

PENNSYLVANIA NEWS IN BRIEF

Interesting Items From All Sections of the State.

GULLED FOR QUICK READING

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout the Keystone State.

Postmaster John S. Leiby, of Marysville, has resigned.

Water continues scarce through the northeastern part of the state.

Altoona has put severe restrictions on the use of its depleted water supply.

Carbon county hunters blame the cold, wet spring for scarcity of pheasants.

Four automobiles have been bought by the state for emergency use by the state police.

Allentown school board has decreed compulsory courses in agriculture and physical culture.

Samuel Commer has been appointed justice in Rockhill borough, Huntingdon county.

The American Specialty Manufacturers' association held their convention at Pittsburgh.

William Vitzon, aged thirty-eight, died in St. Vincent's hospital, Erie, after taking parli green.

Mrs. Johanna Spickek, of Hickory Ridge, was found wandering on the mountains near her home.

Stricken with heart failure, John Briner, sixty-five, died at his work at the Duncannon Steel works.

Charles Lawrence, aged twenty-two, of Connellsville, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head.

Bettors at Sunbury are excited over the threat of poor overseers to confiscate \$200 in election bets.

High cost of materials in the brew threatens to boost beer to six cents a glass in the anthracite regions.

The annual meeting of the Cumberland Valley Federation of Women's Clubs was held in Mechanicsburg.

John Fritz and Franklin Fritz, twin brothers, of Oil City, celebrated their eighty-ninth birthday anniversary.

At John Fisher's cattle sale in Gratersford, cows brought over \$100 each, the highest price being 143.25.

Falling under a train of cars at Centralia colliery, Patrick Lenahan was crushed so badly that he will die.

Because the automobile has come to stay, both Mauch Chunk Iveries are selling most of their horses and carriages.

While excavating for a new sewerage system at the Cumberland County Home, workmen found the skeleton of a man.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sholly, of Ansville, celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage with a family reunion.

W. J. Graff, of Williamsport, Pa., has been elected director of the Greensburg Y. M. C. A. at a salary of \$2000 annually.

Albert Betus has been promoted from sergeant, Sixth Infantry, to second lieutenant in the machine gun company.

Burns sustained while playing around a bonfire resulted in the death of Annie Matilda, five, at the Coal-dale hospital.

Falling into Conococheague Creek while trying to get a drink, Frank Snyder, aged sixty, was drowned at Chambersburg.

In payment of an election bet at Pottstown, Daniel Brunnick, of Chickens Hill, must eat a quart of molasses with a toothpick.

Ninety-three citizens of Cokeville, near Greensburg, have petitioned the court to have their charter of incorporation annulled.

Woodrow Wilson Claycomb was the name given to a boy born to H. C. Claycomb, at Altoona, after the president was re-elected.

His skull fractured by the kick of a mule, Walter Bahr, a Getchellville farmer, was found unconscious in his barn by a helper.

State hatcheries in October sent out 323,500 one and two-year-old brook trout and 24,000 black bass for distribution in streams.

When his team ran away at Shamokin, George Brunstetter was thrown under the wheels and was injured internally and will die.

Employees of the Pennsylvania railroad in Altoona have completed an eighty-foot locomotive, said to be the largest in the world.

Overcome by excitement that caused heart failure, Solomon Stuber, aged seventy-six, of Allentown, fell dead while killing a chicken.

Hazleton school board will allow the public to use school auditoriums and gymnasiums for social and cultural purposes, but not dancing.

Pride, not poverty, prevents many alien parents considering eyeglasses for the defective vision of their children in Hazleton schools.

Mushroom growing was demonstrated as practicable, in Hazleton, by Herbert Hutton, who raised a large crop in beds under his home.

David M. Mast, of Morgantown, harvested 3600 bushels of corn from twenty acres and ten acres yielded at the rate of 200 bushels per acre.

The eight-hour limit on hoisting engineers at the anthracite mines is declared inflexible in an opinion by Deputy Attorney General Hargett.

Cumberland county quarter sessions will hereafter be held in February, May, October and December, the first change in more than a century.

Heavy guards now protect the Lehigh Valley Coal company's pay trains, with their fortnightly districts of from \$30,000 to \$50,000.

Burglars broke into the Peerless Cigar store, Mahanoy City, smashed the cash register and slot machines and took goods to the value of \$150.

