

# Republican News Item.

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LAPORTE, SULLIVAN COUNTY PA. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1907.

75C 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.

## Good Muslin Underwear.

None but the best Underwear can find a place in this store—not necessarily the most expensive garments, for we have plenty of Underwear at low prices, but those which are well made of good material, properly shaped, carefully finished and generously cut—our prices are right, another feature sure to please you.

## Corsets for all Figures Knit Underwear

Every figure has its appropriate corsets. How about your knit underwear supply here. We use the greatest care in giving you the customer the right model. Have you everything you need? If not let us furnish what you want.

## Women's Coats, Suits, Skirt and Furs

"Closing out all goods in season," that's the rule. To accomplish that sometimes requires sweeping reductions and losses, nevertheless the rule is lived up to. For the next few days we will give some wonderful values in women's fashionable apparel. They will be offered regardless of the former selling price. Every garment is marked at what in our judgment it will bring. It is difficult to get a correct idea of these splendid qualities until you see the garment and get the prices.

## New White Goods.

We are showing some new Novelties in fine cotton and mercerized fabrics for shirtwaists, neat designs in stripes, figures and checks, also a complete line of plain materials for dresses, including India, Lunon, Persian Lawns, French Lawns, Mulls, Swisses, etc.

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## COAL MEN APPEAL FROM Assessments.

Valuation Will Now Be Fixed  
By the Court.

Last Saturday was the day fixed by the County Commissioners to hear appeals from revised assessments fixed by County Commissioners on coal lands throughout the county. The appeals brought a large number of parties interested to the county seat. Among them were Hon. William Connell, of Scranton, Manager of the Connell anthracite mining company, and also one of the anthracite strike Commissioners appointed by President Roosevelt, with J. S. McAulty, A. H. Hale and Thos. V. McLaughlin, all connected with said company. Seth T. McCormick Esq. of Williamsport, their attorney was also present.

The Jackson Estate interests were represented by W. W. Jackson and E. J. Mullen, Esq.

The O'Boyle-Foy anthracite coal company also had representatives here. A. Walsh Esq. appearing as their attorney.

The County Commissioners announced that they were ready to hear any statements or testimony in regard to the valuations they have fixed upon these properties. Much to their surprise the companies represented, declined to offer any testimony or request any reduction in the assessments, but stated that they had decided to appeal to higher court, and withdrew from the office.

The matter will therefore now go to the court of Common Pleas of Sullivan county for adjustment.

In Bernice district there are at present four coal companies operating. They are the Connell Anthracite Mining Company, the lessees and successors of the Old State Line and Sullivan R. R. Co.; the Northern Anthracite Coal company, lessees of the lands of the estate of George D. Jackson, the O'Boyle-Foy Anthracite Coal company and the firm of Randall and Schaad Brothers.

The Connell Anthracite Company lessees covers about five thousand acres of land of which about one thousand acres are coal land. The Jackson Estate has about four hundred acres of coal land leased to the Northern Anthracite coal company, and the O'Boyle-Foy company about two hundred acres. The acreage of the Randall and Schaad Brothers is very limited.

These lands have never been assessed at any thing like their value until this year. Previous to the year of 1904 they were permitted to go upon the assessment books at the paltry valuation of \$2 per acre. In 1904 the Commissioners raised them to \$18 per acre. The present board of Commissioners after a very full and complete investigation in which the acreage, tonnage and values were carefully ascertained by mining engineers, fixed an average valuation of about \$50 per acre. It is from this assessment that the various companies propose to appeal.

That the County Commissioners have done nothing more than their plain duty in raising the valuation on these valuable coal properties will be apparent to everybody who will consider the matter.

Farm property and village and town properties have for years been assessed at a fair valuation. Why not the coal companies? It is doubtful if an acre of coal land in Bernice district could be bought for less than \$1,000. The owners of the lands are getting from \$1500 to \$2000 per year in royalties.

If the valuations that the County Commissioners have placed upon timber lands and coal lands in Sullivan county are not disturbed it is calculated that the county debt can be wiped out in about eight years, after that time the county tax rate can be much reduced.

The Commissioners have done

their duty in these matters and the people and tax payers throughout the county will hold up their hands in their efforts to have the most valuable products of the county properly assessed.

The Fifty-ninth Annual Report of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company.

The fifty-ninth annual report of the Penn Mutual exhibit company, just published, is a remarkable exhibit, in view of the adverse conditions obtaining the history of the company, showing that the public has confidence in proper methods of life insurance administration.

