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CONDENSED NEWS.

All the surrounding country for a radius of ten miles, has been represented in the throng of shoppers that has visited Danville stores the past week. Few towns of its size can boast of such pretty stores and handsome displays of holiday goods.

Fifteen ministers of the gospel have been chosen as jurors in Dauphin county as the result of a movement to have safe and responsible men drawn for jury duty.

Here's some good advice from one of our exchanges that applies to every town: Don't waste money or time on strange peddlers when the same or equally good goods can be had from your town merchants, who help to pay the taxes and do their share toward making the town what it really is.

An Australian "gent," staying in Chicago, called for 50 pounds of ice to place in his bath the other morning. He must be real "hot stuff."

If there is any blessing in snow this part of the state seems to be particularly favored thus early in the winter.

A valuable deposit of fine clay—not the ordinary clay—but the kind used in tile making, is known to exist in the neighborhood of Mt. Grove. A big tile making firm of Perth Amboy, N. J., has been investigating the matter quietly for some time.

It is the wise man who clears the snow from his sidewalk while the stuff is soft and easily handled.

Don't forget that your horse will be more comfortable if you put a blanket on him in cold weather.

December is showing us what a white Christmas will look like if the weather man maintains the pace.

The Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company have recently completed at their Reading shops a handsome observation engine for the use of the officials of the Shamokin division. The engine, which is numbered 103, is a larger type than the Transit, which had been in use for many years, and is built strong enough to haul any of the private cars of the road and maintain a speed of seventy miles per hour. The cab which sets front is finished in quartered oak and the seats three on either side are upholstered in dark green leather. The tank capacity of the engine is 1,600 gallons which will enable them to run from Williamsport to Tamaqua with but one stop.

Hon. Charles M. Palmer, of Shenandoah, father of the bill passed by the last legislature creating a miners' home, denies that there are constitutional defects in the measure and says that the home will be a reality before the close of another year.

The Republican National convention will be held at Chicago, beginning on the 21st of June next.

Well, St. Louis has the exposition to fall back on, even if she didn't get the convention.

Make your plans to give happiness during the Christmas season to those to whom many pleasures do not come.

Danville is remarkably free from the tramp nuisance. This city seems to be an unpopular stop for that fraternity.

Williamsport will be one hundred years old on the 1st of March 1906.

These are the days when skating accidents will occur. While the river is a good place to enjoy a glide over smooth ice, care should be taken to ascertain before venturing thereon that the icy covering is thick enough for safety.

While the cold wave came in on time some people would have preferred the weather bureau to deliver balmy breezes.

Up to date 711 applications for liquor licenses have been filed in Schuylkill county.

There is much encouragement for the ice harvesters.

A report from Wilkesbarre says that the large coal companies intend closing the mines between Christmas and New Year's. The suspension is said to be planned because there would likely be considerable voluntary idleness any how.

When the goose hangs high everything is well. When the turkey is priced too high everything is deeper than a well.

SALESMAN ON THE ROAD

The first test has been applied to determine the value of Rempe's self-winding clock as a seller and the result far exceeds the most sanguinary expectations. A. F. Hitchler of Wilkesbarre, as salesman for the Rempe Manufacturing Company, has been on the road just fifteen days and the sales made in this initial effort represent more clocks than the present small factory can turn out and the fact has become apparent that before much business can be done the company will have to double or treble the size of its plant.

The response met with in the first effort to sell the self-winding clock is all the more remarkable in face of the fact that the salesman's visit occurring as it does just before the holidays finds the jewelers all loaded up with holiday goods and naturally more concerned in the disposing of these than in making investments for their general trade. But little more was expected of the first tour of the territory than to thoroughly advertise Mr. Rempe's invention, the belief being that the general merits of the clock would do the rest and that sales would follow later. The immediate response in the form of orders has inspired the utmost confidence in the future of the enterprise. The full measure of success which must follow when the business becomes thoroughly established and the whole country is covered by salesmen is a matter which can easily be computed. Surely it is no idle dream to foresee in the manufacture of Mr. Rempe's wonderful clock a great and a growing industry for Danville, which will bring the town fame and enrich its people.