Lieutenant Carl Spatz, of Boyer town, an aviator now with General Pershing's column in Mexico, has been promoted to a regular army captaincy.

Charles Cominsky, of Springfield missing eleven weeks, was found wandering in the mountains, having lived on leaves and berries, he said.

Walking in her sleep Miss Ann Smith, a twelve-year-old Hazleton Heights girl, jumped from a second story window and was severely injured.

Thrown from the seat of his wagon when his horses ran away at Ashland George Beldin, a Roaring Creek farmer, sustained a fractured skull and will die.

The drought throughout the Perkiomen valley is compelling the farmers to haul water for their cattle, and a number of artesian wells are being drilled.

George Ambler, is probably the oldest prisoner ever arraigned at Punxatawney. He is charged with selling liquor without a license. He is 107 years old.

Peter J. Rebig, one of Conyngham's leading Democrats, held a flag-raising with addresses at his home, in honor of the re-election of President Woodrow Wilson.

The Bethlehem Steel company started a free night school for its workmen in the Quinn public school, and students of Lehigh University will be the teachers.

With his face badly battered, nose broken and otherwise hurt, William Monaghan, of Girardville, was found at Big Mine Run, wearing a convict's suit and badly injured.

Episcopal educators at Harrisburg have arranged for a complete survey of Sunday school work and religious education in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

Applying the bonus plan, salaries of about 4000 office and other employees of the Westinghouse Electric company, Pittsburgh, have been advanced twelve per cent.

Steps to prevent stream pollution by industrial plants were discussed by Fish Commissioner Buller and J. A. Viquesney, West Virginia game and fish warden at Pittsburgh.

Preparing for the coming legislature at Harrisburg, tons of supplies and big quantities of paper are being received, and committee rooms are in the hands of the renovators.

John H. Gould, aged fifty-six, oil producer and operator of Penn township, near Butler, was perhaps fatally injured when his clothing was caught in the clutch of a gas engine.

Alleging red phosphorus he handled caused necrosis to develop, Philip H. Glatfelter has begun suit for \$10,000 damages from the American Phosphor company, Clay, York county.

A shortage of natural gas is seriously curtailing the Pittsburgh industrial output, and the Glass Trust announces that a continued shortage means a big advance in prices.

John Curilla, whose auto ran down and killed Mrs. George Oakes, eighty of Humboldt, was censured by a coroner's jury for permitting a driver to operate the car without a license.

John Kritzman, who confessed to the brutal murder of Leo Brett, a nine-year-old Uniontown lad, is not believed to have been the boy's slayer. Connellsville police think the man is insane and are holding him pending an examination.

The action of the Lehigh Valley Traction company in charging ten cents fare from Norristown to Germantown pike has been appealed to court by the East Norristown supervisors, the company's defence being its fifty nickel-trip book.

George Meckes, a farmer of Limeport, Lehigh county, delivered a consignment of 500 bushels of potatoes to a customer, ninety-two bushels short. He was arrested, and in addition to being compelled to make good the shortage was fined \$50.

There will be fewer button strikes at Nesquehoning in the future, as the union men are determined to put buttonless employees on the shelf or make them pay up. Out of 1400 men employed at the colliery, there are only four who make the trouble.

Harold Burdett Watson, sixteen years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Watson, of Verron township, near Meadville, has died as a result of a rupture of the bowels, received while practicing with the Conneaut Lake High school foot ball eleven.

The gentleman burglar again made his appearance in Pittsburgh. He invaded the room of Anna Levi, seventeen years old, and when she screamed, he said politely: "Don't scream I will not harm you." The burglar's hobby is entering hotels, where he is always polite and mannerly with his victims.

Shot by an unidentified assailant, who concealed himself along the tracks near Southfork, R. L. Miller, engineer on a Pennsylvania freight train, stuck to the throttle and brought his heavy train to a stop before he collapsed. Police were unable to trace the shooter; the bullet lodged in Miller's neck but his condition is not serious.

The Mercantile Bridge company, owner of the Charleroi-Monessen bridge over the Monongahela river between North Charleroi and Monessen, will fight the attempt to have it freed of tolls and taken over by Washington and Westmoreland counties. A petition signed by 200 citizens of Charleroi asks that the bridge be freed.

GIFTS FROM SPACE

Wonderful Meteorites That Drop to Us Out of the Sky.