The annual report may be condensed and summarized as follows:—

Total assets, Dec. 31, 1906	\$83,716,951
Gain in premium income	1,205,301
Gain in interest, rents, etc	555,713
Death claims paid	3,649,409
Endowments and annuities paid	1,577,567
Dividends to policyholders	2,191,717
Gain in dividends	321,247
Total deferred dividend fund	5,594,678
Gain in deferred	590,442
Total general surplus fund	5,942,350
Gain in general surplus fund	865,216
New business written in 1906	\$7,000,000

When one considers the gains recorded above, and adds to it the further facts that a larger business than was ever written or cared for by the Company in its history was produced and protected in 1906 at a reduction in the expense ratio (exclusive of the exactions by way of taxation) to the very moderate and conservative figure of 15 per cent, it must be borne in upon any fair-minded policy-holder or contemplating insurer that the Penn Mutual, of all the Companies, comes the nearest to complying with the apostolic injunction of doing the things that should be done and leaving undone the things that should not be done.

The Company is earnestly desirous that every economy consistent with the proper conduct of its business shall be exercised, and its underlying purpose is that the interests of each policyholder shall be impartially and fairly considered. It means that every policyholder in the Penn Mutual is entitled to and actually gets a square deal.

The Penn Mutual has behind it a history of honorable dealing and steady growth for sixty years, and this is due to the high character of not only the management but to those who come into direct personal contact with the policyholders,—the agency force. Messrs Bourne & Durham, of Philadelphia, have general supervision over Eastern and Central Pennsylvania, and in this section the Company's interests are efficiently cared for by Mr. M. A. Scureman, District Agent, Welles Bldg., Wilkes-Barre, and Chas. M. Bander, special agent, New Albany, Pa.

Trading stamps will be negotiable if the bill introduced in the house at Harrisburg by Representative O'Shell, of Allegheny, becomes a law. It provides that firms or individuals issuing trading stamps or any similar device shall have the value of each stamp printed on its face, and that it shall not be necessary for the holder to obtain any specified number of stamps before his collection can be redeemed.

The Lycoming County Medical Society has selected Ellenton as the location for the proposed hospital for indigent persons, who are sufferers from tuberculous. Ellenton is located on the Susquehanna and New York railroad near the junction of Lycoming and Sullivan counties and is said to be an ideal location for such an institution. About 300 acres of land will be donated by the railroad company, of which 100 acres is cleared land and the remaining 200 acres heavily wooded. State aid will be enlisted in carrying the project to success.

To have his hair turn gray at the early age of six years is something remarkable, but such is the case of Boyd, the young son of John Ertwine of Eleventh street, Bloomsburg. About a year ago his parents noticed that the boy's hair, which was dark, was beginning to turn gray in several places. What caused the hair to turn color is not known, as the child is healthy and has never had a serious illness.

## Dodging Taxes

Is Said to Be the "Snake" in  
Two Bills Before the Legis-  
lature. For Benefit of Lum-  
ber Trust.

To exempt the Tanning Trust from taxes on more than half a million acres of forests, and compel the farmers and other people of many counties additionally burdened in order to gorge the pocketbook of monopoly, is a scheme discovered in a brace of bills introduced by Representative James Brann, of Warren county who was in the last legislature also.

William D. Shields, of Forest county; Cressy, of Columbia, and Flynn, of Elk, propose to make the hall of the house ring with a denunciatory exposure of this "serpent," which they regard as being about as monstrous as any that has ever appeared here for the purpose of swallowing up the savings of the "country" people and enabling a trust to fatten at the expense by escaping payment of a fair share of contributions to the revenue of the local treasuries.

One Brann bill would "define and establish auxiliary forest reserves." The other is to "provide for the taxation of auxiliary forest reserves." The evident aim is to make the legislature think that the object is public spirited and philanthropic, as pretended provision is made for posterity through fostering what would be misrepresented as taking care of the "growing trees" covering extensive regions comprising the mountains and hills.

But, in Mr. Shields' view, the real purpose is to procure enormous abatement of taxes for the Central Pennsylvania Lumber company, known as the "tanning trust." When the details of the various rates of taxation of forest land for local purposes are at hand here they are expected to show that \$100,000 a year would be a low estimate of what certain counties, towns and townships would lose in taxes through these bills, under pretense that "auxiliary forest reserves" were being established and promoted for the public good.

