

Republican News Item.

VOL. IX. NO. 25.

LAPORTE, SULLIVAN COUNTY PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1904.

75 TS. PER YEAR

This Is the Place To Buy Your Jewelry

Nothing in Town to Compare With
the Quality that We are Giving
You for the Low Price Asked.

Quality and moderate prices makes a force that irresistibly draws into our store the best patronage of this section. Many years here in business, always with a full line of goods above suspicion; chosen with a care and judgment commensurate with its desirability and adaptability to refine taste, makes our store a safe place to invest.

Repair work done on short notice and guaranteed, by skilled workmen. Your orders appreciated.

RETTENBURY,
DUSHORE, PA. The Jeweler.

COLE'S HARDWARE.

No Place Like this Place
For Reliable

STOVES and RANGES, COAL OR WOOD. HEATERS;

ONE OF WINTER'S GREAT DELIGHTS.

House Furnishing Goods, Tools of Every
Description, Guns and Ammunition.

Bargains that bring the buyer back.
Come and test the truth of our talk.

A lot of second hand stoves and ranges for sale cheap.
We can sell you in stoves anything from a fine Jewel Base
Burner to a low priced but satisfactory cook stove.

Hot Air, Steam and Hot Water Heating and
General Repairing, Roofing and Spouting.

Samuel Cole, Dushore, Pa

The Shopbell Dry Good Co.,
313 Pine Street,
WILLIAMSPORT, PA.

Cloak and Suit Department

What you will be shown here will be the very latest the best makers and designers are producing in stylish tailored suits, walking skirts, jacket tourist coats, rain coats, silk waists, children's coats and jackets.

New Silk Plaids

We have just received a nice line of silk plaids for waists. They are in various colors, including the new green and blue Scotch effects. You know how scarce they are. We are glad to get these good styles to sell for \$1.00.

Ladies' Silk Waists

Quite the best styles and qualities we have ever shown for the price, plain black and fancy colors, and neat, stylish plaid waists.

Fine French Flannels

For waists and dressing saques. We show in the best quality all the plain colors, such as navy blue, cadet, green, ecru, cardinal, garnet, castor, old rose, cream, gray and lavender, for
45c A YARD.

Fine Furs

Our furs combine the elegance and completeness of up-to-date fashion. All the latest and most approved styles can be seen here in ladies' coats, scarfs, boas and novelties in fur neck pieces with muffs to match in all the popular and best selling furs; then the prices are very moderate.

Mohairs

Are now an all the year around fabric for dresses, and especially for shirt waist suits. The demand for this material has made many of the most desirable colors scarce, yet we have been able to keep our line very complete in black and colors and fancy figured ones.

The Shopbell Dry Good Co.

Subscribe for the News Item

THE GRANGE

Conducted by
J. W. DARROW, Chatham, N. Y.,
Press Correspondent New York State
Grange

A SCHOOL PROGRAMME.

A Suggestion by the Lecturer of
Michigan State Grange.

At least one meeting during the year of every subordinate grange can profitably be given over to the discussion of the rural schools. There should be an intimate relationship existing between the grange and the school. Patrons should feel a special interest in the work of educating the young, so many of whom make the district school their only college. Every grange should have its committee on visitation of schools, and this committee should be composed of the most intelligent and progressive members. They should know by observation just what the local school is doing, whether its teacher is qualified not only but adapted to the needs of that particular school. Some teachers never fit in nicely anywhere, some fit everywhere. When there is a misfit successful work cannot be done. As a rule, the average farmer or average citizen, whether farmer or not, pays too little heed to the management and needs of the school. The progressive farmer and especially the progressive granger will find delight in this work, and he will not fail to make it a subject of discussion in the grange.

The following suggestive programme is furnished by the Michigan state lecturer, and of course it is merely suggestive. It will be varied to suit conditions:

SPECIAL SCHOOL PROGRAMME.
Music—"Columbia."
Roll call—Response by quotations.
Report of committee on visitation of schools.

