

Electrical Production Makes Record

(Prepared for the Centre Democrat by the State Planning Board of the Department of Commerce.)

The State Planning Board of the Pennsylvania Department of Commerce announced this week that business activity in Pennsylvania, as measured by the most widely accepted index, the production of electrical energy, is now at the highest point in the history of the Commonwealth. In the month of February, the total output of electrical energy by the State's industries and public utilities, as reported by the Federal Power Commission, amounted to two billion, 652 million kilowatt hours, an increase of 22 percent over February, 1950. This percentage of increase greatly exceeds that for the United States as a whole, is nearly 10 per cent greater than that in either New York or New England, more than 14 percent greater than in New Jersey, and nearly 6 per cent greater than that in Ohio. It also considerably exceeds the increases in percentage in Illinois or Michigan.

In the same month, the production of electrical energy by industrial establishments in Pennsylvania which was more than 487 million kilowatt hours, was greater than that in any state in the Nation. Pennsylvania also exceeded all the other states in its total production of electric power by the use of fuels and, in addition, supplied a larger part of the fuel for electric production in several neighboring states.

The electrical energy output of the Commonwealth in February of this year exceeded that in any other February by more than 300 million kilowatt hours, and follows a spectacular rise in December and January which also surpassed previous records.

Since the wheels of industry move today almost exclusively by electrical power, the increased production of Pennsylvania's public and private generating plants indicates a faster rate of industrial progress than that in any neighboring state, or any state in the northeastern section of the country.

Game Eats Well Thru Winter

Varied Game Feeding Programs Benefitted

If Pennsylvania's wildlife suffered for lack of food last winter it was because farmers, sportsmen game commission employees, and others failed to provide sustenance wherever humanly possible.

These 1950-51 game feeding figures were taken from Commission records and the best available estimates. They are probably low rather than high.

Grains bought and distributed by sportsmen; almost 18,000 bushels of ear corn and about 1 1/2 tons of scratch feed.

Yellow ear corn bought by the Commission and distributed largely by its employees, but with considerable help from sportsmen, Boy Scouts and others, was about 34,000 bushels. The Commission also bought 2 1/2 tons of scratch feed.

Grain mostly corn bought with Game Fund money from Farm-Game Cooperators and others, to remain standing and available to wildlife, almost 22,000 bushels.

Farmers and grain merchants donated nearly 9,000 bushels of corn for wildlife feeding.

Tens of thousands of bushels of corn remained unpicked because the 1950 crop did not mature in time for fall harvesting. This supplied much food for wildlife.

Hundreds of bushels of grain were dropped from airplanes by sportsmen.

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23rd Well In Leidy Area Is Third Largest

The third largest well in the Leidy field was brought in Thursday. Experts estimate the newest of Clinton County's wells has a rate of flow of 41,000,000 cubic feet.

It was a Charles Fralich operation drilled on land leased from the U. S. Lumber Company.

The 23rd producer in the fabulous field northwest of Renovo is located near the top of Road Hallow.

The well was the first of three being drilled on a 125 acre tract of the U. S. Lumber Company. The drillers have reached a considerable depth in the second well, and are ready to begin drilling for the third well.

The hit Thursday was the first brought in with a new type "shaped charge" explosive, similar to that used on the bazooka rocket. It is designed to penetrate the cap-rock before exploding.

The outfit was lowered to the bottom of the 6,300 foot hole on a cable. A clock was set to detonate the charge electrically. A tense crowd of about 50 persons waited anxiously.

Chaplain To Speak At PTA Meeting

The Rev. John Lenhardt, chaplain at Rockview farm prison, will speak at a meeting of the Boggs township Parent-Teacher Association in the Yarnell school at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 1.

PTA officials stressed that the meeting is open to the public and all residents of the township are urged to attend.

Mrs. George Snyder, president, will be in charge of the business session.

THE MOST WIDELY READ NEWSPAPER IN CENTRE COUNTY

A VISITOR IN OVER 8,000 HOMES EACH WEEK

SECOND SECTION

The Centre Democrat

NEWS FEATURES

VOLUME 70

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1951

NUMBER 17

Central Penna. District Firemen Plan Convention August 19

For Commissioner



O. P. McCord, County Commissioner, O. P. (Putt) McCord, of Rush Township, this week announced his intention of seeking re-election to that office. Mr. McCord, a Republican, has been chairman of the Board of County Commissioners during the term just ending and is now serving his third year on the Executive Board of the State Association of County Commissioners of Pennsylvania.

