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The Centre Democrat



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Sharp Decline In County Casualties

Clarence Sergeant, Previously Reported Missing, is Prisoner of Germans; State College Man Missing; Clarence Youth Wounded

Centre county, which for many weeks has been receiving heavy casualty reports from World War II battlefronts, got a respite this week when only three messages, one of them bringing encouraging tidings, were received by relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Emro Drapcho, of Clarence, learned through the Red Cross that their son, Staff Sgt. Cyril Drapcho, previously reported missing

in action, is now a prisoner of the German government.

One county serviceman, Lt. Clayton Smith, 21, of State College, is reported missing in action over Germany on February 14, and another, Pvt. Frank J. Kolassa, 19, of Clarence, is reported seriously wounded in Germany on February 19.

Sgt. Drapcho Prisoner

Staff Sergeant Cyril A. Drapcho, who was reported missing in action in Luxembourg on December 20, is a prisoner of war in Germany, according to information from the International Red Cross received Monday afternoon by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emro Drapcho, of Clarence. No further details were given in the message.

Sgt. Drapcho was one of the first Centre conscripts to volunteer for service from the Bellefonte Draft Board, enlisting on October 28, 1940. He received training in various camps before being sent to England in October, 1944.

A member of an infantry unit, he saw action in Belgium and Germany before going into Luxembourg where he is believed to have been taken prisoner. In a letter written to his mother last December 13, he told of meeting his brother, Pfc. Emro Drapcho. The letter was written in a rest camp.

All of the five children of Mr. and Mrs. Emro Drapcho are in the armed forces. In addition to Sgt. and Pfc. Drapcho, the others are Lt. Joseph, in the Pacific war area; Lt. Edward, in Luxembourg; and Cpl. JoAnn, of the WACs stationed at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.

Lt. Smith Missing

Lt. Clayton Smith, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Smith, of South Frazier street, State College, has been missing in action over Germany since February 14, according to a telegram received by the lieutenant's parents from the U. S. War Department last Wednesday night.

Lt. Smith, in letters received recently by his parents, said that he was "tough and the Germans are not whipped by any means." He was serving as first pilot on an B-26 bomber attached to the Ninth Air Force in France and in January had completed 20 missions.

The State College lieutenant enlisted in the Air Corps in April. (Continued on page Two)

LONG EXPOSURE FATAL TO MAN

Joel S. Royer, 82, of Zion, Succumbs; Was Helpless 17 Hours in Snow

Joel Royer, 82, well known retired farmer of Zion, who suffered an attack while shoveling snow on February 20, and who was helpless in the snow for 17 hours before being discovered, died at his home there at 6:25 P. M. last Thursday, March 7, 1945, as the result of exposure.

Mr. Royer, who lived alone, had gone out to shovel snow near the garage at the rear of his home. Next day when neighbors failed to see him around as usual they investigated and found him lying in the snow at the rear of the garage, his body wedged tightly against the side of the building. He was conscious when found and explained he had not called for help because he didn't want to "get the neighborhood in an uproar."

When found about noon his clothing was wet from melted snow and one finger was frost-bitten. His condition was serious.

Joel S. Royer was a son of Jonathan and Anna E. Shaffer Royer and was born at Zion on May 14, 1862. His wife, the former Emma Garwick, preceded him in death. He was a lifelong resident of Zion, and was the last member of his immediate family.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at the Zion Lutheran church, of which deceased was a member, with Rev. David Straesser of Snyderdort, officiating. Interment was made in the Zion cemetery. In accordance with Mr. Royer's wishes, members of the church council served as casketbearers.

Roopsburg Youth Injured By Car

Sylvester Scott, 10, son of Mrs. Trevelia Scott of Roopsburg, suffered a fractured right leg at 6:30 p. m. Monday, when he was hit by a car while playing on the Roopsburg bridge. He is a patient at the Centre County Hospital, where his condition is satisfactory.

Operator of the car was John H. Tressler, 54, of Bellefonte, R. D. 2. The accident happened when the youth, playing with several companions, ran across the bridge as Mr. Tressler's machine was going west.