Paper—"Value of Strong Discipline Over a Child During School Days."
Topic—"The Needs of Our Rural Schools."

(a) From a teacher's standpoint.
(b) From a patron's standpoint.
General discussion.

Question box:
Is our district school good enough, as it is?

How many pupils attending school in each district in your township?

Could not the small schools be consolidated with better results?

How many school patrons attended the last annual school meeting?

What points do you judge from in ascertaining that you have a good school?

In hiring a teacher what qualities do you consider a teacher must possess?

Are you satisfied with a commissioner who visits your district school but once a year and then stays but fifteen minutes?

Discuss the merits of oral spelling as compared with written spelling lessons.

Has your district voted to have a library? If not, how about the library money?

What progress is being made toward teaching agriculture in the public schools?

Michigan and Primary Reform.

The grange in Michigan is very active just now over primary reform. The legislative committee has issued an open letter to the patrons in Michigan upon certain issues in state affairs. They are sending to every Pomona and subordinate grange in the state a question blank, which is to be forwarded to each nominee of all political parties requesting that he fill it out and return the same to the county legislative committee. When these are so returned they are to be read in subordinate granges without comment. These questions bear on primary reform as advocated by the Michigan state grange. In this circular to candidates the committee says:

"We expect positive and direct replies. An evasive answer or failure to reply within a reasonable time will be taken to mean that you are opposed to the passage of this measure. Upon the character of your reply will largely depend our attitude toward you."

Primary reform is not a partisan question in Michigan, consequently the grange, having pledged its influence therefor, can advocate its passage.

A Beautiful Degree.

The sixth degree of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry can only be conferred by the state grange in regular or special session. It is not usual to confer this degree excepting at the annual meeting of a state grange, but it was done in Pennsylvania not long ago. A class of sixty-five took the degree. State Master Hill of that state predicts that the time will soon come when enthusiastic patrons will insist on having the opportunity provided them near home for being invested with this degree so they will not have to wait until the state grange session.

A good subject for discussion in the grange is the disfigurement of farm buildings by huge and ludicrous advertisements. They should be prohibited by law. The place to advertise goods is in the newspapers.

One grange insurance company covering three counties in Pennsylvania wrote \$300,000 in policies in one month. Total grange insurance in that state is \$15,000,000.

Variety in grange meetings is essential to keeping up the interest in grange work.

Some Suggestions For Improving Roads by a Farmer—Tire Drainage of Great Benefit—Wide Tires Keep Highways Smooth.

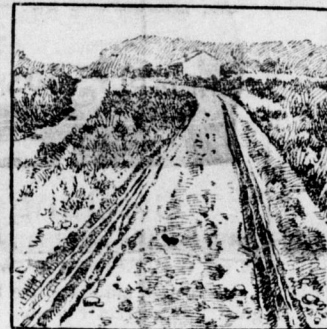
I wish to ask my brother farmers a few questions about roads.

Do you really like in wet weather to have muddy roads—roads of deep sticky mud? Do you like after the weather has been dry for awhile to have rough roads, with deep holes and deep ruts? Do you like in dry weather where the land is rather sandy to have the soil ground up into fine loose sand and have this sand as deep as possible?

I know you will feel insulted because of being asked such questions, and your answering word will be an indignant "No." But it is said that actions speak louder than words, and your actions say "Yes." Now, let us see about this business. How can we make the most and deepest mud with the least expenditure of time and labor? It needs clay—earth saturated with water and some kind of an implement to mix them with in order to make mud. In brickyards and potteries they are in the business of making mud by mixing clay and water. In some of them the implement used to do the mixing very much resembles a narrow tired wagon wheel, which is run over the hard, wet clay, pressing down with considerable weight, and in a remarkably short time makes beautiful mud of it. I here make the assertion that the inventive genius of man has never yet been able to contrive a better implement for making mud of a soil saturated with water than a narrow tired wagon wheel.