In announcing his candidacy, Mr. McCord issued the following statement: "When the voters of Centre County elected me to the office of County Commissioner, I felt that they had faith in my ability, and that of the other members of the Board, to run the County in an efficient manner and with the best interests of the majority of the people at heart. This I have endeavored to do and I will renew that pledge if I am successful in being nominated and re-elected. My record is open to the public and it is on that basis I seek to return to this office."

Three Injured In Automobile Crash

Three persons received injuries when a car in which they were riding struck a pole at Runville about 9 p.m. Saturday. They were: Eleanor Eckley, Bellefonte RD 2, chest injuries; Bond Reed, Niagara Falls, N.Y., injury to left hip, and Mae Taylor, Bellefonte, scratches of both legs.

Wilford Staley, Hagerstown, Md., was not injured.

Police said that Eleanor Eckley was driver of the car that ran off the road while traveling toward Snow Shoe. Damage to the car was about \$200 and damage to the pole \$75.

List Payments

Blue Cross payments to County hospitals made in March were: \$4178.33 to Centre County Hospital, and \$282.28 to Philippsburg State Hospital, Capital Hospital Service, Inc., of Harrisburg, reported this week.

Centre Hall-Potter Schools Summarized in Class Article

The history of schools in Centre Hall and Potter township is the subject of this week's installment of the History of Centre Hall as prepared by the Problems of Democracy class at the Centre Hall-Potter High School. The history continues:

History of Schools in Centre Hall and Potter Township

It is believed that the first school in this locality was a small academy founded by the Potter's Mills. No accurate records of its location, size or enrollment are available.

In 1845 there were 86 schools in operation in Centre county. There were 82 male teachers and 10 female teachers at the time. The males received \$20 per month and the females received \$10 monthly salary. The total county enrollment was 2,760 boys and 1,955 girls. The average number of scholars per school was 44, and about \$40 per month was the cost.

In 1790 a school was built on the Keller farm. Another stood near Longwell's Tavern, near the Sweetwood home at Centre Hill. The Longbridge school was located in the field opposite the lane adjoining the Irvin Hennigh property. This school was demolished in 1835. Timothy Ladd, a cripple who was transported to this school by his scholars, was one of its outstanding teachers. He was noted for his grammatical perfection, and the story is told that he once fell asleep in church, but awoke quickly and corrected the minister when he used a grammatical error in his sermon.

The Tusseyville church was used as a school in 1837. In 1831-1838 term of school was from three to five months.

The Egg Hill school was located near the Egg Hill church, and it was burned while farmers were burning brush nearby.

The Mount Liberty school, built in 1853, east of the Harry McClennahan farm, had a Mr. Price as its first teacher.

The Rock Grove school, located in Ernest Treaster's woods, was

Lock Haven to Be Host City

The Central District firemen's convention will be held in Lock Haven the week of Aug. 19 Sunday officers from fire companies in the 11 counties of the district met in Lock Haven. They were guests of the Clinton County Firemen's Association at a midday banquet at Henry's. A business meeting was held at the Lock Haven City Hall.

Paul Laubach, president of the Central District, presided at Sunday's session. Mayor Charles E. Herr, of Lock Haven, welcomed the fire company representatives. It was announced that the Clinton County Association will sponsor a pumping contest with \$325 in prize money for the winning teams. Companies must enter a driver and six firemen with their pumps. The pumping contest will be held Aug. 23, the day of the big parade.

The board of Control with 48 officers present, heard a report on legislation concerning firemen and fire companies. They were particularly interested in bills pertaining to red lights on ambulances and police cars and blue lights on cars owned by volunteer firemen.

Firemen were urged to contact their Harrisburg legislators to ask that the bill permitting red lights on ambulances and police cars be passed. The bill pertaining to blue lights would permit volunteer firemen to use a blue light on their cars when going to a fire.

The meeting heard that the fire school will be held in Lewistown between Aug. 6 and 10, so that it will not conflict with the convention in Lock Haven. Harry W. Price, of Lewistown, invited the district association to hold its 1952 convention at Lewistown.

130,000 Pricing Charts Due At OPS By Weekend

The retailers' rush is on this week to get 130,000 Pennsylvania and Delaware pricing charts and registrations in to the Office of Price Stabilization before next Monday's closing of the Federal Reserve Bank. The Federal Reserve Bank reported today.

With less than 10 per cent of the estimated 40,000 consumer goods pricing charts, 60,000 grocery registrations, and 30,000 restaurant reports in by the close of last week, the regional OPS is looking forward to a last-minute stampede that will tax every facility of its district offices.

Moore gave the following reminders and suggestions to assist businessmen who are faced with the deadline.

