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LAYMAN GIVES HIS VIEWS

Laments the Recent Disbanding of Ministerium. Wants Them By All Means to Reorganize For the Good of Our Town.

Editor of The Commercial:— In last week's Commercial I observed the death notice of the Ministerium of Meyersdale, which to me seemed a very sad affair. I believe that an organization like a ministerium is one of the most efficient means of combating against the various forms of evil in our town. This is true for various reasons, some of which are as follows:—First, it enables the ministers of the Gospel to receive information as to the moral condition and needs of the town in general which they otherwise can not get nearly so well.

Second, it enables the ministers to make a united effort to correct the wrongs and to furnish such food for reflection to the people of the town as will have infinitely more force than any one individual could possibly have, and this increases a minister's efficiency in a town many fold.

Third, the inspiration the ministers receive from associating with each in a common cause (if they have a common cause) is very great and beneficial to all of them inasmuch as it is bound to give them a much larger and clearer vision than they otherwise could have, which will enable them to develop people of the same kind. This will prepare them to combat against the common errors such as believing the main thing in life is to try to keep himself out of hell, no difference about the other fellow. Or another narrow view, that his or her duties do not extend beyond their own denomination and others that might be given if space would permit. These narrow views do not fit the present age and therefore ought to be guarded against by our leaders.

Why did the dissolution take place? The resolution states that such a large proportion of the members of the association seem to manifest no interest in the organization, or its work. This has a look about it that makes any one having a proper conception of Christ, the Church and the ministry, shudder, as it has the appearance of a retrograding ministry, and that naturally has a very bad effect on the laity of the present day. It might have been so looked upon in days long gone by, when men believed that certain forms of baptism, confession, dress, doctrine, no differences how antiquated it had become, or that all that was necessary was to try to keep out of hell, or some other narrow, ridiculous view, such as a man thinking his own church or congregation is the limit of his concern, etc., etc. All of these views are out of harmony with the knowledge and spirit of our age, as well as the spirit of Christ. If I read the signs of the present time correctly, they point toward a much more lofty conception than was entertained by Christian men a few years ago. To-day, the biggest and best men living say, "a man's interest must reach as far as God's image is reflected in man," which is over the earth. They say that the main purpose in life is to put away sin in all its forms and to build up instead the Kingdom of God. This reaches much farther than any sect or denomination, and to do this requires a united effort, and then to learn a large proportion of the ministers of our town are not interested in a united effort to establish the Kingdom on earth, is enough to make the intelligent portion of the laity sit up and take notice.

I feel sure I express the general sentiment of the laity when I say the results obtained from the ministerium in the past have been very good. Beyond a doubt the large crowd of people in attendance at our Union Thanks giving services bear testimony to this statement. There is not the least doubt that the gigantic evil of the saloon traffic can be put to a finish much more easily and more quickly by a united effort than it can be done single handed. So it is with other matters pertaining to the general welfare of society.

I feel sure, I voice the sentiment of the laity when I say to our ministers, by all means reorganize. Even then, no doubt, Satan will be able to try your metal; but in union there is strength. From a united ministry will come a united people. (Like priests like people) and more sin will be over-

FINED \$225 FOR TURKEYS

Three colored men, of Lansdowne, Philadelphia, came here the beginning of last week to hunt. They began their work at Deal and obtained six turkeys, wild or tame, is not known, although some of the farmers in that community know that some of their flocks are lessened.

The hunters had Jno. E. Fair pack the turkeys with vegetables and shipped to Philadelphia. State Game Protector Osmer hearing of the case is now at work upon it and the men will probably be arrested and brought back for trial. If the turkeys were wild their little hunting bill will be at least \$225; if they were tame they will have to settle with some irate farmers who are in no mood to sell turkey gottien in that way for a small price.

PRISONER LEAPS FROM TRAIN ESCAPING.