Now, I know there are some farmers who would prefer solid roads to muddy ones; smooth ones to rough and rutted ones, and, if sandy, to have the sand as firm as possible instead of loose as can be made. To such I will give a few of my ideas.

Have the roadbed drained so as to prevent as much as possible its becoming



RESULT OF NARROW TIRES.

ing saturated with water and of such a form that there will be no places for the water to stand on it. In many places a line of drainage under the center will be of great benefit. The most profitable investment I ever made of road money was when I put in some tiles in this way. Of course, the mud lovers objected to it and said it was "useless expense."

Where it is necessary to grade up the road do not do it with an old style road scraper (if it can be avoided) by dumping a scraperful in a place, for do the best you can to level it, after it has settled it will be uneven, leaving places for water to stand and make mudholes. Use a road grader. I used, years ago, what little influence I had to induce the town I lived in to buy the first road grader used in the county. Use that to grade up the road. Make the bed solid by the use of a heavy roller as fast as each thin layer of earth is brought up on the road. When the roadbed is in right form—that is, a little the highest in the middle, so that no water will stand on it—cover it with gravel if it is to be had, then go over and over it again with the roller. If we traveled the road all the time with rollers we surely would have no ruts or deep mud.

"But," says one, "you surely would not have us draw our produce to market with rollers?"

No, but I would have a cross between a roller and a narrow tired wagon—in other words, a broad tired wagon with tires not less than four inches.

In the world's fair ground there were every day to be seen traversing the grounds certain very heavy vehicles with very broad tires. These were steam rollers. All the wagons used there had broad tires, and notwithstanding the great number of heavy loads hauled there was not one single rut there during the summer, and a team could haul an immense load with ease. Now, every one will admit that broad tires are much better for the roads than narrow ones, but they say: "As long as others use narrow tires I will. I am not going to go in their narrow tire ruts with broad tires."

In some countries the law makes it a punishable offense to haul loads on the roads with narrow tires and cut them up. In this country the people do not want to enact such a law, and really it seems as though it ought not to be necessary. One would suppose that the good sense of the people would lead them to do what is for their interest. I have hope that in time the farmers will all get around to it, but the reform moves very slowly. I wish it would go faster.—C. P. Goodrich in Good Roads Magazine.

A Harrisburg special to the Philadelphia Inquirer says:

For several years the printing of laws passed by the Legislature in a sufficient number of the newspapers of the state has been discussed at every session of the General Assembly, but the matter never took definite form.

There is now a movement on foot, however, to have introduced a bill providing for the publication of all general laws in not less than two newspapers in each county of the state. This movement is the outgrowth of the general ignorance of many of the acts that are now being strenuously enforced by the Dairy and Food department and the State Sportsmen's Association.

Many persons have been arrested and fined for violation of laws of which they had no knowledge whatever, and it is argued that it is only fair to the people who are expected to obey the laws; that they should be given facilities of knowing something about them.

Under the present custom pamphlet laws only are issued to the county officials, and these in such small quantities that the general public has no means of learning anything about the numerous acts passed at every session of the Legislature.

New York, Ohio and other states have been printing the laws in the newspapers for several years under the direction of the state officials, and the result has been so satisfactory, it is asserted, that it is believed such a bill will have no serious opposition at the coming session of the Legislature.

Norman F. Smith of Jamison City, is suffering from the effects of an injury received at the saw mill of the Pennsylvania Lumber Company at that place last week. Just as the machinery was being stopped for the day Mr. Smith accidentally stepped into the lathe trimmer, the saw, which is a double one, cutting into the right foot and through the bone for about a quarter of an inch, just below the ankle and tearing out a piece of flesh an inch square.

The contract for the construction of the new railroad between Binghamton and Williamsport, has been awarded to a New York firm. This road will connect with the Delaware and Hudson; Erie, Delaware, Lackawanna and Western; Reading; Lehigh and Pennsylvania railroads. It is said that it will shorten the distance between Boston and New England points and Pittsburg and the west by one hundred miles or more.