Copies of regulations are available at OPS district offices, banks, chambers of commerce, business and trade associations.

Price charts must be filed under Regulation 7 or Amendment 2 by retailers of apparel, dry goods, furniture and floor coverings, housewares, musical instruments, radio

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closed and sold in 1911. Its teachers included Grace Ditzel, John Miller and Emory Ripka.

The Cross Lane school, which burned in 1913, was located on the corners of the Homer Neff, Gliden, Reeder and Decker farms, had Jennie Sweetwood and John Miller as teachers.

The Fleisher Gap school, one mile south of Colyer, was sold in 1919 and is the Edgar Miller hunting camp. Mr. Miller and William Rocky were teachers there.

The Pine Grove school, located one mile west of Red Mill, was sold in 1920, and Wilbur Runkle and

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Runville Couple Mark Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Witherite, of Runville, celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary at a family dinner at their home, Apr. 15.

The dinner was also in honor of their daughter, Mrs. Donald McKinley and children who left Apr. 12 for Hopkinsville, Ky., where they will make their home with her husband, S.F.C. Donald McKinley, stationed at Fort Campbell.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Justice, of Crescor; Mr. and Mrs. John Coner, Bellefonte; Mrs. Donald McKinley and children, of Milesburg; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Witherite and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. John Witherite and family, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Witherite, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Witherite, David Witherite and Walter Watkins, all of Bellefonte RD 3.

Lion Shrine Painted At Penn State

The Nittany Lion Shrine at Penn State has received another paint job, but this time officials say it won't wash off.

The Shrine was found with a coating of black paint and maple stain Friday morning. The paint came off and the stain didn't.

Two Borderline Cases



Building Contracts Total \$6,434,717 At Penn State

The General State Authority has awarded bids totaling \$1,892,388 for a new construction at the Pennsylvania State College, bringing to \$6,434,717 the amount of construction contracts at the college.

The new work comprises the construction of an addition to the Physical Education Building, for which the contracts total \$1,021,310, and the construction of dairy barns at a construction cost of \$655,287.

The contracts awarded for the addition to the Physical Education Building were:

- General construction, Baton Construction Corp., Philadelphia, \$744,400
- Heating, Riggs, Distler and Co., Inc., Philadelphia, \$92,900
- Plumbing, Philadelphia Mechanical Contractors, Inc., Philadelphia, \$91,535
- Electrical, Riggs, Distler and Co., Inc., Philadelphia, \$92,875.

The general construction bid was taken on April 11 after the plans had been revised so that proposed addition had been reduced by 21 feet, while prepropping of structural steel had been omitted and wood partitions had been substituted for metal ones.

The bids on the remainder of the project were taken on Feb. 14. The cost of the heating and plumbing work also was reduced by the reduction in the size of the building, the saving amounting to \$4,860.

The contracts awarded for the construction of the dairy barns were: General construction, Matthews L. Carroll, Inc., New York, \$503,500; heating, Francis J. Gannon, Hamburg, \$22,987; plumbing, (Continued on Page Six)

Altoona TV Is Scheduled

Reported to Be Only a Matter of Time

"Altoona will have television. It is only a matter of time until the Federal Communications Commission lifts the 'freeze'."

Will Union, commercial manager of the Altoona radio station WVAM, presented a general talk on television as it will affect the city to the Altoona chapter, American Business Club, recently in the Oneida room of the Penn Alto hotel.

Union pointed out the wrangling between the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) and the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS), as to the allocation of color television. Columbia is given the FCC approval to go ahead, but has been restrained by the courts until the matter can be given a further hearing.

He also explained very high frequency (VHF) and ultra high frequency (UHF). He said that Altoona, under previous FCC allocations was given a channel on the VHF. The FCC at a recent meeting cancelled the Altoona VHF and instead plans two UHF on channels 19 and 25.

Johnstown's WJAC-TV is on channel 13 on VHF. Union said that some form of adaptor would have to be added to sets now in use to carry the UHF, or channels above the 15 band.

Union outlined the steps necessary for local business concerns to secure television station permits. Under questioning by ABC members he admitted that at present two outfits are bidding for Altoona channels, but "that by the time of the FCC hearing there may be four or five others."

Sportsmen Ask Cleanup Of State Parks

A move to have the state parks in and near Centre county cleaned up was started at a meeting of the Centre County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs in Bellefonte on Thursday night.

The sportsmen voted to contact proper state officials to request better supervision and policing of the park areas, particularly Black Mountain, Whipples Dam and Poe Valley.

They discussed complaints of trash and unnecessary use of firearms at the parks by campers and picnickers.

