



The Centre Democrat



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BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1945

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Casualty Lists Name 5 Counties

One Killed in Action; Bellefonte Man Reported Missing; One is German Prisoner; Two Are Wounded, Messages Reveal

Five Centre county men were listed on World War II casualty lists during the past week. Of that number one is listed as killed in action; another is missing; another is a prisoner of war in Germany, and two were wounded.

Pfc. Orvis D. Tierney, 20, of Bellefonte, is listed by the War Department as having lost his life in action in France on January 23.

The missing man is Lt. John E. Kelleher, 27, of Bellefonte, who has been unaccounted for since a flight over Germany as a navigator on a Flying Fortress on February 3.

Pfc. Lester Witherite, of Boalsburg, who on December 24, was reported as having been missing in action in Belgium, now is reported to be a prisoner of war in Germany.

The wounded are: Lt. Warren Olson, 24, of Bellefonte, who was injured for the second time while serving aboard a warship in the Pacific.

Pvt. Joseph C. Holzinger, 20, of State College, slightly wounded in Germany on February 6.

Pfc. Tierney killed Thursday night by Mrs. Rose Terry, of North Thoms street, Bellefonte, informed her that her son, Pfc. Orvis Tierney, 20, who was reported missing in action in France on January 23, was killed in action in France on that date.

Tragedy has struck hard at the Tierney home in recent months. On December 6, Mrs. Tierney's grandchildren, Richard T. Robert, 6, and Nancy Rossmann, 4, died of asphyxiation in their sleep at the apartment of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Rossman on North Thoms street, Bellefonte, on February 6.

Mrs. Tierney learned that her son-in-law, Pfc. Elwood Derr of Bellefonte, has been missing in France, on February 9. Pfc. Charles Holderman of Coleville, grandson of Mrs. Tierney,

was reported wounded in action in France on January 23.

Pfc. Tierney, who was serving with the infantry, was called for service March 20, 1943, and trained at Camp Polk, La., where he remained until going overseas in May of last year. He attended Bellefonte schools and was employed at an ordnance plant in Williamsport at the time of entering service.

Pfc. Tierney was born in Bellefonte, a son of Charles and Rose Bieckle Tierney. In addition to his parents, these brothers and sisters survive: Mrs. Emory Holderman, of Coleville; Mrs. Elwood Derr, Mrs. John Nighthart, Mrs. Hobart Rossman, Leonard, Charles and Albert, all of Bellefonte; Mrs. Gerald Millward, of Williamsport; Mrs. Ralph Brooks, of Niagara Falls; Love, and Lee, both at home, and Donald, U. S. Army, overseas.

Lt. Kelleher Missing Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Kelleher, of South Spring street, Bellefonte, on Tuesday afternoon received a War Department message informing them their son, 2nd Lt. John E. Kelleher, 27, a navigator on a B-17 Flying Fortress, has been missing over Germany since February 3.

In a letter to his parents written on January 18, Lt. Kelleher said that as a member of the 8th Air Force stationed in England, he had completed 15 bombing missions over enemy territory, and that at the rate he was piling up missions he expected to have a month or two earlier than he had originally estimated. He added that he had not received any letters or packages from home since arriving in England late in November 1944, but that he had received several Christmas

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SAYS ADDITION TO HOSPITAL BADLY NEEDED

John G. Love, Kiwanis Speaker for 'Ladies Night' Cites Facts

Members of the Bellefonte Kiwanis Club and their wives and guests, meeting at the Penn Belle Hotel Tuesday night for the annual "Ladies Night" program of the club, heard Kiwanian John G. Love, president of the Centre County Hospital corporation, in a strong plea for more support of a new wing of the hospital, a worthwhile and lasting memorial to the veterans of all wars.

M. E. Rumberger, president of the club, presided as master of ceremonies while William J. Tucker, "Ladies Night" program chairman, introduced Mr. Love as the speaker.

Mr. Love said that the hospital is a worthy and lasting memorial to the veterans of all wars, and that it is a source of pride to all who live in this community.

Entertainment included group singing led by Cecil A. Walker, several selections by the Kiwanis Quartette, and two numbers by a hastily drafted octette of women guests.