The tests which Mr. Rempe continues to apply to his self-winding clocks are most severe and exacting in their nature. Among the results worthy of note is the remarkable record of one of the cheap five dollar clocks, which has not varied more than five seconds per week during a period of over two months. The significance of this lies in the fact that among the ordinary old-fashioned clocks such a record could be obtained only in a style of timepiece which would cost at least one hundred dollars.

Some improvements about the factory to facilitate the work are now under contemplation by the Rempe Manufacturing Company. The enlargement of the plant will be the next thing considered.

Handsome Clock Cases.

Some very handsome designs in clock cases are to be seen at the factory of the Rempe Manufacturing Company, this city. The latest models arrived yesterday from Hoover Bros., South Danville. These are original in design and very beautiful casting into shade many of the other models. One of Hoover Bros.' conceptions is a hall or office clock made of oak and finely finished, which in general effect suggests a "grandfather's clock." These, one should think, would become very popular with the trade.

Suitable cases for Mr. Rempe's self-winding clock constitute a matter by no means unimportant. The company is anxious that the new clock in appearance as well as in make-up and construction shall omit nothing that will give it an advantage as a seller. The company has received a large number of models and in selecting cases will have plenty of material to choose from.

Jerome Flood a Benedict.

A wedding which was looked forward to with a good deal of interest took place at Riverside last evening. The contracting parties were Mrs. Sadie Kennedy and Mr. Jerome Flood, both well-known residents on that side of the river.

The nuptial knot was tied by the Rev. R. J. Allen, at the parsonage of St. Peter's M. E. church, Riverside at seven o'clock.

The newly wedded couple left on the 7:51 Pennsylvania train for a trip to Philadelphia and Washington. Returning they will take up their residence in Riverside.

Mr. Flood for a number of years has been with J. H. Kase, the South Danville merchant. Both bride and groom are exceedingly popular and have the well-wishes of hosts of friends as they embark together on the matrimonial sea.

End of Finger Amputated.

Benjamin Voris, an apprentice in the machine shop of Curry & Vanman, had the end of one of his fingers pinched off yesterday afternoon.

He was feeding the planer and while at work it seems stumbled, falling forward in such a way that the second finger of his right hand was caught between the cogs. The end of the finger was badly mangled, the bone being crushed.

Dr. Curry was called, who amputated the finger about midway between the end and the first joint. The injured boy is the son of Mrs. William Voris, Mill street. During last evening he suffered intense pain as the result of the accident. It will be several weeks before he will be able to resume work.

Jacob H. Goss has bought out the barber shop of Sheriff-elect George Maiers. He took possession of the shop at 10 o'clock yesterday morning.

Mr. Goss for many years was with D. H. Byerly at 281 Mill street. He is a good barber and quite popular.

SERMON TO ODD FELLOWS

Rev. Dr. McCormack Sunday morning preached a sermon to the order of Odd Fellows. A good representation of the order was present embracing members of the four lodges of Danville. The brethren marched from the lodge room to the church in a body and occupied seats in the fore part of the auditorium.

Rev. Dr. McCormack is himself an Odd Fellow and his sermon was an eloquent and masterly effort, revealing his sympathy with the objects of the fraternity and his appreciation of the exalted principles on which the order is founded. His theme was "Friendship, Love and Truth." The sermon was founded on several passages of scripture embraced in Luke 10—35 and in First Samuel, 20th chapter, from the 11th to the 42nd verse inclusive:

After thanking the brethren for the kindly appreciation which gave him an opportunity to speak out some earnest and he hoped some helpful thoughts on the character and obligations of their beloved order he proceeded with the sermon, which was in part as follows:

Every institution making claims upon mankind must have a reason for its existence. The reason for Odd Fellowship's existence is the training and elevation of an intellectual and moral manhood. The motto of Odd Fellowship is Friendship, Love and Truth.