ONCE REGARDED AS SACRED.

In the Early Days They Were Objects of Reverence and Worship, as Is the Famous Stone at Mecca Today—Their Fiery Flight to Earth.

In considering the wonders of the universe have you ever realized how conspicuous among them are the meteorites, those wonderful messages dropped from the sky for us to wonder at and study? They are the only material objects which come to the earth from the vast outer world.

Among the collections shown in the National museum at Washington is a remarkably fine exhibit of meteorites. It includes complete meteorites ranging in size from the merest pebbles to great bowl-like masses and casts reproducing giant forms like that of Bacubirito, which has been estimated to weigh twenty-five tons and still rests where it fell in Mexico.

The National museum has issued a handbook and descriptive catalogue of the meteorite collections in the museum, written by Dr. George P. Merrill, head curator of geology, from which the following is an abstract:

Although meteorites presumably have fallen since time immemorial, skepticism was felt at first by both the popular and scientific minds regarding the possibilities of stones falling from space. In the few early recorded cases where meteorites seen to fall were recovered they were regarded as objects of reverence and worship.

A stone which fell in ancient Phrygia, in Asia Minor, about 200 years before Christ was worshipped as Cybele, the mother of the gods. Another, which dates back to the seventh century, is still preserved at Mecca, where it is built into the northeast corner of the Ka'aba and revered as one of the holiest of relics.

The great Casas Grandes iron, weighing about 3,000 pounds, now in the national collection at Washington, was found in an ancient Mexican ruin swathed in mummy clothes in a manner to indicate that it was held in more than ordinary veneration by the prehistoric inhabitants.

The earliest known undoubted meteorites still preserved are those of Elbogen, Bohemia and Ensheim, Upper Alsace. The first mentioned is iron, the second a stone. The iron was found somewhere about the year 1400 of our era. The Ensheim stone, seen to fall on Nov. 16, 1492, about the time Columbus made his discoveries, was accompanied with a loud crash like thunder. Portions of this stone are to be seen in the National museum exhibit.

The fall of a meteorite is usually accompanied by noises variously described as resembling the fire of musketry, cannonading or even thunder. If the fall takes place during the periods of darkness it is also accompanied by a flash of light and followed by a luminous rocket-like trail. These phenomena are due to the rapid passage of the objects through the air and a consequent rise in temperature, sufficient to produce fusion of the outer surface and even ignition, thus giving rise to the thin, dark, glasslike crust which is found to cover all stony meteorites.

The time of passage through the atmosphere is, however, too short to permit the heat to penetrate to great depths, and nearly all meteorites are quite cool, or scarcely warm, on reaching the surface of the ground. It is to the sudden rise in temperature and pressure of the atmosphere that the breaking up of a meteorite and its reaching the ground as a shower of fragments rather than a single individual are due.

We have little to guide us in estimating the speed at which a meteorite reaches the earth and its consequent power of penetration. The velocities as given by various observers vary between two and forty-five miles a second. The greatest recorded depth of penetration of a meteorite stone is that of Knyahinya, Hungary, where a 690 pound stone penetrated to a depth of eleven feet. On the other hand, still heavier masses have been found under such conditions as to lead one to infer that they scarcely buried themselves.

All statements relative to the temperature of meteorites immediately after reaching the ground must be accepted guardedly, owing to their extremely contradictory character. Some stones which fell in Styria in 1859 are stated to have remained in a state of incandescence for over five seconds and for a quarter of an hour were too hot to be handled. On the other hand, the Dhurmsala stone is said to have been intensely cold when picked up immediately after falling.

The largest known meteoric mass is that brought by Commander Peary from Cape York, Greenland. It weighed 73,000 pounds. The next largest lies in the plain near Bacubirito, in Mexico, and has been estimated to weigh some 50,000 pounds, while the third is that of Willamette, Ore., weighing 31,107 pounds. These are all iron meteorites.

The largest known individual aerolite of meteoric stone is that of Knyahinya, Hungary, weighing some 550 pounds, now in the Vienna National museum.

Dr. Merrill says that all known meteorites were produced by the action of heat and have yielded no traces of animal or vegetable life, although parts of their peculiar structures were at one time mistaken for organic remains.

Scientific Farming

PRUNING FRUIT TREES.

If Neglected In Fall Can Still Be Undertaken In Winter.