It was announced that the deadline for sending applications for boys planning to attend the annual Junior Conservation Camp at Stone Valley must be in before May 10. They should be sent to Charles Stoddart, Jr., camp director, in State College. Centre county boys will be at camp from June 10 to June 22.

A resolution presented by the Bellefonte club and passed by the federation in January to allow fishermen to have two days' catch on their possession will be presented again at the meeting of the southeastern division of the State Federation.

A discussion on establishing a creel limit of six fish and use of barbless hooks was turned over to the Circle Club, Hillside Foundation, and the Young Patrons of Husbandry.

Before and after the exhibitions, Lawrence Loy, nationally known square dance caller, will call figures. Music will be by the Allegheny Coon Hunters. Admission is free.

Edward Gibbs, Impulse Slayer, Dies At Rockview, Monday

3 Members of "Last Mile" Club Pray

Edward Lester Gibbs, who killed Marion Louise Baker on an "impulse" January 10, 1950, died in the electric chair at Rockview Penitentiary early Monday morning.

With the prayers of three condemned men audible in the background, Gibbs went quietly to his death. The Darcy trio who received a series of respites prayed for him during and after the execution.

The 26-year-old Pitman, N. J. student entered the death chamber at 12:31 a. m. He was pronounced dead at 12:34 a. m.

Gibbs walked the short distance from his cell in the death house to the execution chamber, erect and composed with no visible emotion in his face.

He was accompanied during the short walk by the Rev. William H. Bollman, pastor of the First Reformed church at Lancaster. The minister read slowly aloud from the 23rd Psalm as they walked.

The Lancaster minister spent the entire evening in Gibbs' cell, reading to him from the Bible.

Gibbs entered the death chamber and sat in the electric chair without assistance. He closed his eyes for a moment, then opened them and looked slowly around the room. He was pale, but composed.

Gibbs, who told Warden J. W. Clauddy he was "perfectly reconciled" to his fate Sunday afternoon, was described as a model prisoner. He appeared in good shape mentally and physically during his last hours, made no special requests and wrote no letters.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Lester Gibbs of Pitman, N. J., spent an hour with him early Sunday afternoon and evening.

Gibbs' body was claimed after the execution by his parents. Burial was made at Pitman on Wednesday.

The tall, dark-haired youth was convicted of first degree murder for the slaying of Marion Louise Baker, 21, along a lonely road near Lancaster on Jan. 10, 1950. Gibbs was a senior at F & M at the time. The young secretary was beaten to death with a lug wrench.

The youth, however, was near collapse when he arrived at the death house late Saturday from the Lancaster county jail.

Clauddy said Gibbs ate heartily of his last meal, consisting of the regular prison fare.

Gibbs faced the electric chair with only one remote chance of escaping death still remaining—a last minute reprieve by Gov. John S. Pine.

During the past 15 months, his attorneys canvassed every legal means in an attempt to keep him from the chair. One after another, his appeals were turned down.

The latest appeal was to the State Pardon Board. That body, also, said no.

Gibbs made the trip to Rockview Saturday night by automobile, handcuffed to two deputy sheriffs. At the prison he was given a physical examination, his head was

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Greek Student Remembers...

War Refugee Was Born in Bellefonte

A loud clanging bell rings. The students rise out of their seats and walk quickly, but calmly out of the rooms and line up against the wall of the corridors. To most of the students the air raid drill means just a little more time out of class.

But to two students who arrived in this country a few years ago from Greece the drills are grim reminders of the days when Adolf Hitler was trying to conquer the world.

The boys, Gus and Angelus Nicholas, students at the Lock Haven High School were living on a small farm in Greece when the German army invaded Poland. They watched the Nazis sweep victoriously across the continent until it was looking at the door of their small country.

The small nation hurriedly handed out guns and ammunition to all persons old enough to carry them. But it was too late. The Germans pushed into their country.

As the air raid drill bell rings it isn't hard for them to vividly recall the scenes of horror that were so common to them in those days. They can remember very easily the circumstances under which their cousin was shot down.

Gus and the cousin were firing from a trench at a patrol of Germans. The Nazis fired ahead toward the trench. Realizing the gravity of the situation the cousin, the older of the two boys, was looked to for advice. He believed it would be best to surrender. He stood up

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KNOW YOUR HEIRLOOMS

By TOM ORMSBEE

The Tall-Post Spool Bed

The low-post spool bed was a familiar part of home furnishings between the years 1840 and 1865. Sometimes referred to as a "Jenny Lind" bed because it was in fashion at the time of her American concert tours, the early ones had four low posts with headboards and footboards either solid or arrangements of short slender spindles turned to match the posts.

