

Republican News Item.

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LAPORTE, SULLIVAN COUNTY PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1905.

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.

Ladies' and Misses' Ladies' Tailored Suits
Coats
At half price. Away down in price.

The great cloak sale that began here a few days ago has certainly been appreciated by a number of ladies who have bought stylish new winter coats at half the regular price and less.

We believe the same qualities combining fit, finish and materials are not to be had in the city.

We have a few ladies' fine Tailored Suits left which we will close out at less than half the former prices. The materials comprise the newest fabrics shown for winter wear; they come in plain, black and colors, also fancy mixed materials.

Ladies' Muslin Underwear.

We cater to your needs with a stock of all qualities from the lowest to the highest grades of Muslin Underwear. All are made of good muslin and cambric neatly trimmed with embroidery and laces; every garment is generous in proportion and cheap in price.

Good Wool Blankets

Would you invest in a pair of good wool Blankets, if they were very cheap? Come in and let us show you what we have let and how cheap you can buy them.

AN EXTRA PAIR WILL COME IN GOOD THESE COLD NIGHTS.

Grey Cotton Blankets

We have a few pairs of Grey Cotton Blankets that are being closed out at much less than the former price.

There is comfort in these Woolen wearables these cold days; then they have all been reduced. Better look them over.

Men's and boys' woolen Gloves.
Men's and boys' scotch Gloves.
Ladies' and Misses' woolen gloves.
Ladies' and Misses' wool Mittens.
Ladies' Jersey cloth Leggings.
Misses' Jersey cloth Leggings.
Ladies' Knit Golf Blouses.
Ladies' Flannel Skirt patterns.
Ladies' Outing Flannel Gowns.

THE GRANGE

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

MAINE STATE GRANGE.

There is \$73,300 Invested in Grange Halls in the Pine Tree State.

The recent session of the Maine state grange was the largest in numbers ever held. Hon. Obadiah Gardner is master. His annual address was a careful resume of the work of the Order in the state during the past year. His arraignment of the game laws elicited approval. Another point he laid emphasis on is that no state master should ever accept political office of any kind while holding office in the grange. He said that seventeen new granges had been organized during the year and eleven reorganized, a gain in membership of 5,379. Eleven new grange halls have been dedicated during the past year, making \$73,300 invested in grange halls in Maine. Relative to the road question he said, "The mud tax levied on our people by the miserable condition of the common roads is the highest we have to pay." He advocated government aid in road building and the bringing to bear the influence of the grange upon congress. He had an earnest word for the establishment of a parcels post. The secretary's report showed the total membership in the state to be 45,466 in 375 granges. Penobscot county has forty-four granges, with a total membership of 5,831, and has gained 780 the past year. There are two other counties in the state that have a membership exceeding 4,000. One grange—Houlton, No. 16—has 751 members, and five others have over 400.

New Hampshire State Grange.

At a recent meeting of the New Hampshire state grange the condition of the Order in that state was reported to be very gratifying. The total membership at the close of the fiscal year, Sept. 1, was 27,466, and in view of the fact that the population of New Hampshire is only 500,000 and that 27,500 are members of the Order the Granite State can rightfully claim to be the leader in grange membership, the total population being taken as a basis of comparison. The net gain during the year was \$22. The total membership of the Pomona granges is 8,256, a gain of 358. The grange has to its credit in cash \$224,466.78. The sixth degree was conferred on 318 candidates. The Oberon quartet of Lacombe furnished music for the occasion.

Pomona Grange to Run County Fair.

Somerset county Pomona, Maine, has purchased the grounds of the Agricultural society of Skowhegan and will henceforth conduct the county fairs in Somerset. This will be a novelty that will be closely watched by the Patrons all over the state. The grange assumes the indebtedness of the Agricultural society, which is \$1,100. The agreement further specifies that if at the end of twenty years the Pomona does not wish to renew the lease the property known as Fairview park is to lapse to the town or city of Skowhegan for a public park.

Salaries of National Officers.

The national grange committee on finances recommended the following salaries: Five hundred dollars per year and \$3 per day and actual traveling expenses for the national master, \$400 and \$3 per diem for the worthy lecturer, \$1,200 and traveling expenses for the worthy secretary, \$100 and traveling expenses for the worthy treasurer and \$3 per day and expenses for the members of the executive committee. It was also recommended that \$7,000 be set aside as a lecture and extension fund.

Parcels Post.

Strong resolutions in favor of the parcels post were adopted by the national grange. The committee laid emphasis on the fact that the rural mail service now has the machinery for an efficient parcels post system, and while it did not advocate a rate that would drive the express companies out of business, nevertheless they thought the people had a right to demand of congress an extension of the usefulness of this system.

