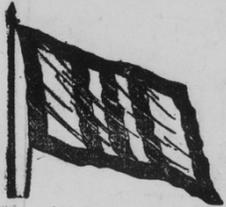




Local and Personal



OVER THE TOP!

Meyersdale went "over the top" yesterday in the third Liberty Loan drive. Other districts in the county over-subscribing their respective quotas to date are Cairnbrook, Elk Lick, Hollisapple, Hooversville, Stoyestown and Windber. The campaign closes Saturday.

C. A. Courtney, of Acosta, Pa., visited friends here, Sunday.

Miss Ella Rodamar, of Elk Lick, was a shopper here Wednesday.

Simon M. Bittner was a business caller in Pittsburgh, Monday.

Mrs. W. H. Klingman has returned from a two weeks' visit in Pittsburgh.

George Hibner and son George, returned to Mt. Braddock, Pa., Thursday.

Eliza März and James Hauser, of Glencoe, spent Thursday in Meyersdale.

Mrs. Alfred Wilmoth, who recently visited relatives here, has returned to Glencoe.

Mrs. Joseph Schindler, of Johnstown, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Margaret Dunn.

Mrs. J. L. Dixon and son Joseph, are visiting relatives and friends in Clarksburg, W. Va.

Mrs. William Deitz and daughter, of Elk Lick, were business visitors in town, Friday.

Rev. Quinn, of Midland, Md., was the guest of Rev. J. J. Brady several days this week.

Miss Gertrude Dixon, of Connellsville, is visiting at the home of her brother, J. L. Dixon.

Edward Weimer, of Alviton, Md., is the guest of his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. John Stacer.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Weimer and daughter, Miss Vivian, visited relatives in Somerset, Sunday.

Misses Mae Diehl and Effie Hasselrode have returned from a few days' visit in Cumberland, Md.

Bernard Cox, who was visiting his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Cox, returned to Camp Gordon, Ga., Thursday.

Frank M. Coughenour and little son, Cloyce, of Glencoe, were calling on relatives and friends here, Thursday.

Miss Catherine McKenzie, of Pittsburgh, spent Sunday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. McKenzie.

Misses Lula Hocking and Mary Stotler have returned from Houston, Texas, where they spent several months.

Mrs. Frank Cunningham, of Connellsville, was the guest of the Misses Baer, of Main street, several days last week.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Emeigh

and daughter, Miss Ida, of Braddock, Pa., are visiting relatives and friends in this city.

Miss Alice Moore returned from the Alleghany Hospital, Cumberland, Md., where she underwent an operation for appendicitis.

Samuel Donges has returned to Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va., after spending a five days' furlough at the home of his father, George Donges.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Critchfield and two children, of Rockwood, motored to the home of Mrs. Critchfield's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Schardt, Sunday.

M. J. Housel, of Glade City, near Meyersdale, left last week with his family for their new home in Akron, Ohio, where Mr. Housel is employed in the Firestone Rubber Works, operating an elevator.

The Commercial is glad to print the news of neighboring communities whenever a correspondent can be secured to supply us with such news items. Correspondents are requested to have copy in this office Tuesday morning if possible, in order to insure its insertion in the issue for the current week. We are especially desirous of publishing local news of those communities where our readers are most numerous, but this should not be interpreted as a discouragement to communities where they are less numerous, as people often have relatives or friends living in some obscure corner whom they would be pleased to hear from occasionally through our columns.

The Young Democracy will hold its first conference in New York City, Saturday and Sunday, May 4th and 5th. Membership in this organization is open to everyone under 45 years of age, and honorary memberships are granted to persons over that age who are interested in the organization's program, which is consistently constructive and international in character. It stands back of President Wilson and Secretary Baker on the Conscientious Objector and Compulsory Military Training questions, and believes in the upholding of present labor and educational standards and in their improvement wherever possible. Its appeal is to the youth, whose ideals are "fresh and unwithered," its aim is to raise the standard of liberty and democracy in industry, in government, in education and in international affairs. Headquarters are located at 32 Union Square, New York City.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

Big Valley, finest, largest, sweetest berry grown. Price, 70 cents per 100, prepaid.

Superb, the great everbearing; bears fruit the first season. Price, 1 cent each, prepaid.

A. K. Beiler, Belleville, Pa.

RUTH VIOLA KINSINGER.