Mr. Tressler, told State Police from the Pleasant Gap sub-station, who investigated, that his attention was attracted by another boy on the bridge and didn't see the Scott boy until his car struck him. He stopped the car almost instantly and picked up the youth from under the machine and took him to the hospital. The boy's father is serving in the Navy, State Police said.

Bellefonte Youth Cuts Knee In Fall

Richard Allerio, Jr., aged 7, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Allerio, of East Bishop street, received a severe laceration of the left knee, Saturday, in a fall at the rear of his parents' home.

Sunday he was taken to the Centre County Hospital where four stitches were required to close the wound. He was permitted to return home after undergoing treatment.

Titan 'Local Expenditures' Reach New High In 1944

A recent issue of the Titan News, publication of the Titan Metal Company personnel department, reveals that the company's "local expenditures" in 1944 totaled a new high of \$1,184,000.

In illustrating the relation between Titan Metal and the community in which it is located "The News" quotes a recently published article by C. W. McKee, in which he relates that according to a survey it is revealed that a factory employing 150 accomplishes the following service to the community:

The 150 employees support from 1,000 to 1,200 persons, cause 300 homes to be used, fill a 22-room schoolhouse using 18 teachers, in normal times that factory will put 320 automobiles into the community, support 32 stores with total annual sales of \$500,000, give opportunity for 25 professional people to live in the

Centre Hall Man Receives \$900 Lost Last November

Orvis Shawver, 43, of Centre Hall, R. D., employee of the Titan Metal Company here, and father of 13 children, rented a safety deposit box in a Bellefonte bank this week.

Last November 29 while he was in Bellefonte, carrying \$900 in War Bonds around in an envelope in his hip pocket, the envelope fell out of his pocket and when he got home he discovered the loss.

His name, his wife's name, and their address were on all the bonds, and he hoped the finder would send them back. But a month passed, two months passed, three months passed, and no bonds appeared.

He wasn't too worried, for a War Bond is worthless to anyone but the person or persons whose names appear on them. But it meant a lot of trouble and worry to have the lost bonds cancelled and new ones issued by the Treasury Department.

Last Thursday he received notice that there was an envelope for him at the Centre Hall postoffice with eight cents postage due.

Upon paying the postage, Mr. Shawver was handed the familiar brown envelope containing the \$900 in bonds he had lost in Bellefonte last November.

The envelope was postmarked Bellefonte, and the sender had affixed only one three-cent stamp. The only items missing from the envelope were three gasoline ration coupons. There was no indication as to who mailed the bonds or where they had been during their absence.

Mr. Shawver, employed as a pressman at Titan, purchased the bonds through payroll deductions, and the \$900, plus some others he has bought, are now safely tucked away in a safety deposit box.

V-E DAY PLANS HERE ANNOUNCED

Plans for the observance of V-E Day in Bellefonte, announced yesterday by local churches through the Bellefonte Chamber of Commerce, call for acceptance of victory in Europe with a spirit of relief and thankfulness, rather than one of glee or hilarity.

Decision on the type of observance was reached after a thoroughgoing survey of opinion conducted by Chamber officials. Sentiment is almost solidly in favor of a subdued observance, because V-E Day will have little effect on hostilities in the Pacific.

Because V-E Day may come soon, or may be delayed some time, it is suggested that the following plans for observance of the event be clipped and stored for future reference. If news of the European war's end comes during the night the Bellefonte High School auditorium will be opened for a public religious service at 9 o'clock the following morning.

If news of the end of the war is received during the daytime, the meeting in the auditorium will be held three hours later. Three hours after the high school service, the Bellefonte Methodist and Presbyterian Churches will conduct special services for those employed in industry. Workers are invited to attend these services in their working clothing.

At the same time the Lutheran, Reformed, Evangelical, United Brethren and A.M.E. churches will conduct services for persons not engaged in industry. The program calls for no parade or other public display of joy, the belief being that as long as U. S. servicemen in other areas still face a long and bitter struggle until victory is won, such demonstrations are not in order.

Truck Rams Into Parked Sedan Here

An Oldsmobile sedan owned by Edward McNichol, of East Lamb street, parked near the Davidson candy store on West High street, was badly damaged about the rear at 10:45 p. m. Tuesday when it was struck by a pick-up truck driven by Lewis B. Brooks, of Centre Hall.