Eligibility.

Any man or woman or child over fourteen years old if living on a farm or owning or managing a farm, whether living on it or not; any person whose interests are rural, like a minister in a country community, a county school-teacher, etc., is eligible to membership.

A Good Idea.

The California state grange in recent session passed the following resolution: "Resolved, That in choosing our representatives to congress we will vote for those who will promise to legislate for the establishment of an adequate up to date parcels post."

The Troy (Pa.) Mutual Fire Insurance company carries about \$2,500,000 insurance for its members.

The national grange wants Indian corn to be the national floral emblem.

Towanda, Feb. 9.—The trial of Mrs. Sophia Merrit, one of the family of five charged with the murder and burning of Maggie B. Johnson, her son's wife in September last, came to an unexpected ending this afternoon when the District Attorney announced he had no more evidence, and the court directed a verdict of not guilty.

Biglar Johnson, the dead woman's husband, pleaded guilty on Tuesday to the general charge of murder and evidence is now being taken to determine the degree of guilt. The murder charge against Mrs. Merrit's twin children, Alanzo and Nancy, for complicity will, it is understood, be dropped.

A proclamation "addressed to the American people" was promulgated last week from the various State capitols under the auspices of the National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry and various national labor and agricultural organizations, declaring that Washington's birthday be observed as "Farm, home and factory day." It advises that upon this day the people concentrate their thoughts upon the conditions for the betterment of the home, farm and factory. The proclamation recites a number of reforms as the object of the movement; among them being government authority over railroads; sufficient to abolish unjust rates and discrimination, a parcels post permitting packages up to eleven pounds weight and a post check currency system.

In the hope of restoring his sight which became impaired twenty years ago, Harry Murphy of Williamsport, at one time a printer, fasted for thirty days, and during that time took nothing but water, and now takes such nourishment as oranges, figs, dates, eggs and milk. During his thirty days' fast he lost thirty pounds. Prior to the treatment he is taking Mr. Murphy was able to distinguish, indistinctly, the shadow of a form placed between his eye and the light. Now he can, he says, trace the outline of a human form. A change in the pupil of the eye is noticed, as it dilates and contracts as the light strikes it. Mr. Murphy feels confident that his sight will be restored.

Mrs. Lester Larimer, wife of a bank cashier of Ebensburg, recently gave birth to a son, the seventh one in succession. The family have been informed that President Roosevelt said he would give \$1000 to the father of a family of seven sons born in succession, and friends of Mrs. Larimer have requested the President to forward his check for the amount to the Ebensburg winners.

The president's recommendation that congress provide for the collection of statistics of marriage and divorce is an important step toward a remedy for what has become recognized as one of the most degrading evils of this country.

No official census of divorce has been taken since 1886. When Carol D. Wriggs made his report on marriage and divorce for the twenty years between 1866 and 1886 he discovered the disagreeable fact that the divorce rate had increased 157 per cent. while the population had increased only 60 per cent. In 1867 the number of divorce cases in the United States was 9937; in 1886 no less than 25,535.

This showing is bad enough, but there is reason to fear that the new investigation will show a still worse condition. The number of American divorces is now unofficially estimated at 59,000 annually an increase of 100 per cent in the last 19 years.

Taking the country as a whole, in 1900 it is estimated that there was one divorce to every fifteen marriages.

A Forest City woman was married Monday, eloped next day, was arrested on the third, brought back home on the fourth, forgiven by her husband on the fifth and went back to live with him on the sixth. It is not stated but it is presumed, like the creator of earth, she rested on the seventh.

Before the present legislature finishes work an act will be introduced pensioning school teachers who have served continuously for thirty years. The provisions in section 1 are as follows:

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that from and after the passage of this act, public school teachers who have taught in the public schools for thirty consecutive years shall be retired upon reaching the age of sixty years, upon a pension equal to one-half the salary received by such teacher during the last year of his or her actual teaching.

Warrants were served on eight Scranton merchants last week charging them with selling oleomargarine for butter and selling it without a license. The warrants were sworn out by the agents of the pure food department of the State, who for the last few weeks have been going over this territory and securing evidence against dealers who are using adulterated food in place of the real article.

