

Flag Day Is Pennsylvania's Own Holiday

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

Flag Day, June 14, is a unique Pennsylvania holiday. It celebrates the official adoption of the Stars and Stripes as our national flag by Act of the Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia on June 14, 1777.

The American flag was adopted in Pennsylvania and created in Pennsylvania. It followed the general pattern of the thirteen stripes of the Union flag which had been designated by a committee headed by Benjamin Franklin, but replaced the British Union Jack on a blue field, which appeared on the earlier design by a circle of 13 stars. This design has been attributed to Francis Hopkinson, a talented Philadelphia lawyer and patriot who wrote the first American ballad and the first American popular song, as well as the first native instrumental music ever performed in our country. He was also one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Other stories of the making of the American flag have become part of our national tradition. The home of Betsy Ross in Philadelphia, where it is said the first flag was stitched together, is visited annually by thousands of school children, but whatever the origin of the design of "Old Glory," the flag was certainly a Pennsylvania production and one of our Commonwealth's many gifts to the Nation.

At a time when so many of our young men are engaged in battle in a foreign land and are bearing that banner, it is highly fitting that we in Pennsylvania, where our national independence, as well as the fundamental law of our land had their origin, should celebrate the adoption here of the flag which symbolizes both our union and our freedom.

Renovo Fire Co. Is Raided

Liquor and Gambling Devices Confiscated

The Emerald Hose Company of Renovo was raided recently by agents of the State Liquor Control Board and State Police.

Three men, agents of the hose company, were arrested on charges of selling liquor, by State Liquor Control agents, and also charges were filed by State Police for maintaining gambling devices, described as five slot machines.

At lengthy hearings before Alderman T. Mark Brungard at Lock Haven, they furnished \$1,000 bail each for appearance at the June term of Clinton County Court.

Defendants are Earl W. Fox, Richard Lovett, and Donald K. Hess.

The state agents testified that on three occasions they visited the premises and played the slot machines. The three defendants entered pleas of not guilty and waived hearing on the liquor charge. They were held under \$500 bail each. On the gambling charge they were held under \$500 bail each.

Assemblymen Move Pay Hike

To Raise Expense Accounts 50%

A move to increase their tax-free "expense" checks by 50 per cent was started by members of the legislature recently.

Under a bi-partisan bill introduced in the State Senate the legislators would boost the expenses from \$100 to \$150 a month.

The new payment schedule would set expenses for a two-year term at \$3600. Salaries of the members remain unchanged at \$2000.

In addition the members receive five cents a mile for the weekly trips to and from Harrisburg.

Newlywed Couple Is Honored At Dinner

Mrs. J. C. Grerer of Axemann, was hostess at dinner Sunday in honor of her grandson and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Hartman of State College. Mrs. Hartman is the former Betsy Boyer.

Present were Mr. and Mrs. Clair Grerer and family, Kenneth Linn, all of Altoona; Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Owens, of Bellefonte; Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Reish, Ronald Hartman and Edward Grerer, of Axemann.

Neff's Mills Is Unique Site of Summer Theatre

A new treat awaits followers of the little theatre in Centre county with the opening of the "Brookside Playhouse" in Neffs Mills, Huntingdon county, near Petersburg. Just a little more than an hour's distant from Bellefonte, has been opened the area's first summer stock theatre in an "entirely different" setting.

The Brookside Playhouse, in which the Neffs Mills Players are now engaged in presenting the first production, "Claudia," is a converted pre-Civil War grist mill, which, within three months has been completely renovated for this unusual and interesting venture.

The structure, used for the past four decades as combined stable and

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, JUNE 14, 1951

NUMBER 24

117 Centre Counties Win Degrees At Penn State, Monday

Spends Leave Here



Pvt. Leroy Sharer

Pvt. Leroy Sharer returned on Thursday to Camp Stoneman, Cal., after spending a 12-day furlough with his wife and parents at their home near Penn's Cave.

A former Bellefonte high school student, Pvt. Sharer took his basic training at Camp Cooke, Cal.

He is married to the former Susanna Gordon, of Bellefonte.

1,863 Men, Women To Take Part in Event

Degrees were awarded 117 Centre Counties at the commencement exercises held at Penn State in Monday afternoon. The college granted degrees to 1,863 men and women.

Commencement speaker was Francis Henry Russell, director since 1945 of the Office of Public Affairs, U. S. Department of State.

Among the candidates for degrees from Centre County are:

Bellefonte area—Victor J. Adams, Jr., BS in civil engineering; Kenneth G. Corl, BS in education; Katharine Holter Eby, BS medical technology; Robert H. Hamill, BS bacteriology; Horace J. Hartranft, Jr., BA arts and letters; Elmer J. Hauer, Jr., BS geology and mineralogy; Joseph L. Hauer, Jr., BS horticulture; Robert W. Kennedy, BS horticultural and biological chemistry; Elliott D. Potter, BA journalism; Kenneth W. Ridge, BS education; Isabel J. Sorenson, BS education; Richard Daniel Kelleher, BA education.