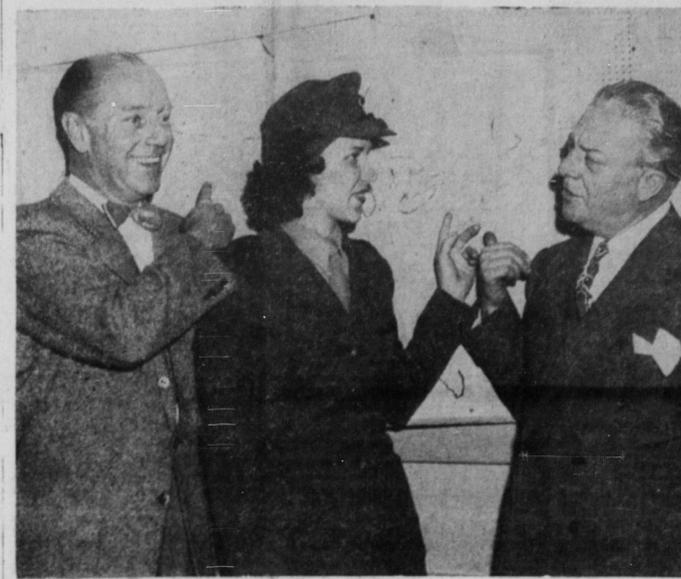
According to reports, Brooks was driving down High street when his machine ramed into the rear end of the parked vehicle. Chief of Police Harry Dukeman investigated the mishap. No one was injured and damage to Brooks' machine was slight.

Three Planes Land Near State College

Three Waco training planes, on their way to Canada, landed on farmlands across the railroad tracks west of the College golf course on Saturday afternoon.

The flyers were lost and made a forced landing to get their bearings, officials of the State College Air Depot, reported later. They were ferrying the planes from somewhere in the States to Canada where the planes will be used in the war training program.

Bellefonte Girl Tells Amos 'n' Andy



REVERSE ACTION: Cpl. Louise Kozar, USMC, of Bellefonte, does a switch on the old "tell it to the Marines" routine by telling it to radio's Amos 'n' Andy (Freeman Gosden, left, and Charles Correll).

When Cpl. Kozar was a special guest of the comedians at their most recent broadcast from Hollywood's "Radio City," she took occasion to point out to her hosts that corner of the map which still holds all her interest and affection.

The Bellefonte girl is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kozar, of Valley Hill, near Bellefonte, and is believed to be the first Centre county girl to enter the Marine Corps Women's Reserve.

She enlisted in the organization in June 1943 and was sent to the Marine Base at New River, N. C., where, after receiving basic training, she was assigned to a specialist school in cooking and baking. Upon completing training she was assigned to regular duties at New River.

Subsequently she was transferred to Camp Elliott, San Diego, Cal., and now is stationed at Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, Cal. Cpl. Kozar spent a furlough at her home here in March, 1944.

A native of Bellefonte, she attended the local schools and was graduated from the Bellefonte High School. For a time after that she was employed in Bellefonte and was working at Irwin, Pa., at the time of her enlistment.

Cpl. Kozar has a brother, Joseph Kozar, CM 2/c, who is in the Navy in the South Pacific area, and seven sisters, Mrs. John Martin, of Pleasant Gap; Mrs. Guy Eason, Mrs. John Ebeling and Mrs. Russell Auman, all of Bellefonte; Vera and Genevieve, at home, and Mrs. Ruth Crow, of Harrisburg.

Former Senator Harry B. Scott of Fullington, who for years was one of the outstanding leaders of the Republican party in Centre county, died Sunday evening, March 4, 1945, after a several years' illness, at the age of 66 years.

Until retiring from active life several years ago Senator Scott was president of the Moshannon National Bank and of the Phillips Building and Loan Association in Philadelphia; was treasurer and director of the Pennsylvania General Casualty Company and Penn General Fire Insurance Company, and was a director of the American Re-Insurance Company.

Mr. Scott was actively interested in charitable and civic affairs and was president of the Pennsylvania Society for Crippled Children, Inc., and the Clearfield and Centre Counties Society for Crippled Children.

He was a member of all Masonic bodies and a member of the Penn (Continued on page Four)

Voters' Registrations Now Being Received

From now on until May 19, applications will be received to vote at the Primary election, to be held June 19, at the Registration Office in the Court House, Bellefonte.