Mrs. Freda Stock was pianist for the music program. Following the after-dinner events the dining room was cleared and members and guests spent the remainder of the evening in square dancing, with Walter Corn calling the dance.

Pointing out that it was just 20 years ago that the Bellefonte Kiwanis Club, with its slogan "Serve the Community," was organized.

Word has been received in the county of the death of Pfc. Paul L. Gensamer, 27, of Bellwood, brother of Mrs. Thomas Wayne of Sunnyside, Bellefonte, and Lt. Hugh McFarland, 24, son of the former deputy warden of Rockview Penitentiary, William J. McFarland and Mrs. McFarland, now of Butler.

Pfc. Gensamer, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Gensamer, was killed in action in Germany on February 2.

He entered the service on February 3, 1942, and was overseas just a year when he served with the field artillery. In addition to his wife and nine brothers and sisters.

Lt. Hugh McFarland was killed in action in Yugoslavia on November 12, according to word received by friends in the county over the weekend.

The young man, who was previously reported missing in action, was a pilot aboard a C-24 transport plane and had been in service two years. His father served as deputy warden of Rockview from 1924 to 1930.

Blanket issuance of health certificates to persons employed in restaurants and other eating places in Bellefonte was spiced by Borough Council at a regular meeting, Monday night, when Dr. Leroy Locke was named Borough Physician and Council made it mandatory for all persons employed or seeking employment in eating places to undergo physical examination by the borough physician.

All applicants for health certificates under the new setup will be required to undergo Wasserman tests, and also may be required to pass tests for tuberculosis and typhoid fever, it was indicated.

The cost of such examinations is the responsibility of the applicant, it was pointed out. Fees to be charged for examination have not been fixed at this time.

Under the system which has existed here up to this time, persons entering the employ of eating places

British War Bride Visiting Here

Married to American Soldier

Visiting for the honor of Centre county's first overseas war bride is Vera Legge Stone, of Richmond, England, who on October 23, 1943, married to American soldier and was united in marriage in England with Pfc. Gordon Edward Stine, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Stine, of Port Matilda, Pa.

Mrs. Stine arrived in the United States on November 19 aboard a ship which brought a number of wounded United States veterans back to this country. She spent some time with her husband's parents near Port Matilda and is now a guest at the home of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Blaine Benner, of the Jacksonville road, east of Bellefonte. Mrs. Stine expects to remain in Centre county indefinitely, and will spend some time with her husband's relatives in the State College area.

The county war bride, who is 21, is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Legge, of Richmond, a suburb of London, and at the time of her

marriage to Pfc. Stine was employed by the British Thomas Houston topmakers in the London area.

Pfc. Stine went overseas and landed in England on September 5, 1940, and met Miss Legge shortly afterwards. On October 1, 1944, he was sent into France and is now serving with the armed forces on the western front.

Mrs. Stine was in London all through the German blitz of 1940 and 1941 and also saw many of the robot bombs which fell in the London area last year. The first V-1 rocket, the first-powered weapon which strikes before the noise of its flight is heard, landed only a short distance from her home.

Her husband assisted in searching in the rubble of destroyed buildings for victims of a number of "buzz" bombs.

"You can't imagine what a relief it is to be away from such things," Mrs. Stine commented.



Lt. John E. Kelleher Missing in Action

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messages as having lost his life in action in France on January 23.

FEDERAL AGENCIES TO LEAVE AIRPORT

Three Branches of Air Service Slated for Black Moshannon Site

There is a strong possibility that about March 1, all federal activities at the Bellefonte Airport will cease and that the radio range, weather bureau, communications station now located there will be moved to Black Moshannon Airport, it became known here yesterday. There is no official confirmation of the report, however.

A new radio range installation is nearing completion at Black Moshannon and it is almost certain that the one located in Bellefonte will be abandoned, it was said. There are strong indications, too, that the communications personnel will be transferred to Black Moshannon, and that the weather bureau also will be moved to that airport.