"Friendship" is seen in steady faithfulness amid vicissitudes of fortune. The true friend is born for adversity. Tenacity is one characteristic of true friendship. Its grip is like steel. Its bonds are adamant. Prosperity, wealth, success, power—these change with the weather. True friendship feels not the change of conditions; it is rooted in character. "Truth" is the basis and bond of friendship. Where there is no truth there is no trust; where there is no trust there is no co-operation; where there is no co-operation there is no civilization. Truth is honor; nothing else wears. All hail, then, to any order that pledges its members to truthfulness.

"Love!" This is the topstone. It is the fruit of the root, Friendship; its stem is truth and the golden fruit as well; Love, which spurns limitations and calls every man neighbor whatever his creed, condition, calling or country; Love gaining that it may give, making us charitable in our judgments, forgiving in our dispositions, gentle in our tempers, generous in our sympathies, self-forgetting and self-sacrificing for the weal of others; Love that is eyes to the blind and feet to the lame; Love that bears burdens, shares reproaches and weeps with them that weep. And inasmuch though made to love, sin has made us selfish; though made for friendship, sin has made us enemies, in conclusion let me say something more is necessary and that, the religion of Jesus Christ. He was Friendship: "I have called you friends." He was truthful: "Full of grace and Truth." He was Love: "As I Have Loved You." In His glorious gospel, these three: Friendship, Love and Truth are provided for and I would urge you to become possessors.

W. M. Heddens Receives Honor.

William M. Heddens of this city has been appointed one of the Aides de-camp on the staff of General Black, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic and has been assigned to duty in his department.

At the next National Encampment, which will be held at Boston, the Aids-de-Camp will have the honor of being mounted on horse back and of assisting the Commander-in-Chief in directing movements.

Meanwhile their duties will be "to visit departments and posts within their vicinage or on the lines of their travel, to carry to them all good news, to cheer them in all laudable enterprises, to speak words of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty upon all occasions, to work for the good of the order by example and counsel, to be always on duty and to report faithfully through the Chief of Staff, to the Commander-in-Chief those things which may need consideration."

Fishing Through Holes in the Ice.

The time of year at present is here when fishermen often resort to fishing through holes in the ice. Danville has a few who very successfully angle in this way, the river in the vicinity of the Creek's Mouth being a favorite ground for this sport.

Winter fishermen will be interested to learn that a decision of Attorney General Hampton L. Carson rendered last Saturday places some important restrictions upon fishing through holes in the ice.

Hereafter fishermen can fish through one hole only. The Attorney General says in effect that one ice hole is entirely constitutional, but that a series of holes, through which hand lines are used, connected as they are by the solid mass of ice and multiplying the hands of the owner in taking fish, amounts in effect to a set device, which is not permitted by existing acts.

Approaching Completion.

The filter plant at the Hospital for the Insane is approaching completion and the institution should have filtered water by New Year's or soon after.

A car load of sand for the filter bed arrived yesterday. It requires ten tons to supply one tub.

THE HOLIDAY VACATION

It was decided at a regular meeting of the School Board Monday eve. to close the schools for the Christmas vacation on Wednesday, December 23rd and to reopen them on Monday, January 4th.

Borough Superintendent Gordy presented a petition from the teachers of the Borough asking for a vacation covering the period between the two dates named. The reason assigned for asking that the schools close Wednesday instead of Thursday, the day immediately before Christmas was twofold. Closing as late as Thursday, it was held, will not allow the teachers who live out of town sufficient time to reach their respective homes in time for the Christmas dinner. Again, on the day before Christmas the pupils are so absorbed with the idea of the festivities that it is impossible to accomplish much in the way of school work.

The motion to close on December 23rd was made by Mr. Werkheiser and carried unanimously.

Borough Superintendent Gordy explained that the Christmas exercises, which will be held Wednesday afternoon will not be elaborate and will occupy but an hour or so, the idea being to have them as plain and simple as possible so as not to lead the mind of the pupil away from the true significance of the event.