This includes all electors who will become of age on or before June 19, 1945. It will also enable all electors who wish to change their party enrollment, file removal notices, or change of addresses, prior to the election. The Registration office is open each day from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., with the exception of Saturdays when it will close at 12 o'clock noon.

The citizens committee to abate the lime dust nuisance in Bellefonte has called a public meeting to be held in the Court House at 7:30 p. m. Thursday, March 15, it was announced yesterday by C. Nevins Steiner, chairman of the committee.

The committee has retained R. Paul Campbell as attorney to determine what can be done to eliminate the nuisance and Mr. Campbell is scheduled to address the meeting next Thursday.

The committee, in summarizing its findings, notes: "The stage is cleared for action—we only wait for your approval."

Study Expansion of Borough Limits

Council Names Committee to Investigate Possible Annexations; Burgess Suggests Move to Promote Growth of Town

Appointment of a committee to study the extension of Bellefonte borough limits highlighted a regular meeting of Council at the Logan House, Monday night.

The committee named by Council President W. W. Sieg consists of Russell Lambert, chairman of the Street committee; Leslie Thomas, chairman of the Water committee; Paul Walizer, chairman of the Town Improvement committee; and Walter Eberhart, chairman of the Special committee.

Mr. Walizer was named chairman of the new committee.

The matter was introduced on the floor by Burgess Hardman P. Harris who declared that the town needs additional land for home building purposes and for industrial use. He said that after the war there will be much demand for home sites, and that the time has come for Bellefonte to expand its area substantially to provide for the community's growth.

The present borough limits were established 150 years ago to include an area about a mile square," Mr. Harris declared. "The limits have never been changed since then," he added.

The Burgess went on to explain the purpose of enlarging the physical size of the town is not to penalize those who now own properties in Spring township just outside the borough but to extend to them and to others who wish to build in the borough full rights and advantages offered by the borough. He declared that if the town is enlarged it is probable the tax rate can be lowered so that the present difference existing between the rates in Spring township and Bellefonte borough may be largely wiped out.

Mr. Harris suggested taking in sufficient territory to allow for expansion for some years to come.

In naming the committee to look into the matter, Mr. Sieg instructed them to review all angles of the matter and submit a report to Council.

The Fire and Police committee was given authority to suggest and approve changes in the parking of buses at the Penn Belle Hotel bus stop. It is hoped that the present practice of having buses stop in the middle of the street in front of the hotel can be eliminated.

Charles E. Dorworth, proprietor of the Crider Exchange building, appeared in Council with a request (Continued on page Three)

KIWANIS CLUB TO FURTHER MEMORIAL

Many County Delegates at Session Favor Addition to Hospital

The Bellefonte Kiwanis Club was given responsibility for carrying on further activities in behalf of a proposed war memorial for Centre county veterans of all wars, at a general meeting of representatives from various parts of the county at the Court House last Wednesday night.

Action naming the Kiwanis Club to call further meetings of county groups came after a full discussion of the need for more facilities at the hospital and of the appropriateness of the plan to erect a new wing as a memorial to veterans.

According to tentative plans, the club will name representatives of each service organization, civic body and other groups throughout the county to serve as members of an advisory committee. A meeting of these delegates then will be held and a permanent county committee will be formed with officers and sub-committees chosen to carry on the work.

At Wednesday's meeting representatives from Mifflburg, Pleasant Gap, State College, Bellefonte, and other communities were present, and (Continued on page Four)

Clearfield County Man In Jail Here

Clair D. Dixon, of Mineral Springs, Clearfield county, operator of a truck owned by M. O. Woods, of Clearfield, which crashed into the soldiers' monument in Mifflburg on February 24, was lodged in the county jail here Tuesday, when he was unable to post bail on a charge of operating a car while his license was under revocation.

Dixon, who is under bail in Clearfield county on a charge of having stolen the Woods truck, left the scene of the accident in Mifflburg in the truck, Jack Lannon, of Clinton county, suffered lacerations of the head and face and underwent treatment at the Centre County Hospital.