The Pennsylvania Odd Fellows Anniversary Association will hold their twenty-first annual session at Sunbury, on Wednesday, April 26th next, whereby appropriate exercises and ceremonies they will observe the eighty-sixth anniversary of Odd Fellowship in America. At this session the Shamokin contingent will make a strong effort to have the association meet there in 1906. The annual session of the association will be held in the Hall of the Sunbury Lodge 203, I. O. O. F., at eleven o'clock A. M. There will be a monster parade, participated in by Odd Fellows Lodges from every nook and corner in Pennsylvania. The Fourth Regiment of the Second Brigade, Patriarchs Militant, I. O. O. F., will participate in the parade. Addresses will be delivered by prominent members of the order. A number of the Grand Lodge will be in attendance and there will be a special session of the Grand Lodge in the evening to admit new members. The entire program for the day is not complete, but will be announced later. The Odd Fellows' Orphans' Home of Central Pennsylvania, being located so near Sunbury, will no doubt cause an unusual large number of Odd Fellows to attend the anniversary.

It is not every town that can boast a "lady dog catcher," but Towanda enjoys that unique distinction. When the ordinance requiring the muzzling of dogs was passed on account of the recent mad dog scare, Conrad Knowles was made the official supervisor of canines. "Cooney" apparently did not perform his duties in that strenuous spirit that would make the law a living force and incidently cause the fifty cent pieces to accumulate in the pockets of his jeans, or at least his wife Katie Jane took that view of the case, for when her man's ambition dropped to lowebb she took the official noose in hand and sallied forth.

What is more she proceeded to do business, and on Wednesday she came up main street with a most unwilling dog following at the end of a rope thrown over her shoulder. She asked for the key of the pound and unaided thrust into durance vile and in danger of death the unmuzzled bruta. Next day another victim was added to her list, and now she carries the official rope and the keys to the dog jail. It is thus some towns have fame thrust upon them.

Wilson Nevil and his wife Clara Nevil, have instituted a damage suit proceedings against the borough of Picture Rocks, asking \$15,000 for alleged injuries which Mrs. Nevil received on February 11, 1904, by a fall on Elm street, Picture Rocks, caused by ice on the sidewalk.

She claims \$10,000 for her injuries, and Mr. Nevil asks \$5,000 for the loss of her services. Walter C. Gilmore Esq. appears for the plaintiffs.

That President Roosevelt and John Mitchell, the labor leader, have an understanding as to the course to be pursued when the present wage scale in the anthracite region expires, is believed to be evidenced by the advice given by the president to the wine workers who called on him at Washington on their way home from the national convention. To these miners the president eulogized Mitchell very highly, and strongly counseled them to take his advice in any emergency which may come up. It is now believed that Mitchell will urge the miners not to insist upon the recognition of the unions by the operators, nor that the collection by the latter of the dues of the miners be turned over to their organization. It is known that the anthracite operators have informed President Roosevelt that they "will never consent to the closed shop". The operators are confident the miners cannot win on this basis, and that there would be a strong revulsion of public sentiment in the operators' favor if the miners should begin another titanic struggle, such as was witnessed in 1902 on this issue. The operators will consent to a renewal of the present wage scale for another term of three years and it is now believed that Mitchell will urge the miners not to attempt to wring the last possible concession out of the operators, but to be content with present conditions. President Roosevelt, taking time by the forelock is known to be urging a continuation of the scale fixed by his strike commissioner.

It is a serious question, however, whether Mitchell can control the action of the miners. It is known that the strike of 1902 was begun against his advice, and next year may see history repeating itself.

William Lieb, of Hazelton the mercantile appraiser of Luzerne county district, who was going to collect a mercantile tax from persons who are soap club agents, has received a letter from the Larkin Soap Co. in which the law is clearly defined and shows that a tax on such persons cannot lawfully be levied.

Representative Morrell, of Pennsylvania, introduced in the house a bill providing that no person shall hereafter be appointed to any position in the government service who at the time of his or her nomination is, or who at any time antecedent thereto has been divorced for any cause save where the person divorced is the innocent party in a case of adultery.

At the approaching election Williamsport will vote on a proposition to abolish the curb stone market. It is contended that the curb stone market is not patronized by farmers, but by hucksters, that it is a nuisance to the business section of the city, and that higher prices for vegetables prevail there than where they have no curb stone market.

Following a custom that has prevailed in his family for generations Councilman Peter Sersholtz, of Pottstown, made a test to discover whether the snow now on the ground will be thawed by sunshine or rain.

Propping a big snowball several inches above the ground, he placed a lighted candle under it. Soon the flame pierced a hole through the snowball and it was observed that every drop of the water had been absorbed, none falling to the ground. This indicates that the snow will be thawed by sunshine alone. Had water fallen from the snowball it would have indicated rain. Councilman Sersholtz maintains that the test is infallible.

Carbon county is reported full of detectives who are buying spices, syrups and batter from merchants and butter and milk from dairymen to learn whether any of these articles have been adulterated.

Laquin has won considerable distinction, not the least of which is that of having the largest slack barrel cooperage plant in the world.

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