On motion of Mr. Greene the Secretary was instructed to notify the Chief-of-Police hereafter to collect the fines due the school district from the various Justices of the Borough and to pay them over to the Treasurer of the School Board.

Borough Superintendent Gordy presented his report for the month ending November 23rd, which on motion was accepted. Number of male pupils in attendance during month, 612; female, 632; total, 1244. Average daily attendance, male, 563; female, 593; total 1192. Percentage of attendance, males, 91; females, 95; total, 94. Number of cases of tardiness, 310; number of pupils sick, 124.

Treasurer Schram presented a statement of finances to date which showed a balance on hand of $10,712.68.

The following directors were present at last night's meeting: Keefer, Orth, Greene, Burns, Pursel, Harpel, Von Blohn, Fischer and Byerly.

The following bills were approved for payment:

Joseph Lechner	$ 12.27
A. M. Peters	1.00
Miles Walsh	.75
J. H. Cole	40.08
Danville Stove Co	270.00
T. W. Hale	24.43
E. K. Hale	13.26
William Quigg	11.00
Kingston Coal Co	101.34
George Sechler	1.00
Welliver Hardware Co	.60
Standard Gas Co	1.60
Ezra S. Haas	.75

"Weary Willie Walker."

The comedy farce "Weary Willie Walker" has been staged under the direction of the author of the play. He has adapted the grotesque caricature of this now famous character of fiction, that has achieved notoriety through the talented drawings of the most celebrated cartoonists. Phenomenal success has attended the production. This is explained by the fact that the public is familiar, through the humorous publications, the exploiting on the stage of this humorous individual has been made the paramount feature of the production, which gives a faithful representation of his many comicalities in deeds and attitudes, supplemented by an intelligible plot in which many other original character creations of a farcical kind are produced. The play is called a comedy farce to differentiate it from the commonplace class of plays, which under the designation of farce comedy have fairly inundated the country with poor plays.

"Weary Willie Walker" combines the same elements of farce which have made this class of comedy so popular. The production will be seen at the opera house on Christmas night.

Sidewalks Are Treacherous.

There are only a few pavements about town that are clear of ice. Slippery sidewalks are the rule and many persons fall every day. That more bones are not broken seems a wonder.

At some places it is impossible to keep the sidewalks free from ice no matter how careful residents are in shoveling off the snow. Such persons have only one more duty to perform in the premises and that is to scatter salt, saw dust or something similar in effect upon the ice to prevent falling. Pavements now very dangerous by a little attention in this way could be rendered perfectly safe. A broken bone means much loss and suffering and nothing should be too much trouble that would reduce danger of falling to a minimum.

Mrs. Farley Critically Ill.

Mrs. Margaret Farley is lying critically ill at the home of her son, William Farley, No. 712 Front street. She is seventy-four years of age and has sustained several strokes of paralysis. Last evening she was unconscious and there is slight hopes of her surviving very long. Mrs. Farley is the widow of Theophilus Farley, who died some three years ago, and is also the mother of Robert M. Farley, freight agent at the P. & R. railway station.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

Mr. and Mrs. George Lowe of West Pittston spent Sunday with relatives in Danville.

Thomas James of Berwick, spent Sunday with his parents, East Danville.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Foulk of Wilkesbarre, spent Sunday with relatives in this city.

Mrs. Isaac Pursel of Berwick, spent Sunday at the home of Alex. Foster, Bloom street.

Miss Julia A. Gorman a trained nurse of Williamsport, returned home yesterday after a several weeks' stay in this city.

Miss Tillie Keener visited friends in Sunbury yesterday.

Henry Rempe transacted business in Muncy yesterday.

O. R. Drumheller was in Williamsport yesterday.

Edward Yeager is transacting business in Philadelphia.

G. H. Cochran of Newark, N. J., was a visitor in this city yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Laumaster left yesterday for York where they will attend the funeral of Mrs. Laumaster's brother, William Herman.

