing some of the questions asked during this past week and our replies.

Q. I was over 65 years old January 1, 1937, when the Social Security Act went into effect. I have worked in a steel mill during 1923 and 1943 but am no longer able to work. Can I get monthly insurance payments?

Ans. Probably yes. File an application with your nearest Social Security Board Field Office.

Q. I am a cook in a private home. Am I covered by the Social Security Act?

Ans. No. Domestic service in a private home is not covered by the Social Security Act. Neither is agricultural labor nor casual labor which is not in the course of an employer's trade or business.

Q. I work in a canning factory which prepares food for the United States Government. Am I covered by the Social Security Act or do I work for the United States Government?

Ans. Yes. You are covered by the Social Security Act. The canning factory is your employer and not the Federal Government.

Q. My young son, age 15, works part time in a grocery store. Must he get a Social Security Account number and should his employer take the tax from his pay?

Ans. Yes. Your son should have a Social Security number and his employer is required by law to deduct the tax from his wages. There is no age minimum for employees under the Social Security Act. All employees who work in employment covered by the Social Security Act are covered regardless of their age, the period of time worked, or the amount of wages paid.

Q. I work on a farm by the month and am paid a salary. Am I covered by the Social Security Act?

Ans. No. Employees engaged in agricultural labor are not covered by the Social Security Act.

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