SCHOOL PATROLS DISCUSSED HERE

PTA Hears Suggestions For Improving Work of Pupils

A panel discussion on the subject of school patrols, led by Miss Eleanor Diehl of the high school faculty, featured a regular meeting of the Bellefonte Teachers' Association in the high school cafeteria, Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Sam Poorman, who is in charge of the school patrol in the Spring street building, stated that the patrol is a largely because there is little incentive for a pupil to be a good patrol member. She also stated that some teachers were indifferent to the project and, therefore, would not cooperate by punishing children who disobey the patrol regulations.

Mrs. Joyce Rine, head of the school patrol at the Bishop street building, maintained that sixth grade pupils were quite young for the work, and that better operation (Continued on page Three)

GREGG TWP. FIRE CO. INCORPORATED

Organization Reports Approximate Membership of 225

At its last semi-monthly meeting held March 1st, the newly incorporated Gregg Township Fire Company installed its new officers who will conduct future meetings during the year. The new officers are:

President, Ralph Shook; vice president, Charles Auman; financial secretary, Harold Stover; recording secretary, Ralph Bartz; treasurer, W. Bright Bisher; chaplain, John Venzler; trustees, Lester E. Condo, Bruce G. Myers, William Osman; directors, Nevin Shook, Miles Barber, Ellis Hennigh, Chester Decker, Homer Petterli.

Miles Bressler has been elected to take the helm as fire chief, and Raymond Stover as assistant.

Lately the Gregg Township Fire Company received its charter due to (Continued on page Six)

Woman Survived by 104 Descendants

Mrs. John Mocar, 81, of Clarence, who died at her home there Friday, has a total of 104 descendants in four generations, 17 of whom are serving in the United States armed forces.

Mrs. Mocar is survived by five daughters and two sons; 44 grandchildren; 52 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Fourteen of the grandchildren are in the service.

17,230 Pounds Paper Collected In Drive

The townwide scrap campaign conducted in Bellefonte Friday resulted in the collection of more than the average amount of waste materials but the total was short of Bellefonte's regular quota.

During the day 17,230 pounds of paper, a ton of tin cans, and 300 pounds of rags were gathered to be sent to keep war industries supplied with those vital materials.

FIRE MARSHAL SUBMITS REPORT

57 Fires in 1944 Threaten \$187,400 in Property; Loss Only \$1,355

In 1944 a total of 57 fires in Bellefonte and vicinity threatened property valued at \$187,400, but through the efforts of the Bellefonte Fire Department the total fire loss for the year was kept to only \$1,355, it was revealed in the annual report of Fire Marshal Phillip P. Sawyer at a regular meeting of Council, Monday night.

The department responded to 57 calls, 15 of which were general alarms, 27 were still alarms, and 15 were out-of-town calls.

Burning flues led the list of fire causes, 22 fires being attributed to that source. The causes of the other calls listed in the order of their frequency, follow: overheated oil stoves; 5; grass fires; 4; sparks from chimneys; 4; car fires; 3; defective wiring; 3; lightning; 2; overheated furnaces; 2; drownings; 2; false (Continued on page Four)

Pfc. Ramsey Is German Prisoner

Word was received in Bellefonte, Tuesday, that Pfc. Gene S. Ramsey, of Altoona, son of the former Kathryn Dunlap, of Bellefonte, who was reported missing in action in the European area on December 20, is now a prisoner of the German government.

The War Department message to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sabert Ramsey of Altoona, said "no information would follow, Pfc. Ramsey's grandfather was the late Centre County Commissioner John L. Dunlap of Bellefonte, and he is a nephew of members of the Dunlap family residing here.

AGED WOMAN SUFFERS FRACTURE OF HIP

Miss Annie Noll, 82, of West Bishop street, suffered a fracture of the left hip about noon Sunday when she made a misstep and fell on the second floor of her home.

She was taken to the Centre County Hospital for treatment. Miss Noll occupies the home of her sister, the late Mrs. W. H. Miller.

Fined For Having Burd

Mrs. Ada Catherine Burd, near Mackeyville, was fined \$50 and \$12.90 costs by Alderman T. Mark Brumgard last week for possession of venison without a permit more than 60 days after the close of deer hunting season. The meat was canned. The law requires anyone possessing venison to purchase a \$1 permit for a four-month period following the 60-day limit.