Reese Edmondson transacted business in Berwick yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Heim are visiting relatives in Bloomsburg.

Frank Mitchell of Berwick, spent several hours in this city yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lehman of Milton, were visitors at the State Hospital yesterday.

James T. Magill was in Sunbury yesterday.

Simon Dreifuss transacted business in Bloomsburg yesterday.

George M. Gearhart left yesterday for Philadelphia.

Mrs. W. G. Bowyer visited friends in Bloomsburg yesterday.

Miss Katie Snyder visited Berwick friends yesterday.

I. D. Snyder of Bloomsburg, was a visitor in this city yesterday.

Henry Krieger spent yesterday at Catawissa.

Constable R. D. Ohl of Muncy, transacted business in this city yesterday.

Rev. R. J. Allen returned home from a visit to Williamsport yesterday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. George Sweisfort of Atlantic City, are the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Sweisfort, Mill street.

Peter Burger, School Director of Gearhart township, attended the Northumberland County Teachers' Institute at Sunbury yesterday.

Miss Ada Beckley returned to Shamokin yesterday after a few days visit in this city.

Frank Canfield of Jameson City, spent yesterday in this city.

Dr. C. C. Shultz was in Sunbury yesterday.

Music of the Great Composers.

The early eucharist on Christmas morning in Christ Episcopal church has come to be one of the marked religious features of the year's services in that parish. This early service seems to meet the convenience of a large number of people who keep a religious Christmas before the duties of the day itself begin. One of the largest congregations of the year gathers in Christ church for this service which will be made very impressive this year by the choir's rendition of Eyre's communion service. The service begins at 6:30 o'clock. The following is the program:

Processional Hymn	"Hark the Herald Angels sing."
Anthem	"Sing oh Heavens" Clark.
Communion Office.	
Kyrie Eleison	Reed.
Gloria Tibi	Reed.
Laus Christi	Reed.
Credo	Eyre.
Offertory	"It came upon the midnight clear".
Presentation of Alms	Humphrey.
Sursum Corda	Eyre.
Sanctus	Eyre.
Benedictus Qui Venit	Eyre.
Agnus Dei	Eyre.
Gloria in Excelsis	Eyre.
Recessional Hymn	"O come all ye faithful".

The children's service will be held on Christmas afternoon at 4 o'clock and will consist of hymns and carols.

Birthday Party.

Mrs. Edward Frazier entertained a number of little folks at her home in Valley township last Friday in honor of the fifth birthday of her son Lake. A turkey dinner was served. Those present were Chrissie Frazier, Eva Mowrer, Margie Nephew, Winnie Cornelison, Mollie Mowrer, Laura Farnsworth, Florence and Mabel Mowrer, Ralph Cromis, Atwood Ashenfelder, Charles Herr and Robert Farnsworth. Music was furnished by Miss Belle Lowrie and Miss Eva Mowrer of Strawberry Ridge.

A Frightened Horse.

Running like mad down the street dumping the occupants, or a hundred other accidents, are every day occurrences. It behooves everybody to have a reliable Salve handy and there's none as good as Bucklen's Arnica Salve. Burns, Cuts, Sores, Eczema and Piles, disappear quickly under its soothing effect. 25c, at Paules & Co's drug store.

LONG SUFFERING ENDS IN DEATH

Mrs. Margaret Gaskins, an old and well-known resident of Danville, departed this life shortly before the noon hour yesterday after nearly eight years of infirmity and suffering.

The deceased was the widow of the late William G. Gaskins, who died about 1895. Three months after her husband's death Mrs. Gaskins fell on the ice and sustained a fracture of her hip. From that day until her death life during most of the time was a weary burden. She never recovered from the effects of the accident and passed through a long siege of suffering in which there was a complication of diseases that kept her much of the time confined to her bed.

William G. Gaskins, husband of the deceased, was a representative of one of the oldest families in this section, who were the original owners of the land on which the Chulaskey furnace stands and several tracts adjoining. The maiden name of the deceased was Margaret Wright. She was born in Northumberland in 1824 and was therefore in her 79th year. On March 8th, 1846, she was married.