The Scranton Republican summarizes some of the most important of the uniform primary law defects which the press has been suggesting to the Legislature for consideration in the proposed amendment of the law.

The changes advocated are as follows:

Requiring election officers to post the result of the vote immediately after it is counted on primary night. Under present regulations the election officers are not compelled to make the vote public, and it may be kept a secret until the official count by the commissioners. There is opportunity for any amount of juggling with the vote between the time it is cast and the time when it must be in the hands of the commissioners.

The date of the primaries should be changed so that they will not conflict with personal registration. In cities of the first and second class the registration day falls on the same day as the primaries, but in cities of the third class it falls after the primaries for the spring election. A person who has changed his residence since the February primaries, and a person who has changed his residence since the February registration day cannot vote at the June primaries. In Pennsylvania the moving day is April 1st. Citizens changing their residence at that time have no opportunity to register in their new districts before the time of the June primaries.

Another change proposed is that some other day than Saturday be selected for the primaries, as that is the busiest day of the week.

The title should be so amended as to include the saloon closing features. The primaries should be made to apply compulsorily instead of optionally to all boroughs and townships.

Means should be provided for the withdrawal of candidates and the select of substitutes a certain time before the primaries.

These proposed changes embrace about all of the sensible ones so far suggested, and all of them are of vital importance.

## BRIEF NEWS.

Dr. J. L. Brennan of Mildred was visiting his parents at Williamsport on Thursday.

Sheriff Buck of Laporte, was a business caller at this place Friday.

Squire Lowrie, and P. McGee were Dushore visitors Sunday.

Effie Gansel returned to her home at Laporte, after spending some time with her brother Ernest Gansel of Mildred.

Miss Ada Lovelace of Laporte is visiting friends at this place.

The following young people of Mildred enjoyed a sleigh ride to Cherry Mills on Friday evening; Lucy Hannon, Effie Gansel, Margaret Watson, Winnie Deffenback, Carrie Green, Mabel Collins, George Spencer, Robert Watson, Frank Ramsey, Allen Aude and Thos. Walters.

Thos. V. McLaughlin was a business man at Laporte on Saturday.

One of our popular young men has not got over his sleigh ride to Laporte after he had been to all the trouble of getting up a good time for them all another young man took his best girl from him. If I were in his place, I would get up another party and then quit.

Dear Editor it seems as you have stirred up a hornet nest when you wrote them articles on valuation of coal land not being assessed at full value. It looks as if all the papers is hot after the assessors for not doing their duty, why not get after the parties who take an oath to do their duty as far as they know. It would be foolishness for a company or for one man to appeal to the county Commissioners to raise their valuation, it does not look any too good for a man to expose one of his own party for not doing his duty and offer three times the amount of the assessed valuation. That is one thing as far as Cherry township is concerned that no one can blame the republican party, as there was never a republican assessor. How is this for the party that is howling clean politics?

The consolidated annual returns to the State Department of Mines for the year 1906, show that 557 mine workers were killed in the anthracite region and 464 in the bituminous regions of Pennsylvania during that period. Of 557 killed in the anthracite region, 206 deaths resulted from falls of coal and 77 from explosions. Of the fatal accidents in the bituminous regions last year, 292 were the result of falls of coal and 87 from mine cars.

Joshua Savage, of Jamison City, had a narrow escape from serious injury Thursday, when his team ran away, and the sleigh was badly damaged. Savage had driven to the lime kiln for a load of lime. As he was driving over the D. L. and W. tracks at Lime Ridge, a train approached, and the engineer seeing the team on the track, blew his whistle. This startled the horses, and with a leap both sprang forward and dashed down the road. Savage was nearly hurled out of the sleigh by the jolt, but grasped the dash board and clung on and tried to stop the horses. This was futile, and after a short distance one of the runners went down into a ditch and the sleigh was dragged along in this position until the runner was caught by some obstruction and almost entirely wrenched from the vehicle. Savage was thrown out but not seriously hurt.

At the Pine Street Methodist church at Williamsport, Sunday the annual missionary collection was taken and the total amount subscribed netted over \$1,700. In the face of the heavy subscriptions made this year toward the new building fund this was the most remarkable missionary collection ever taken from a Pine Street Methodist congregation.

One of the interesting jokes at the Episcopal churchmen's banquet was sprung upon a prominent member in attendance after he had put sugar in his consommé and condemned it as being "the worst coffee he had ever tasted." Funniest of all he failed to appreciate the occurrence when it was called to his attention.