Again the death angel has descended, this time upon the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Kinsinger, of St. Paul, Saturday, April 27th, and summoned their little two-year-old daughter, Ruth Viola. Her spirit took flight into the darkness, through which the eye of faith penetrates and sees it enjoying heavenly bliss in the realm of its Creator, where sooner or later father and mother, brothers and sisters, hope to be reunited. Amidst sorrowing friends, the little body was laid to rest in the St. Paul cemetery on Monday morning. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. L. N. Wilson.

ORATORICAL CONTEST AND MUSICALE A BIG SUCCESS.

The oratorical contest and musicale held by the Meyersdale High School in Amity Hall, Monday evening, attracted a large number of people from town and quite a few from neighboring communities. By eight o'clock all seats were taken, and chairs had to be provided to accommodate late comers.

At a few minutes past eight the High School Chorus opened the evening's program with "A Song of Spring," and the appreciative audience promptly called for an encore, to which the boys and girls quite willingly responded.

Next on the program was an oration, "Bonds of Tradition Burst Asunder," by Miss Elizabeth Johnston. Recounting the numerous significant instances of sacrifice displayed by the women of all the nations of the world, and particularly the warring nations engaged in the present titanic struggle, Miss Johnston made an earnest and effective plea for the bursting asunder of the bonds of tradition and the granting of full and equal rights to all women everywhere, which brought out prolonged applause and the display of a considerable amount of enthusiasm, especially among the ladies. Mr. Howard Gröss followed, with an oration, "The Duty of an American Citizen," which was rather well delivered, but narrowed down by the existing state of war. The young orator took the liberty to place every inhabitant of our country in one of four classes, first those who are loyal, red-blooded Americans through and through, second the enemy aliens, third the neutrals among our people, and last those who are pro-Germans, spys, unpatriotic, etc. He said it is the duty of every American citizen to stand behind the government, regardless of party or creed, to buy liberty bonds and thrift stamps, and plant war gardens.

"The Kaiser's Ambition," the next number on the program, was very ably handled by Miss Lenore Will. With a subject of broader dimensions Miss Will would have been able to capture her audience with her fine delivery and graceful manner. While she handled her subject quite satisfactorily and to the best of her ability no doubt, there was evidently considerable exaggeration in the course of her remarks. The idea of the Kaiser, termed "the Beast of Berlin," ruling the United States of America, politically, would hardly be given any creditable consideration even by the most outspoken patriot in this country. However, there are industrial kaisers aplenty, profiteers if you prefer the term, who in America are no less unscrupulous than the beast of Berlin is credited with being in his domain. To quote President Wilson, "the law of supply and demand, I am sorry to say, has been replaced by the law of unrestrained selfishness."

"Over the Waves We Softly Glide," was next rendered by the Chorus of good looking boys and girls, and to keep them out on the stage in plain view, we fear, the audience called for an encore again, which the young people gladly responded to.

Mr. William McMillan came forward then with his oration, "The New Patriotism," making a strong appeal for a United States of the World, not on any narrow, discriminate lines, but based upon the broadest conceptions yet known to mankind. His international government would be on the principles laid down by Lincoln, a government "of, for and by the plain people," with no place for a kaiser, king, or industrial baron of the old order except as a private in the ranks of useful producers. His delivery was plain and forceful, no luring sentimentality, high flown catch phrases, or jiffle of any description, just the plain, straightforward appeal based upon the growing demand for real democracy everywhere, in all walks of life. His point was well taken, and continuous applause greeted his intelligent remarks on the subject.

"Making History," was the theme of Mr. Irvin Gröss, who appeared next. His point was that our institutions of learning must not be hampered by the abnormal war conditions, but, on the contrary, should be aided and improved wherever possible. He pointed out that the youth of the nation must be educated and trained to fill the places of those professional men and women who have abandoned their positions in private and public life to go to the battlefield—perhaps never to return. His delivery was good and his remarks were highly appreciated.

"The German Spy System," final oration by Mr. James Lint, is another of those subjects which are, in times like the present, too likely to be misjudged in the absence of authentic information and made subject to considerable exaggeration. While we have not now, nor ever have we had, any sympathy for "the Beast of Berlin" or the "industrial Beasts of Capitalism," it is a fact that many scrupulous men of good principle are now, have been, and will continue to be falsely accused of being in sympathy or alignment with the Prussian autocracy for the duration of the present war and for some time thereafter. Mr. Lint stated, for instance, that the Bolshevik movement in Russia is made up of the Kaiser's agents and sympathizers, which is in direct contrast to President Wilson's viewpoint of the situation, and which idea is principally encouraged by the arch enemies of real democracy. Other statements were even less creditable. He argued for the arrest and confinement of not only persons who are known to be instigated in the German spy system, but every person who utters a disloyal or questionable remark about the government or public officials, which again is in direct contrast to the President's viewpoint of the matter. The President is quoted as follows upon that

GOVERNMENT AGENT MAY BE ASSIGNED TO MEYERSDALE TO INVESTIGATE PARTIALITY OF LOCAL BUSINESS MEN?