With her husband she began her married life in Danville. Very soon after her husband became landlord of the Montour House and the old hostelry then in the early days of its history was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gaskins for some time.

The funeral will be held at the residence of Walter Gaskins, son of the deceased, West Mahoning street, at 1:30 o'clock, Saturday afternoon. The interment will take place in Fairview Cemetery.

Three sons survive, Walter and John of this city, and Arthur of Northumberland.

Funeral of Mrs. B. B. Brown.

Mrs. Benton B. Brown was laid away in her last resting place, Odd Fellows' cemetery, Tuesday afternoon. The funeral took place at 2:30 o'clock from the family residence on Walnut street.

The services were conducted by Rev. Harry Curtin Harman, pastor of St. Paul's M. E. church, assisted by Rev. N. E. Cleaver, pastor of Trinity M. E. church.

The floral offerings were numerous and beautiful, representing tributes from many individual friends. The pall bearers were: Joseph R. Patton, D. R. Eckman, Jacob Fry, J. B. Cleaver, Alfred Forney and John Patton.

The obsequies were very largely attended, among those present from out of town being Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Yorgy, of Wilkesbarre; E. R. Morgan, Charles G. Morgan, Misses Ruth and Lulu Morgan, Miss Ruth Weaver and Miss Ella Swainbank of Kingston; Dr. Kline of Catawissa; Mr. and Mrs. George Kline of Winfield; Mrs. Catherine Rockafeller, Mrs. David Rockafeller, Mrs. Sarah Seesholtz, Miss Nelle Osmun, Mrs. Norman Armes, Jerre Kline, Esq., I. Clinton Kline, Esq., of Sunbury.

Local Company May be Formed.

A few of our business men have become interested in a project to manufacture vitrified brick in Danville. The extensive deposit of shale whose excellent quality has been so well demonstrated and the great demand for paving brick which is sure to follow here in a year or so serves as a big inducement to enterprising men who can command capital.

It is said to be reasonably sure that next spring a local company will be formed to take hold of the work and manufacture building and paving brick from the shale.

Removing the Coal Digger.

W. A. Shepperson has contracted to remove Mr. LeDuc's coal digger out of the river. Mr. LeDuc, himself, worked at it last Saturday, but he was forced to abandon it as a bad job, although he succeeded in removing it out of the water. The river rose Sunday and floated the digger and the cold wave following threatened to lock it in the ice.

Mr. Shepperson yesterday made considerable progress with the work and succeeded in pulling it half way up the bank. The object is to land it high and dry on the river bank at Water street.

Surprise Party.

A pleasant surprise party was tendered Miss Bertha Mottern on Tuesday evening at her home on Grand street in honor of her fourteenth birthday anniversary. Those present were: Misses Nellie Griffin, Edith Mitchell, Blanche Lutz, Jennie Waite, Bertha Evans, Mae Brent, and Mary Lutz, Scott Heim, James Paugh, Albert Swank, Harry Quinn, Percy Hallman, Edwin Jenkins, George Rishel, Lafayette Marshall, Calvin Marshall, Ralph White, William Summons, and Master Miles Mottern.

Workman Falls Into Reservoir.

Charles Miller, an employe at the filter plant at the Hospital met with a narrow escape on Monday. He was walking over the top of the reservoir when a plank tilted and he fell to the bottom along with a box of tools which stood near.

Mr. Miller landed upon the hard cement bottom striking his shoulder, while the contents of the tool box, hatchet, saws and chisels rained down upon him. He fortunately escaped all injury beyond a painful bruise upon the shoulder.

HARVESTING ICE BY STEAM

William S. Lawrence of Mausdale yesterday started up his ice plant at the dam on Mahoning creek just north of the Borough and is harvesting ice a foot thick of an excellent quality. This is unusually early in the season for cutting ice. The equipment of the plant too, is such as to merit especial notice.