Much less numerous and contained within a special area were its close relative, the tall-post spool bed. Structurally the main difference was one of height. The posts were from five and a half to seven feet tall and either surmounted by a full-size tester frame, like the bed shown here, or had knob turned finials. The parts of such a bed were fabricated on the newly developed power-driven lathes with which the early furniture factories were equipped from about 1850 on.

With the old foot-treadle-run lathes only comparatively short lengths of wood could be turned and shaped but the new type could take a piece of wood, six feet or longer, and turn it quickly and cheaply in the simple repeating design units now known as "spool turnings," so-called because produced on the same sort of lathe originally developed for mass production of the large and small spools required by the growing number of New England textile mills located in Lawrence, Lowell and kindred towns.

Furniture parts, mostly posts, legs and spindles were turned in other than spool-shaped units. With minor variations they ranged through bobbin, knob, sausage, vase- and ring to a large plain ring turning or that of two balls separated by a thin ring turning. Which design unit was used was a minor matter since all such lathe work went under the generic term of spool turning.

With such material turned in larger diameter for posts and falls and in small diameter for spindles, a bed could be readily assembled by cutting off the required parts from the long lengths of turnings as they came from the lathe.

Beds like the one illustrated are mostly found in long established homes in the Middle West and as far South as Mississippi. They also turn up with enough regularity in antique shops located in this area to indicate that they were popular in the region when they were new furniture. This bed is part of the furnishing of the Hercules Douman house, Villa Louis, at Prairie

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The Copy Hook...

By BILL MONSELL

FAIRWEATHER FAIR:

In addition to the many displays and demonstrations at the O. W. Houts and Son Builders' Show last week, one of the biggest attractions was the absence of mud and dust. Other than that it had all the earmarks of a small but well organized fair.

SERVICE SIGHTS:

Despite all the talk and official moves made, we are convinced the Armed Forces are still not unified. Saturday morning two Navy personnel were seen on Bellefonte streets, both wearing summer whites. Members of the National Guard unit home for the weekend chose their winter O. D.'s. On the Armed Forces, we noticed our first APs in town last Wednesday night. An AP is the Air Force term for Military Police.

DEMOCRAT'S DICTIONARY:

It has been called to our attention the vagueness of the term "loaded" appearing in used car ads in this paper. We offer the explanation that this term is used to cover any number of accessories that an auto might have such as radio, heater, fog lights, backup lights, driving lights, spotlights, etc.

WELFARE 'WELLDONE':

Borrowing a Navy phrase, we offer a "weldone" to Chairman Bill Brachbill, the Bellefonte Community Welfare Fund workers, and the general public. As of last week, only \$113.05 was needed to reach the goal of \$21,800. This represents some 99.22 percent of success. When all reports are in, it is expected the goal will be reached.

VIOLATORS' VEXATION:

After some experimentation, the Penn State Campus Patrol has managed to cut repeat parking violations with this method: A gummed sheet, about 9 by 6 inches, is pasted to the windshield of the incorrectly parked automobile. It apologizes to the driver for the inconvenience but points out the automobile has caused some inconvenience, too.

PARKS PROMISING:

The resolution made last week by a sportsmen's organization asking for a cleanup of state parks struck one Bellefonte resident with surprise. Touring the Black Mountain Park area about two weeks ago, the radiator of his automobile boiled over. Expecting to find some container at the park to use in refilling the radiator, he tramped over what seemed like acres before he could find a ginger ale bottle which he could use.

GRUESOME GAME:

We pass this story along, not for its authenticity, but for its unusual slant. It seems some State College youngsters were playing cops and robbers and decided to change to a war game. Choosing sides, one youngster said he wanted to be a North Korean.

Plan Antique Show At Williamsport May 1-3

The public is invited to attend the second annual antique show and sale in the parish house of Christ Episcopal church in Williamsport, May 1-3. The event is sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary of the church.

The show is open from 11 a. m. to 10 p. m. A cafeteria specializing in home made delicacies will be open from 12 noon to 7 p. m.

The show will be held in the new building located at Fourth and Mulberry streets.

Bellefonte Sailor On Repair Ship

James S. Neidigh, seaman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Neidigh, Bellefonte, is serving on board the repair ship USS Cadmus with the Atlantic Fleet.

Ships of this type can repair and overhaul services to the fleet units wherever necessary. Her tools range from precision optical instruments to the heavy forging equipment in the blacksmith shop.

Her large turbine-driven generators and fresh water distilling plant enable the ship to supply electricity and fresh water to other ships moored alongside for repairs.

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