Has Been Barber Here for 60 Years

John L. Nighthart, well known East Bishop street barber, on February 28 will celebrate the 60th anniversary of his activity in that vocation and the 60th anniversary of his residence in Bellefonte. Last July 4, Mr. and Mrs. Nighthart celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Mr. Nighthart learned the barbering trade in Lewistown and on June Day in 1885 he came to Bellefonte and found there were no white barbers in this community. Fortwith he decided to locate here, and has been in business continuously ever since.

For 54 years his shop was located in the vicinity of the Diamond. In 1930 he decided to retire, but retired life didn't suit him and within a few months he had fitted up a shop in the basement of his home on East Bishop street, where he continues to ply his trade.

Mr. Nighthart was 80 years old last September, and while he has no idea of retiring, he does find that his work interferes with his favorite sport, fishing.

Bellefonte Man Commands Gun Crew

Lieutenant Elmer B. Decker, 36, former owner and manager of the Decker Motor Co., Bellefonte, has reported to the U. S. Naval Armed Guard Center, New Orleans, for assignment as commanding officer of a gun crew aboard a merchant ship.

The Armed Guard Officer will be charged with defense of the vessel in case of enemy attack.

Men Known in County Killed in Action

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COUNCIL NAMES BORO. PHYSICIAN

Dr. Locke to Examine Applicants for Health Certificates

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Mahlon Robb Buys Alexander Home

Mahlon K. Robb, president of the Bellefonte Trust Company this week purchased the C. C. Alexander home on East Curtin street.

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS TO MEET

Program Presented by Penna. State S. S. Association

Teachers of Christian education in the church schools of Centre county will be afforded an unusual opportunity for gaining inspiration, knowledge and guidance relative to their tasks when the "Missions to Teachers" program is presented on Tuesday, February 27, in the Methodist church at Bellefonte.

Like the preaching missions of several years ago, the present Missions to Teachers program is a national movement. Under the joint sponsorship of the International Council of Religious Education and the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, it began last October with a series of thirty-five State Missions to Christian Teachers meetings. The meeting for Pennsylvania was held in Harrisburg on November 19-21, at which time a Missions to Christian Teachers Institute for each of Pennsylvania's 67 counties was planned. To the Pennsylvania Sabbath School Association operating as the Pennsylvania State Council of Christian Education was

assigned the task of sponsoring the meetings. The meeting for Centre county was held in Harrisburg on November 19-21, at which time a Missions to Christian Teachers Institute for each of Pennsylvania's 67 counties was planned. To the Pennsylvania Sabbath School Association operating as the Pennsylvania State Council of Christian Education was

\$1000 Damage When Coal Trucks Crash

Damage estimated at \$1000 resulted in an accident involving two loaded coal trucks on the Snow-Sho-Moshannon road about 5 p. m. Monday. No one was injured.

One of the trucks, owned by Frank Hartlein of Kartiaus, was operated by Richard Furl of Bellefonte, R. D. 3, and the other, operated by Bernard Gold of Kartiaus, was owned by Lewis McConigal of Snow Shoe.

The accident happened about two miles west of Snow Shoe when Gold lost control of his machine which was being followed by the Furl truck. The truck operated by Gold started down the mountain backwards and crashed into the Furl truck which was almost demolished. Gold's truck upset but was not badly damaged.

Mr. Furl and his wife, who was riding in the cab, both jumped, and probably saved their lives as the cab of their machine was pushed back against the body of the truck. State police from the Pleasant Gap sub-station investigated the accident.

Boy Burned By Kerosene Explosion

Jesse Wilson, 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson, of Julien, R. D. 3, suffered first degree burns of the face about 4:30 p. m. last Wednesday when he threw kerosene into the furnace at his parental home. Flames from the resulting explosion struck him in the face.

After his mother had applied first aid, the boy received treatment at the Centre County Hospital dispensary. He was permitted to leave the hospital after receiving treatment.

WEST PENN FETES LOCAL EMPLOYEES

Many District Workers Honored for 6th War Bond Record

Centre Hill Country Club, State College, was the scene of a banquet and celebration for the employes and wives of Nitany District, West Penn Power Company, on Friday evening. This banquet honored West Penn employes for their achievement in winning the company contest in the recent 6th War Bond drive.