In the history of Danville it is probably the first time that steam was ever employed in harvesting ice. Horse power was previously employed at the plant on the cinder tip.

The dam on Mahoning creek at this point forms a reservoir of pure water. It is convenient to the borough and lies exposed in such a way that ice forms early and continues to freeze longer than on many other ponds. The dam is especially desirable as an ice pond but it has one detriment: It cuts right into the big cinder tip, which from the water's edge on each side slants upward at an angle of 45 degrees for a distance of some 80 feet. It is impossible to get to the water's edge with a wagon and some means had to be devised for getting the ice expeditiously into a position where it could be hauled away.

To accomplish this a very original device has been in use for a couple of years past, which consists of an endless chain arrangement extending from the bottom of the dam to the top of the cinder tip where it is connected with the motor. The chain, which is double in form, is equipped with long spikes, which as they emerge from the water catch the cakes of ice and carry them to the top of the cinder tip, where they are dropped onto a platform whence they are conveniently loaded onto the wagons.

The horse power previously used to keep the chain in motion was not satisfactory and Mr. Lawrence this year conceived the idea of using steam as a motive power and has installed a portable engine and boiler on the cinder tip. Yesterday's experiment was wholly satisfactory and steam will henceforth take the place of horse power.

Mr. Lawrence has also introduced something new in the form of an ice cutter. It is an implement resembling a farmer's cultivator. Instead of the teeth there are two rows of knives which cut into the ice; it is drawn by a horse and manipulated by a man who follows holding on the handles.

The plant is such that one horse and a crew of eight or ten men can cut ice and land it on the platform as fast as four teams can haul it away. Yesterday Mr. Lawrence was filling the ice houses of A. M. Peters and Elias Maier.

Northumberland Directors.

The public school directors of Northumberland county met in annual session in court room No. 2, Sunbury, Wednesday morning.

John Crossley, of Gearhart township, was elected secretary and John Rine called the meeting to order. O. C. Fuller, of Lewis township, was elected chairman for the coming year, and upon being called to the chair made an appropriate speech. J. F. Rissel, of East Chillisquaque, and Harry Raup, of Turbotville, were elected vice presidents. S. P. Menges, of Lewis, was chosen treasurer. John Rine then made a report of the attendance of directors elected to attend convention at Harrisburg last February.

After a short address by President Fuller the roll was called. The attendance was very gratifying, but the only district in the county to be represented by the entire board was Lewis township.

A. S. Hoffman, of Point; John Ford, of Shamokin township; O. C. Fuller, of Lewis; Charles Crick, of Ralpho, and B. M. Bubb, of Dalmatia, were chosen to attend the directors' convention to be held at Harrisburg in February, 1904. The first Monday in March, 1904, was chosen as the date for holding the first annual convention of directors to meet in Sunbury. Ex-Supt. Bowersox, of Snyder county, made an address. Hon. Henry Houck followed and in his characteristic way offered many valuable suggestions.

A Pointer for Danville.

The Altoona Tribune is trying to convince leading business men of that city that it is their duty to accept election to councils. This is the right time of year for such an undertaking and it ought to succeed, not only in Altoona, but everywhere else. Men engaged in active business affairs and who pay a large share of taxes are the ones best fitted to act as official trustees of the people—Philadelphia Press.

Rev. Gilbert's Mishap.

Rev. H. Gilbert, of Berwick, who preached in the Mt. Carmel M. E. church Sunday morning, met with a painful accident shortly after noon. He was being entertained at the home of H. S. Fagely, and in reaching for a towel in the bath room his head violently came in contact with a towel rack. The blow was received on the forehead and a long, deep gash was inflicted which bled quite profusely.

Finishing Mills Idle.

The twelve and the sixteen-inch Mill along with the skelp mill of the Reading Iron Works are closed down this week. Both puddle mills are in operation.