The pruning of fruit trees if neglected in the fall can still be undertaken in winter up to the time when the sap begins to flow and the trees show signs of renewed vitality. It is best, of course, to prune in the fall as soon as the sap has ceased to rise.

This gives a dormant tree a much better chance to heal over the pruning wound. The nearer spring the pruning is done the greater the likelihood that the wound may bleed. Where the sap bleeds from the wound it may attract insects that carry tree diseases, which may work back into the tree. This is one reason why it is well to cover the cut with paint where a large branch is cut off. It also is a reason for disinfecting cuts when trees have been subject to disease.

The main objects sought in pruning fruit trees are to cut out dead, useless or diseased wood and to keep the tree

from excessive wood production and with fruit trees of some classes to thin and distribute the fruit. Where this is properly done the strength of the tree will be concentrated on fruit production rather than on growing new sprouts, and the amount of fruit will be so controlled that the tree will bring to maturity its legitimate amount of choice fruit instead of bearing a large number of small, low grade apples or pears.

Pruning, in addition to turning the strength of the tree into proper channels, also aids the production of high quality fruits by eliminating branches and foliage that keep the proper amount of sunlight from the fruit. Finally, control of the shape of the tree makes the work of spraying and controlling diseases and gathering the fruit easier and less expensive. During the early years of fruit trees a vigorous use of the pruning knife frequently is necessary. At this time the entire life history of the young tree may be changed and its future shape greatly improved or injured. The farmer should prune with the natural form and habits of the plant with which he is dealing in mind and should attempt to promote the development of a normal tree shape.

The young tree should have a long, clean trunk reaching from the green-sward to the main branches. The branches should be encouraged to dispose themselves at equal distances about the main trunk of the plant. This will result in a more symmetrical development and a radiation of the branches away from the trunk of the tree similar to the ribs of an umbrella, with the difference that the branches will mark an irregular rising spiral around the trunk from the lowest branch to the highest. Such a tree form is much less likely to be damaged by storms or heavy snow.

With pears and apples the main body branches left at planting time should be not more than eight inches long. At the close of the first season, when pruning time arrives, the growth of that year should again be shortened to at least one foot, and each of the main body branches should be allowed to carry not to exceed three subdivisions, each of which should be eight inches long. The third year the same operation should be repeated, and instead of allowing each subdivision to carry three branches the number should be reduced to two. The arrangement of these branches should in all cases be based upon the same principle as the arrangement of the branches on the main body of the tree.

Where the pruning involves the removal of annual growth rather than large branches the cut should invariably be made immediately above a bud. If made just below a bud or in the middle of the space between buds the part of the shoot above the topmost bud invariably dies back, leaving a black and decayed stem, which is of no benefit to the plant and may provide a means of access for disease.



CUT OUT DEAD OR DISEASED WOOD.

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Charles M. Schwab states in the American Magazine that integrity and personality are two important things in salesmanship. He says:

"Integrity, incidentally, is one of the mightiest factors in salesmanship. If you have a reputation for stating facts exactly, for never attempting to gain momentary advantage through exaggeration, you possess the basis of all successful salesmanship.

"Next to integrity comes personality—that indefinable charm that gives to men what perfume gives to flowers. Many of us think of salesmen as people traveling around with sample kits. Instead, we are all salesmen every day of our lives. We are selling our ideas, our plans, our energies, our enthusiasms, to those with whom we come in contact. Thus the man of genial presence is bound to accomplish much more, under similar conditions, than the man without it. If you have personality, cherish it; if you have not, cultivate it. For personality can be cultivated, although the task is not easy.

"Nothing is so plentiful in America as opportunity. There are more jobs for forceful men than there are forceful men to fill them. Whenever the question comes up of buying new works we never consider whether we can make the works pay. That is a foregone conclusion if we can get the right man to manage them.

"All successful employers of labor are stalking men who will do the unusual, men who think, men who attract attention by performing more than is expected of them. These men have no difficulty in making their worth felt. They stand out above their fellows until their superiors cannot fail to see them."

THE WAY YOU LIVE.

- Engage in nothing that cripples or degrades you. Your first duty is self culture, self exaltation. You may not violate this sacred trust. Yourself is sacred; profane it not. Forge no chains wherewith to shackle your own members. Either subordinate your vocation to your life or quit it forever.—Amos Bronson Alcott.

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