Balsburg—Horace R. Danner, MS physics; Barbara A. Wink, BA education.

Centre Hall—Paul D. Breen, master of education; Mary J. Myers, BS animal husbandry; Richard C. Ralston, BA commerce and finance; Harry D. Wolfe, BS agricultural engineering.

Clarence—Clair L. Tarman, BS agricultural economics.

Fleming—Samuel K. Brugger, BS agricultural economics.

Howard—Joanne G. Wagner, BS

(Continued on Page Six)

Two-Way Radios Endanger Vehicles Carrying TNT

Installation of short wave radios in police and other vehicles throughout the Commonwealth has created a new hazard, the State Highway Department has pointed out in instructions to citizens recently.

"Information and tests show a real danger of exploding dynamite caps by using two-way radio transmitter within 20 feet of an uncollected wire on the caps," the Department warned.

"Never carry dynamite caps in a car or truck equipped with two-way radio," the warning continued and added these caps should be transported in metal containers, never opened in the vicinity of a transmitter nor a transmitter operated within 50 feet of any electric blasting operation.

87 Register For Bible School At Milesburg

Eighty-seven children have been enrolled in the Milesburg Vacation Bible School, it was announced by the Rev. John Fassett.

The total includes 28 juniors, 13 juniors high, 26 primary and 20 kindergarten pupils. Classes will end June 15.

The instructors follow:

Mrs. J. J. Leitze and Mrs. Maude Hastings, assisted by Marceline Shekeler and Anna Gentzel, kindergarten section of the Methodist Church; Miss Charity Confer, assisted by the Misses Donna Johnson, Yvonne Brown and Barbara Gentzel, and Mrs. Albert Hassinger, primary section of the Baptist Church; Mrs. Ralph A. Miller, assisted by Mrs. Evelyn Martin, Mrs. Cooper, and Mrs. Joseph Rimmer, junior section of the Presbyterian Church; and Mrs. Edward Lutz, junior high section, Baptist Church.

Pvt. William Smoyer Trains At Ft. Lee

Pvt. William S. Smoyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fount O. Smoyer, of 319 E. Beaver Street, Bellefonte, is taking basic training in the Quartermaster Replacement Training Center at Fort Lee, Va.

Private Smoyer entered the Army in May 1951 at Bellefonte and was sent to Fort Lee for training.

The 14-week training cycle includes instruction in use of weapons of many types, personal protection and many phases of combat necessary to the soldier in the field. Also included are numerous classes of physical training and competitive sports in which the art of teamwork, so important in the Army, is stressed.

Far Away

My music teacher says I have a fine voice and should go far. Splendid! I'll help you pack.

The man disappeared when the woman screamed. The incident happened about 11 p.m.

The man had a crew hair cut and was wearing a checkered shirt. He weighed 150 or 160 pounds. A police investigation is underway.

Set Visitation Night

The fifth in a series of Grange Visitation Nights will be held Tuesday, June 19, at 8 p. m. in Progress Grange Hall at Centre Hall with Petersburg Grange as host. Baileyville and Bald Eagle Granges are presenting the program. Mrs. Joseph H. Owens, Pomona scribe, reports.

Two Fined on Conduct

Two Penn State students, Martin Memolo and Thomas Stegner, were given a hearing on disorderly conduct charges before William P. Bell, justice of the peace in State College last Wednesday. Both men were ordered to pay fines and costs amounting to \$15 each.

Let Us All Renew the Pledge



Centre Hall-Potter History Concludes; Recalls Events

The final installment of the history of Centre Hall as prepared by the Problems of Democracy class at the Centre Hall-Potter high school recalls tragic events in the area. The report concludes:

TRAGIC EVENTS

November 13, 1941—A few minutes past 8 p.m. Chick Goodhart's body was dragged from Poe Valley Dam. The 35-year-old farmer had loaded his gun about 8:15 a.m. Wednesday, November 12, and had gone duck hunting. Thirty-six hours later his body was dragged from the dam located between Coburn and Milroy by firemen who for 30 hours had been grappling in the 30-acre dam.

It is not known exactly what happened, but he left an almost phenomenal record of his activities. He was expected home for the noon meal, but the family was not alarmed until it got dusk. Searching parties were formed and relatives directed their search to Poe Valley Dam where they found his sedan at 11 p.m. The door was open and the key was still in the ignition.

Six County Boys Attending Camp

Six Centre county boys helped open the fourth year of the Junior Conservation Camp at Stone Valley, Sunday.

Representing sportsmen groups in their areas are Randall Kelly, Port Matilda; Richard Waring, West College; Myron Rudy, State College; D. L. Harold Byers, State College; Martin Kaufman, Bellefonte; and Robert Meyer, Millheim.

The high school students are among the 50 who are attending the camp for a ten-day period.

The camp, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs in cooperation with the College and agencies of the state government, teaches conservation to high school boys who then return to their own communities and promote the work through clubs and other groups.

Charles Stoddard, Jr., of State College, associate professor and director of extension for physical education and athletics at Penn State, is the general chairman.