JOB PRINTING

The office of the AMERICAN being furnished with a large assortment of job letter and fancy type and job material generally, the Publisher announces to the public that he is prepared at all times to execute in the neatest manner

JOB PRINTING

Of all Kinds and Description

PLEASANT LOVE ROMANCE

Miss Louisa Shultz of this city will leave tomorrow for Los Angeles, California, where she will become the bride of George Weiser.

The marriage is the culmination of a pleasant little love romance which began in this city and in which two hearts remained constant to each other although separated by nearly the entire width of the continent.

Mr. Weiser, the prospective groom is a prosperous young business man of Los Angeles. He was a native of this section and for a period of four years or so was with John Jacobs & Sons of this city, where he served an apprenticeship as baker and confectioner. It was during these days that he became acquainted with Miss Shultz.

Completing his apprenticeship Mr. Weiser went West locating in Los Angeles, where he is now associated with his brother in business.

Miss Shultz, from the time she was a very little girl lived with the late Miss Chrissie Wands. At present she is spending a few days with the parents of her intended husband near Pottsgrove. The wedding will take place about Christmas.

Change in Method of Examination.

The Civil Service Commission has adopted a new plan for holding examinations in the various cities of the state.

Under the old rule examinations were held yearly in each town for clerk and carrier, and were conducted by a board composed of employes of the local post office. All those candidates receiving over 70 per cent. were accepted and placed on a waiting list until there was a vacancy.

The new system divides the post offices of the country into districts. Instead of the local board conducting examinations alone it is re-inforced by an examiner sent out from the district headquarters, who has charge of the test.

The most important change is the abolition of examinations except where there is a vacancy. Those placed on the waiting list after the yearly examinations under the old plan were compelled to undergo examinations every year until they secured a position. Many waited years for a vacancy.

With the establishment of the new system examinations will be held only when necessary. He who makes the highest average will get the position, and those who fall below will not be kept on a waiting list hoping some one will quit, but will forget it and wait until there is another vacancy, when they can try again.

Expense of Smallpox.

An item of the cost of smallpox is suggested by the anual report of Dr. Lee, of the Pennsylvania State Board of Health. The value of human lives, the cost of death and of illness have often been estimated, and the results are convincing arguments that the public should, for purely politic and financial reasons, do all in its power to eradicate disease and prevent unnecessary death.

In the last year there were, according to Dr. Lee 6,504 cases of smallpox in the state, with 503 deaths.

A somewhat careful calculation based upon these reports, leads to the conclusion that in the counties reporting about 1,500,000 school days were lost during the period reported on. This does not include the great cities of the state, which would swell the figures enormously. In Philadelphia for instance, eleven elementary schools, with an enrollment of more than 5,000 pupils, were closed in a single day because of smallpox in the families of pupils. In round numbers we may therefore place the number of lost school days in the state, from smallpox, at not less than 2,000,000. If we take 200 as about the average number of actual school days a year, of each pupil, if there were no loss of time, it follows that the waste of the scholar's time by smallpox and the teacher's salary, interest on the real estate, etc., must be calculated on the basis of a loss of 10,000 school years.

As smallpox is a preventable disease the expense is a preventable expense—whenever the community cares sufficiently to authorize the prevention.

Gas Meets With Demand.

George M. West, manager of the Standard Gas Company, states that the demand for gas is unprecedented and that to supply the demand a new bench of retorts will be connected today.

The improvements, which have been on foot for some days, have now reached a stage when it is necessary to shut off the gas for brief intervals. Between the hours of 9 p. m. yesterday and 6 o'clock this morning there was no gas. Gas will also be turned off today between 9 o'clock this morning and 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Successful Revival Meeting.

The most successful revival meeting in the history of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Waynesboro is now in progress. One hundred persons have professed faith, and ninety have joined the church during the last six weeks. The pastor, Rev. O. G. Heck, has had sole charge of these services.

Rev. Mr. Heck was formerly pastor of Trinity M. E. church, this city.

Death of George Shires.

George Shires, a well known resident of this county, died Monday night at the home of his brother, Charles Shires, Strawberry Ridge.