Nitany District, although the smallest area in the West Penn system, made the greatest gain in the purchase of bonds, namely 221% of the quota, and also increased its monthly payroll subscription 17%, so that it is now the only group on the system to have 100% participation and better than 9% subscription of monthly payroll deductions. In surpassing its quota by so great a margin, the district overshadowed the other eleven areas in the system and won for itself the coveted "Fighter Plane Trophy."

At 7:00 p. m. 152 employes, wives and guests sealed themselves at two long tables in the spacious room of the club and did justice to a delicious dinner. After dinner, Robert G. MacDonald, master of ceremonies, introduced the wives of employes in the armed forces. He then called upon J. E. Fife, division manager, who congratulated the employes for their magnificent work in playes for their magnificent work in

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POLIO CAMPAIGN NETS \$1976 HERE

Total More Than Twice Last Year's Figure, Chairman Reports

Individuals, clubs, organizations and other groups in Bellefonte contributed a total of \$1,976.19 to the infantile paralysis fund in the drive just ended, it was reported yesterday by Mrs. Barbara Kline, local chairman of the infantile paralysis committee.

This compares most favorably with the results in the 1944 campaign, total receipts for that year being \$714.44. Of the total given in the 1945 drive, organizations gave \$891.25, Mrs. Kline said.

In listing contributors, Mrs. Kline was warm in her praise of all who contributed and otherwise aided in the campaign. She specially mentioned the aid given by E. K. Stock, supervising principal of schools and his staff of teachers and pupils; Mother Phillipa, the Sisters and the pupils of the Parochial school; Jack Watson, of the YMCA; Gene MacGregor, Arthur Book, Charles Saxton, Bond C. White, Philip Johnston, Samuel D. Rhinestmith, Mrs. Fred R. Fisher, Elizabeth Barnhart, Edward Calhoun and the various newspapers.

LOGANS HERE TO OBSERVE 75TH BIRTHDAY

About 200 Firemen and Guests Will Attend Dinner Tonight

Members of the Logan Fire Company will gather tonight to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the company and, incidentally, the 115th anniversary of the establishment of a fire department in Bellefonte borough.

Approximately 200 members of the fire company are scheduled to meet at the Logan House on East Howard street at 6:30 p. m. and will proceed from there across the street to Brooks-Doll Post American Legion Home, where the Legion Auxiliary will serve a turkey dinner.

No strict formal program of after dinner speeches has been prepared, but there will be informal talks by members of the company. John G. Love, Bellefonte attorney, has been invited to serve as toastmaster.

Collins Shoemaker, vice-president of the Logan Company, who as secretary of the organization some years ago was in charge of the preparation of a complete and official history of the company, will speak on some of the incidents and happenings during the early days of the company.

Among the old Logan "fire-eaters" expected to be present will be Charles F. Cook, aged 94, who has been a Logan since 1874, Martin Cooney, who will be 92 in November, and who has been a member of the Logans since 1876; Benton D. Tate, 80, who has been a Logan for at least 50 years; Elmer Yerger, 75, who joined the fire company 50 years ago and who has been an active member since then; and John Anderson, also a Logan from the early days of its organization.

The first move to obtain a fire department in Bellefonte came in 1820 when, at a meeting of Borough Council, Hon. Thomas Burnside, who was born in Ireland in 1782, and who died here in 1881, reported an ordinance for the purchase of a "fire engine," hose and other equipment.

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State College Woman Aids in Philippines

Saving American lives, bringing the smile, the cheer that money cannot buy but that all of us can help her give by contributing freely to the Red Cross, is what Miss Alice Thompson, Red Cross worker, of State College, is doing at the present time in the Philippines.

Miss Thompson, formerly employed as assistant alumni secretary at Penn State, left State College in April, 1943. She was sent to Washington where she took her training and was then put in charge of a group of Red Cross girls and sent to Australia.

The Red Cross worker had her headquarters outside of Brisbane, where she cared for the sick and wounded during the evacuation work there. The unit was closed in November, 1944, and then Miss Thompson was sent to headquarters in Brisbane where she was in charge of all personnel, both civilian and Red Cross in that area.