While Sheriff Charles F. Hochard was bringing him back to Somerset county a few days ago to answer a charge of forgery, W. A. Coleman leaped from a Pennsylvania train at Gallitzien and made his escape. The authorities have been scouring the mountain to no avail. Coleman was captured in New York city and the police there had warned the sheriff that the prisoner was a desperate man. The Sheriff was taking Coleman from the smoker to another car and had permitted him to go free of the handcuffs until he put on his overcoat. Coleman was to answer charges made by the Citizens' National bank of Windber.

In telling the police of the escape of his charge, Sheriff Hochard said that he and Coleman were walking from the smoker to a car in the rear to get their overcoats and that Coleman was in front of him. He had removed the handcuffs in order that the prisoner might put on his overcoat. Coleman reached the vestibule just as the brakeman opened the doors and leaped on to the platform. It was a minute before the sheriff got off the train. He searched for his charge but could not find him, so he boarded the same train and went on to Somerset.

POCAHONTAS.

Husking corn is the order of the day in this vicinity. J. C. Miller will soon move into his new house in Pocahontas as it is almost completed.

Oscar Sipple of St. Paul and Lester Sipple and Mrs. Susan Helwig of Sipleville were the guests of J. H. Snyder last Sunday.

Fred Durr says he has the roads so good that automobiles all run on high speed over our hills.

The services held here last week by Rev. A. S. Kresge were well attended every night and a number of fine sermons were delivered. The services closed last Sunday evening instead of next Sunday as had been previously announced. Sunday school next Sunday at St. Mark's at 2 o'clock.

erthrown and much of the narrowness in people will disappear and a clearer vision will be developed in them, so that they will be able to see that after all we are to live for Christ and his kingdom, instead of for some custom, tradition, sect or denomination.

The Laymen's movement has clearly demonstrated that the men are in earnest in religious matters, and, of course, they naturally expect their leaders to manifest more concern than they ever did in the past. The day has gone by when simply a long coat and a pletistic face and interest only in a small portion of society will satisfy the laity and I don't believe it will Christ either. Effeminate platitudes will not fill the bill in this age.

The laity of to-day expect their leaders to see a Christ that died for all men and a people that all have some good in them and that the main thing is the destruction of sin and the building up of the kingdom. Surely this requires a united effort. Christ's work cannot prosper as it should if his followers hold views that do not extend beyond their own sect or denomination. It must not be forgotten there often is a big difference between a high type Christian and a denominational zealot. I feel sure I express the views of the best people of the town when I say to the ministers, keep up the ministerium.

A LAYMAN.

YOUNG ARMENIAN MINISTER RECEIVES TERRIBLE NEWS HERE

Representative of Reformed Sunday School Board of Foreign Missions Hears While in Meyersdale of Terrible Fate of Sisters and Other Relatives Victims of Turkish Atrocities.

Rev. J. Kombar, an Armenian, and a representative of the Reformed Sunday School Board of Foreign Missions who made excellent addresses Sunday morning and evening in the Reformed Church here, will never forget the town of Meyersdale on account of the terrible news received by him on Tuesday afternoon.

At that time, Rev. Kombar was to make an address on the manners and customs of the Mohammedans, at our high school. Just before he was to speak he received a letter from a cousin conveying him news that completely unnerved him, with difficulty giving a talk to the students, who, laughing and with happy homes and lives, little thought that the one speaking to them had just received word of an awful tragedy in which those he loved the most in the world had been the principal victims.

The letter came from a cousin who had escaped the horrible massacres which have been and are now taking place in Armenia, and had arrived at Tiflis, Russia.

The latter told of occurrences of September 27 at the home of Rev. Kombar, in Van, Turkey.

The two married sisters of Rev. Kombar, after having seen their husbands, fathers-in-law and all other male relatives murdered, were taken by two Turkish officers to their harems. The little child carried by the younger sister, was torn from the mother's grasp, spitted on a sword, and thrown

to the dogs. Both ladies were highly educated and graduates of a university where last fall they were music professors.