The following resolutions were adopted by Colley tent No. 448 K. O. T. M.

Whereas: It has pleased the will of the Almighty God to again visit our community and take from among our fraternity Sir Knight Fred M. Hunsinger who after a very brief illness departed this life on Saturday morning, the 12th day of November 1904, being nineteen years of age, and, whereas, while we are willing to part with any treasure we may have, to Him our Supreme Ruler, still we feel as if the loss of our worthy Sir Knight was a loss of one who, had he lived to reach the age of manhood would have been one of the greatest treasures on this earth.

Sir Knight Hunsinger was a kind, sober and industrious young man, one who was always ready and willing to do his part in anything undertaken by his associates. He was a member of our order, of which we could feel proud. His character was pure and spotless, and his good name shall be forever held in high esteem by his brethren Sir Knights.

Therefore, be it resolved, that we extend to the bereaved family our sympathy toward assisting them in this, their hour of bereavement. That our charter be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days, and a copy of these resolutions be spread on our records and be published in the county papers and the Bee Hive.

G. D. Dieffenbach, }
L. L. Ross, } Com
D. L. Erle, }

In pursuance of plans previously announced in this paper the Sullivan County Sunday School Committee have decided to hold District Conventions or Rallies in the different districts of the county. These districts include one or more townships as the case may be. The purpose of these gatherings are to discuss methods of Bible teaching and study and to compare ideas and experiences growing out of Sunday School work. The following conventions have been decided upon for next week, viz:

Wednesday, December 7, at Hills-grove, in the afternoon and evening.
Thursday, December 8, at Muncy Valley, afternoon and evening, if the information of the writer is correct, and on Friday, Dec. 9, at Dushore.

The attention and attendance of Sunday School workers and the general public are invited.

VERNON HULL,
County Chairman.

A shooting match of more than usual interest was pulled off at the range of the Dushore gun club on Wednesday of last week, the contestants being Mr. Sutliff of Mildred, and Fisher Welles of Wyalusing. The stakes were \$200 a side, with numerous side bets amounting to several hundred more. The first event was on October 29, and was for 25 clay pigeons. Sutliff broke 23 Welles 18 out of a possible 25 bats. The second event was for 25 live birds each. Welles killed 18 and Sutliff 13 out of a possible 25 live birds, Sutliff winning by one point and taking the money.

It is announced that the big life insurance companies are about to make an important departure by adopting the plan of issuing policies to total abstainers at rates considerable below those exacted in the case of even moderate drinkers of alcoholic beverages. Moderate drinkers they will not issue at all. This is about as forcible temperance lesson as could be taught. And yet with insurance companies this is purely business, as they believe that indulgence in intoxicants tends to shorten life.

The rural residents around Williamsport, says the Evening News, are facing a water famine and it is feared one that will last throughout the winter. Wells that were always reliable are nearly dry, the water in them being lower than for several years, and already some farmers are compelled to carry water for even the cattle from the deeper wells of their neighbors. If the ground should be frozen much deeper when the needed rain comes, the water instead of soaking through the ground and filling the wells, will run off into the streams.

The streams in this county are unusually low for this season of the year, and unless there comes heavy rains before many weeks, should the winter be a severe one, there will be a scarcity of water in many parts of the county.

Thanksgiving Day was appropriately observed at Danville Hospital for the Insane, by giving the patients, who number more than one thousand, a genuine Thanksgiving dinner. In preparing this meal a number of the patients of the more harmless sort are pressed into service and prove very useful in preparing the turkeys, of which one hundred are needed, and they also greatly assist in paring the twenty bushels of potatoes that are required for this dinner. Four hundred mince pies, three hundred bunches of celery and fifty gallons of chowchow are served at this dinner.

There is an eighty-year old long-range forecaster of the weather in Middle Haddan, Conn., who predicts that the coming winter will be one of very great severity, a season never to be forgotten. He says there is to be a great fall of snow from the 7th to the 10 of December. The old gentleman should be pensioned or else the weather bureau should get out an injunction.