Later the State College Red Cross worker was moved into Hollandia. (Continued on page Four)

Truck Crashes Into Car Near Bellefonte

Damage estimated at \$25 resulted to a coupe operated by Eleanor J. Moore of Howard, a Lemont school teacher, and a truck operated by Harry F. Kesling of near Yarnell, in an accident near Pleasant View north of Bellefonte about 4 p. m. Friday. The accident happened while state police were checking the brakes of the truck failed to work and the machine crashed into the rear of the Moore car which was stopped while police were making a routine check-up.

Legion Contributes to Red Cross, Polio

Contributions totaling \$600 were approved by Brooks-Doll Post American Legion, Bellefonte, at a regular meeting, Monday night.

The Post voted a contribution of \$500 to the Red Cross campaign which will open March 1, and approved a contribution of \$100 to the "March of Dimes," campaign for the control of infantile paralysis.

Commissioners Boost Tax Rate

Deduct One Mill From Institution District But Add Two Mills to County Levy for 1945; Will Increase Revenue About \$32,000.

The Centre County Commissioners yesterday announced an overall increase of one mill in taxes levied for county and institution district purposes in 1945.

The tax rate this year has been fixed at 8 mills for the county and 3 mills for the institution district, or a total of 11 mills.

This is an increase of 3 mills in the county tax, and a decrease of 1 mill in the institution district tax.

The Commissioners say the county operated within its budget in 1944 with total actual expenditures of \$1,826,643.1 against an estimate of \$2,232,302.84. They declare that an unforeseen drop in revenues from several county offices forced the board to use some of its surplus left over from the preceding year.

The official released the following report of expenditures and receipts of the several county offices as compared with the budget:

PROTHONOTARY
Budget Revenue \$ 3,000.00
Actual Revenue 1,470.89
Budget Expense 2,000.00
Actual Expense 8,049.11

A tentative outline of activities planned for the first part of the year was presented at the regular meeting of the Muncy District organization, Boy Scouts of America, held in the Bellefonte High School last Tuesday with E. Keith Anderson presiding.

F. E. Webster, chairman of the campaign and activities committee, revealed the proposed plans, details of which will be made available at later dates. The program includes a snow swimming party to be held in the Bellefonte YMCA pool from 7 to 9 p. m. March 15; a scout swimming meet to be held in the same pool from 7 to 9 p. m. on March 22; a first aid meet in April; a field meet in May, and a Camp-o-ree in June.

Troop No. 34 of Bellefonte has assumed the responsibility of distributing posters, flags, and literature for the Red Cross drive, which will begin March 1.

The Muncy District organization also has agreed to participate in the (Continued on page Four)

RECORDER OF DEEDS
Budget Revenue \$ 6,117.50
Actual Revenue 5,710.25
Budget Expense 6,117.50
Actual Expense 7,193.04
(Continued on page Three)

BURNS FATAL TO PINE HALL GIRL

Miss Grace Loesch, 20, Succumbs at County Hospital

Burns received on December 8 proved fatal to Miss Grace Helen Loesch, 20, of Pine Hall, who died at the Centre County Hospital here at 1:30 a. m. Sunday, February 18, 1945.

Miss Loesch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Loesch, of Pine Hall, was attempting to light the burner of an oil stove to heat some water in the kitchen of her parental home when there was an explosion and she was enveloped in flames from the knees upward. She ran outdoors into the yard, her clothing a mass of flames.

Her father, who was sitting in the living room, upon hearing the explosion grabbed a blanket and ran out into the yard where he smothered the flames. He suffered severe burns of both hands.

Mr. Loesch summoned a physician who after administering first aid brought the young woman to the hospital where she had been under treatment ever since. The entire upper part of her body was badly burned.

Deceased, a daughter of George A. and Marian Stull Loesch, was born March 20, 1924 in Millifin county. In addition to her parents she is survived by two brothers and a sister, Paul, William and Mary at home.

Private funeral services were held at the Koch funeral home, Coleville, Tuesday afternoon, with Rev. E. E. Korte officiating. Interment was made in the Pine Hall cemetery.

Sleeping Man Is Injured In Crash

Lawrence Weaver, 36, of Tusseyville, suffered a