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Penn State added a tenth game to its schedule in 1951 to oppose Lehigh in an Unemployment Fund benefit at Philadelphia. Prior to '51 Penn State had last played ten games in 1924.

The '52 schedule:

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Tom Roush To Head Pleasant Gap Legion Post

Thomas F. Roush was elected to the post of commander of the Pleasant Gap American Legion at the bi-monthly meeting at the Post home last week. He succeeds his father, Fred Roush, as commander.

Others elected for the ensuing year were:

Ira Mullinger, vice commander; Earl Marke, second vice commander; Albert Besecker, adjutant; Russell Spicher, finance officer; Samuel Springer, chaplain; Lewis Kresovic, historian;ack Corman, service officer; George Tibbins and Paul Corder, sergeant-at-arms.

The Post also approved the donation of a \$25 award to both the boy and girl honor student from Pleasant Gap, graduating in this year's class at Bellefonte high school.

It was also decided to sponsor the Pleasant Gap Junior Baseball team this year. Earl Gettiss announced that the Legion sponsored midget baseball team had won its first league game.

Fred Roush presided at the session.

Penn State To Play Ten Grid Tilts In 1952

For the first time in 21 years, Penn State will play a ten-game football schedule in 1952. Five of the ten games will be played at home.

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Four Die In Blast At American Viscose Corp. Plant, Lewistown

Acetylene Tank Blows Up in Main Building

Four workmen were killed and four others seriously injured—one critically—when an acetylene tank exploded in the main building of the Lewistown rayon-processing plant Monday morning. Numerous others were treated for minor injuries.

The Lewistown dead were identified as Warren M. Brindell, Jr., 27; Max Hutchinson, 42, and Richard Gemerling, 28 all of Lewistown, and Harold P. Jenkins, 34, of Yeagerstown, a suburb of Lewistown.

Thomas J. Ryan, personnel manager at the Lewistown plant, said 1,000 employes were working at the plant along the Juniata River when the acetylene tank blew up in the engineering department. He said the explosion knocked out three walls of the department and threw debris in all directions.

However, Ryan said "relatively small" damage was done to the plant and it continued full operation. Five Lewistown fire companies answered a general alarm at the plant where quantities of chemicals are used in the processing of the rayon.

The four seriously injured employes were taken to the Lewistown Hospital. Numerous others were treated at the plant dispensary.

The seriously injured 45, of McVestown; George Keiser, 46, of Lewistown, R. D., who was listed critical; John Ewing, 43, of Lewistown; and Robert S. Wolfkill 49, of Lewistown.

Reasons advanced at the second meeting for the rescinding of the previous action and the continuation of the current rate, were that the increase in the per capita tax rate would be difficult to merge with the existing wage and salary and that recent legislative action and proposed legislative action at Harrisburg would give an adequate income to meet the proposed financial needs of the borough for 1951-52.

The board voted 4 to 2 to set the rate the same as for 1950-51, 33 mills on real estate and \$5 per capita. Ray Baker, Ray Dotterer, William Keiser and Howard O. Triebold voted for the continuation of the existing rate and Mrs. A. K. Anderson and A. W. Hutchinson opposed it. T. J. Gates was not present.

Continued progress in formation of a joint school district in the Mountain Top area was noted at a meeting of the Snow Shoe township school board last week.

The citizens' committee working with school officials met with board members during the session to discuss the jointure of Snow Shoe Borough, Snow Shoe Township, and Burnside Township schools.

Location of the building, taxation and population figures were main topics of the talks.

Committee members are: Clair Hall, the Rev. Charles Ramp, Mrs. William Seppich, Frank Pachipka and Ivan Trubel.

In other action the board accepted the resignation of Miss Zoe Meel as president, and named Emil Matty as secretary.

The board voted to make major repairs to the Clarence school building, painting one room, repairing the heating, water and electrical system and replacing the wooden pillars with concrete block. A new roof for the Moshannon school was approved.

Board members warned parents that children destroying school property will be prosecuted. It was reported 12 window panes and sashes at the Clarence building had been broken since school ended.

The Finer Touches

French explorers in Africa came across a cannibal chief about to have a feast on a late enemy. They were surprised when the chief told them in perfect French that he had studied two years at the Sorbonne.

"What!" exclaimed the explorers. "You've been educated in France and yet return to feed on human flesh! It's unbelievable."

"Well," said the chief modestly, "now I use a fork."

Philip Meyer, 27, of Rebersburg, was treated at the Centre County Hospital dispensary last Wednesday for an injury to his fourth finger of the right hand. He received the injury while playing ball.

Damage to both vehicles was light.

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School Board Vote Rescinds Proposed Tax Increase

The proposed increase of \$250 in the rate of the per capita tax tentatively adopted by the Board of School Directors of State College borough was rescinded at a special meeting recently.

The board voted 4 to 2 to set the rate the same as for 1950-51, 33 mills on real estate and \$5 per capita. Ray Baker, Ray Dotterer, William Keiser and Howard O. Triebold voted for the continuation of the existing rate and Mrs. A. K. Anderson and A. W. Hutchinson opposed it. T. J. Gates was not present.

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