While this terrible scene was going on the aged grandmother, 80 years old, was crying and attempting to run after the beloved grandchildren. The brutal soldiers, upon seeing this cut off one of her legs to see her run in that way. Then they tried the sharpness of their swords on her attenuated body and lastly shot her.

Forty-five girls of the town, some only eight years of age, were maltreated in the most outrageous manner before their parents and then either murdered or taken as slaves.

Both of the parents of Rev. Kombar were killed in the Armenian massacres of 1906. He is heartbroken at this additional great sorrow as it would be beyond the realms of possibility that he should ever see his loved ones again and will probably not know whether they are living or dead.

Mr. Kombar is a graduate of Central Theological Seminary, Ohio and is a licensed minister of the Reformed church. If possible, now, he may take steps to enlist as a soldier in the Russian army to fight against those who have destroyed all who were dear to him as he has nothing, he believes, to live for. The Christian people here most certainly extend their deepest sympathy to this gentleman, who is spending the entire week in Meyersdale.



EVANGELIST J. H. CASSADY.

UNION VALLEY.

Everybody busy husking corn! The sale of Andrew Horchner was attended by those from far and near. Herman Lottig purchased the driving horse at the sale; he says that if the Buzz Wagon can't get through the horse can.

A. J. Baer and Asa Hoar of Vim spent Saturday in Larimer hunting for bunnies.

Poorbaugh & Bowser bought a nice bunch of lambs of P. W. White on Monday last.

Simon Keeker while working in the handle factory for H. Tayman had two of his fingers cut so that he is not able to work for a few days.

Leroy Crissey made a business trip to Meyersdale on Saturday last.

Wm. H. Deeter passed through this place looking up some timber a few days ago.

cher; school directors for six years, W. Hay, N. F. Meyers; school director for two years, George F. Spel-

COUNTY S. S. CONVENTION

The Sunday School workers of Somerset county will meet at Somerset, Friday November 26, in the M. E. church, the first session being at 10 a. m. B. F. Forsythe, of the State S. S. Department, will be present. An interesting and inspiring convention is assured.

The county officers are: Pres., H. B. Speicher, Garrett; vice pres., B. W. Lambing, Somerset; sec., Rev. I. S. Monn, Elk Lick; treas., L. L. Mountain, Confluence. Department Supts: Cradle Roll, Mrs. C. I. Shaffer; Home Department, A. J. Sombower, Rockwood; Teacher Training, V. D. Nauke, Hooversville; O. A. B. C., F. K. Sanner, Somerset; Sec. Div. Org. Classes, Lloyd L. Mountain, Confluence; Rural Schools, W. B. Putnam, Somerset; R. D.; Temperance, Mrs. Azubah Jones, Holsopple; Missionary, Georgiana Roach, Windber.

The District Supts. are: No. 1—J. J. Weaver, Windber; 2—George Hunt, Stoyestown; 3—Rev. A. J. Beeogley, Friedens R. D.; 4—F. K. Sanner, Somerset; 5—H. B. Landis, Berlin; 6—D. U. Foust, Fairhope; 7—Rev. A. S. Kresge, Meyersdale; 8—Rev. I. S. Monn, Elk Lick; 9—C. E. Statler, Rockwood; 10—Lloyd A. Kurtz, Confluence.

CHURCH NOTICES.

BRETHREN CHURCH—Special services are being held each evening this week in the Salisbury Brethren Church at 7:30 p. m. Next Sunday, November 14th there will be Sunday School and preaching service at Salisbury in the morning and the observance of the Lord's Supper at 7:15 in the evening. In the afternoon there will be Sunday School and preaching service at Summit Mills. There will be no service in the Meyersdale Brethren Church on Sunday, November 14th. As they were services at the home of Rev. H. L. Goughnour, Pastor.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN—Rev. W. M. Howe, Pastor. Services for Nov. 14: Morning subject, "Come and Dine." Evening subject, "The Hallelujah Chapter of the Book of Revelation." Sunday School at 9:30 a. m. Christian Workers' Meeting at 6:15 p. m. Singing led by Prof. J. W. Yoder, Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p. m. and Sunday at 2:30 p. m. Bible Class at 7 p. m. on Friday. Evangelistic services by Elder Cassidy begin on Monday November 15.