According to information coming to The Commercial from apparently reliable sources, a government agent may be assigned to investigate the patriotism or partiality of Meyersdale's merchants and business men in the near future. Government agencies which have been keeping a close check on all newspapers since the inauguration of the publicity campaign in the interest of the Third Liberty Loan, have expressed intense indignation at the failure of the merchants and business men of this community to take advantage of the opportunity which the management of The Commercial gave them to display their patriotism, first the organized business men of the town who compose the Community Boosters' Club, and then each merchant and business man individually, as per announcement printed in our issue of April 11th. The Central Liberty Loan Committee of the Fourth Federal Reserve District, located at Cleveland, Ohio, has taken official recognition of the incident, and expressed a determination to see that some corrective methods are applied to adjust the situation.

MILLER-MEESSE.

Mr. Frank Miller, of Coal Run, and his housekeeper, Mrs. Mable M. Meese, were quietly married at Oakland, Saturday, April 20th, by Rev. Shultz. Very few people knew anything of it, the contracting parties having kept their friends in darkness until they were quietly established in their home as man and wife. The Commercial wishes them a long and happy life in their new relation.

COAL RUN.

Mrs. Samuel W. Gray and little son, of Salisbury, spent Wednesday with Mrs. John May.

Mrs. Henry Hersh spent Sunday in Glade City, the guest of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hersh.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Null and son William, spent Saturday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Hoffman, at Boynton.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller and two children, of Meyersdale, spent Sunday with the latter's brother, Mr. Andrew Hotchkiss, and family.

Dolphus Bowser is nursing a sore head, as a result of its coming in contact with a dishpan. How did it happen, Dolphus? Better get you a wife.

The greatest praise a government can win is, that its citizens know their rights and dare maintain them.—Wendell Phillips.

vital question: "I can imagine no greater disservice to the country than to establish a system of censorship that would deny the people of a free republic like our own their indisputable right to criticize their own public officials." We repeat that, so far as the Kaiser is concerned, we hated him first and worst, but we cannot approve of the suggestion made by Mr. Lint which we have just mentioned, and which would defeat the very ends for which the nation and its allies are supposed to be fighting.

"Missouri Waltz" was next rendered with pleasing effect by the High School Chorus, and, evidently from force of habit, the audience called for an encore, as it did again after the Messrs. Michael Hady, Redolphus Bowman, Frank Rowe and Claude Brant had entertained them with the song, "Keep the Home Fires Burning." "On the Hindenburg Line" and "What'll We Do With Him, Boys?" by the High School Chorus, followed by "The Question," by the Boys' Chorus, each aroused considerable merriment in the hearts of both the actors and the audience.

Awarding of prizes was next in order. The Judges on Composition, Thought and Subject Matter were Mrs. R. H. Philson, Dr. W. T. Rowe and Rev. J. Luther Frantz; on Delivery, Rev. T. R. Coffman, Rev. Alexander Steele and Mr. P. D. Clutton. Orations were graded on the following basis: perfection in composition, 20%; perfection in thought, 20%; perfection in choice of subject matter, 20%; perfection in delivery, 40%. The first prize was \$5.00, contributed by the Citizens National Bank; second prize \$3.00, contributed by Mr. J. M. Gnagey; third prize \$2.00, contributed by Dr. C. P. Large. Awards were made as follows: First Prize, Irvin Gröss; Second Prize, William McMillan; Third Prize, Elizabeth Johnston.

At about 9:30 the evening's entertainment came to a close with the singing of "Long Wave Old Glory," by the High School Chorus. Taken as a whole, the evening's performance was very well carried out, and a credit to the young people of our community, who made it such a grand success.

SUMMIT MILLS.

Edward Sutton has purchased a Ford car.

Miss Alma Kemp, of Coal Junction, is visiting friends and relatives here.

Miss Minnie Bowman is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon Yoder this week.

Wilson Rubright, of McKeesport, was a Sunday guest at the home of Mr. Austin Grew.

Charles Redinger, who is in one of the army training camps, is reported to be seriously ill.

Walter Firl has received his call to the colors, and will start for his training camp today (Thursday).

The birthday surprise party, arranged for Miss Margaret Opel, on Monday evening, was largely attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Saylor, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Lindeman, were calling in Greenville, Pa., Sunday.