BRETHREN CHURCH MAKING MARKED STRIDES.

The Brethren church of this place of which Rev. H. L. Goughnour is the able pastor, is certainly wide-awake. Last Sunday was rally day for the Sunday school and the number aimed at for that occasion was 400; this was surpassed by 11. The communion service was the most largely attended of any in the history of the church. Nineteen new members were added to the church. It was desired on Sunday to raise \$100 for repainting and when the collection was taken it was found that \$108 was subscribed.

FANCY MACKEREL AT 10 CENTS EACH at BITTNER'S GROCERY.

20TH CENTURY MFG. CO. PRACTICALLY RECEIVES BIG ORDER CONFIRMATION

The Twentieth Century Manufacturing Company at Boynton has just recently received confirmation that they have practically secured the contract for the building of tractor engines and steel wagons for the Russian government, concerning which mention has been made in this paper at different times the past few weeks and about which the whole community has been talking for the order involves between one and two million dollars.

When negotiations were begun about a month ago the Boynton Company cabled their prices and their ability to handle the order and that the same time wrote a letter explanatory of the cable message. The first part of this week the company received word that their terms were satisfactory and that all that delayed the signing of the contract was that they may receive the letter sent by the company. Its contents simply corroborate the cablegram. The Boynton company will have to add about 100 men to their present force of 30 men.

They will be required to get out 60 engines in two months besides 50 wagons. Following that they will deliver monthly 10 trains. A train consists of one engine and four cars. The Twentieth Century Manufacturing Company is to be congratulated on the excellency of their products as it was the quality of their engines which is obtaining for them this very unusual order.

ALL kinds of Guns and Repairs at— GURLEY'S SPORTING GOODS STORE,

DEWEY'S HORSE & MULE FEED at \$1.75 Per Hundred Weight.

BUCKWHEAT CHOP at \$1.25. C. E. DEAL.

BOYS' PRANK KILLS GIRL

Their Tampering With a Telephone Wire Causes Her Electro-cution When Her Foot Becomes Entangled.

Lena Baroni, a pretty 16-year-old Austrian girl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Baroni of Listie was electrocuted between 1 and 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon near her home about a mile and a half from Listie. She was climbing a rail fence when her feet became entangled with a section of loose telephone wire one end of which was hanging across a high tension transmission line of the Penn Electric company carry 22,000 volts. A 9-year-old sister, Annie, had her hand burned when she also came in contact with the wire.

The wire was a section that had been cut from a private telephone line of the Penn company, carried on the same poles as the tension lines, when the former broke down several days ago. The section of wire had been cut out and coiled about the fence near the Baroni home. As early as last Thursday, it is declared, someone tied a stone to an end of the wire, the stone hanging about three feet below them. The other end remained coiled about the fence.

The victim and her sister were returning from the woods, where they had been gathering chestnuts. Annie was rendered unconscious as her hand came in contact with the wire. She recovered in a few minutes and valiantly endeavored to pull her sister from the entanglement. By a miracle the little girl escaped further injury.

Dr. Fred B. Shaffer of Somerset was summoned to the scene. He was unable to revive her. Her parents, three brothers and two sisters survive. The family came here from Austria when Lena was two years of age.

Investigation revealed evidence of a deliberate criminal misdemeanor. Apparently the girl was the victim of boys' pranks. The investigation revealed a piece of fence wire swung across one of three high-powered current lines of the Penn Electric Service Company of Johnstown. A stone, weighing seven or eight pounds, had been tied to one end and thrown across the lowest of the three wires. The weight of the stone caused the fence wire to wrap around the electric wire a couple of times, holding it securely. The other end of the fence wire was lying across a rail fence. A reward of \$300 has been offered by the Penn company for the arrest of the ones guilty.

The body of the unfortunate girl was brought to Meyersdale for interment, mass being said by Father Brady in the Catholic church.