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CONDENSED NEWS.

Don't flirt with typhoid.
Houses are in demand.
Character, like water, will find its level.

Lackawanna county's record of crime for 1906 shows eleven murders and fifteen suicides.

What do you think of 1907 by this time?

Some people are predicting financial upheavals for 1907.

Pennsylvanians will watch the next legislature with unusual interest.

The disinclination of a good man to serve the public is always the bad man's opportunity.

Did you go to church on the first Sunday of the new year?

It is very unfortunate to be poor, friendless and without a pull.

There are some lessons that some persons find extremely hard to learn. Justice is not on speaking terms with some of the law that is administered in her name.

Philanthropy of a certain sort concerns itself chiefly with feathering its own nest.

There has been twelve cases of appendicitis in Coatesville, Chester county, within two weeks, and in consequence an anti-appendicitis club has been formed, of over 100 prominent men of the town. Each member is pledged to live according to a prescribed set of laws and rules, which set forth what to do to keep away the dread disease.

Engineer Samuel Kauffman, of Selingsgrove, who served the Sunbury and Lewistown Railway company as a passenger engineer for twenty-five years, was found dead at his post on Saturday morning with his hand on the throttle of the engine.

Forty-six well known residents of Philadelphia have been entered for the nomination of mayor of the city by the various parties and independent organizations existing there.

Harry L. Graham, a leading member of the Butler county bar, shot himself near the heart with a revolver at his home in Butler on Saturday evening and is not expected to live. He is 34 years old, prominent in fraternal societies, clerk of the board of education and vestryman in the Episcopal church.

Has the weather man entered into a conspiracy against the ice man?

The college boys are all back at work, at least they are supposed to be working.

Charles Lewis, the oldest resident of Norristown, celebrated his 86th birthday anniversary on Sunday. He has always lived in the Third ward and was never out of the town over night in his life. Mr. Lewis is one of the directors of the Penn Trust company.

While Amelia Tardella, a pretty Italian girl of 21, was at her home in New Castle on Sunday evening a man said to be a rejected lover, entered the house and shot at her. The girl fainted and the shock was so great that serious consequences are feared.

Be of good cheer, the sun will shine again—some time.

Joseph Smith, aged 17 years, of Homestead, found an infernal machine in an alley on Monday, and while examining it in the presence of a young brother and two other boys, the thing exploded and all four were severely burned and had their hands lacerated.

The best advice in the world is sometimes the most distasteful.

The crooked tongue tells many a singular story.

The sun tried to shine yesterday, but it was a little out of practice.

The outside labors and breakers, to the number of 150, employed at the Coal Brook colliery, Lackawanna county, have struck because they were refused an increase of wages ranging from 12 to 15 cents per day. There are 1,500 men thrown out of employment in consequence.

Levi Bubb, a youthful horse thief of York county, who was charged with having stolen about a dozen horses within a year, was called for trial on Monday when he pleaded guilty to the theft of three horses and was sentenced to fifteen years in the penitentiary.

The law and order society of Mahanoy City has been fighting the illicit liquor traffic carried on, and on Sunday all the saloons were closed, giving the town a dry Sunday, which it has not had for many days.

Eliza Armstrong, the oldest resident of Adams county, is dead at the age of 106.

Prospects for an ice crop are still vague.

Shamokin firemen threaten not to attend fires in the business district because a number of merchants refused to purchase advance tickets for a firemen's theatrical attraction benefit.

TO FILL UP THE OLD CANAL

The trustees of the hospital for the insane have made arrangements with the D. L. & W. Railroad company for filling up and improving the land embraced in the old canal where it intersects the hospital property.

In accomplishing this work they propose to apply for an appropriation from the State. In abating the nuisance there it is deemed advisable to get rid of the old canal in the borough. To that end the borough council was asked to interest itself in the proposition and appoint a committee to act in the matter.

Mr. Jacobs, at the regular meeting Friday, moved that a committee of three be appointed to meet with the resident trustees of the hospital for the purpose of formulating a plan for piping and filling up the old canal; also again to meet with the trustees and a committee of the State legislature, and endeavor to impress upon the latter the necessity for an appropriation to assist in abolishing the nuisance. The motion carried.

Messrs. Vastine, Sweisfort and Jacobs were appointed as a committee of three by the chairman to meet the trustees and the legislative committee which latter is expected to pay the hospital a visit next week.

The ordinance to prevent the throwing around of medicine samples etc., passed council on the third and final reading.

On motion of Mr. Russell the street commission was instructed to notify Post Bros. to remove the accumulation of ashes, stones, etc., on Ferry street, which obstructs the drain; otherwise the work will be done by the borough at Post Bros.' expense.

On motion of Mr. Dietz it was ordered that bids be invited for printing 300 copies of the new borough ordinance.

Spring street was reported to council as in a very bad condition. On motion the committee on streets and bridges was requested to visit the spot and determine what improvements can be made.

On motion of Mr. Vastine the committee on streets and bridges was ordered to investigate as to the condition of Perry street at Robert G. Miller's residence.

On motion of Mr. Dietz it was ordered that the report of the fire chief be accepted and the section of hose in the hands of the superintendent of the water works be returned to the Friendship fire company.

On motion it was ordered that fifty feet of hose be purchased for the Friendship fire company to be used in sprinkling.

Borough Electrician Newton Smith presented his report for operating the light plant during the month past. Eighty-seven tons of coal at \$2.50 per ton were consumed amounting to \$217.50. The plant was in operation 397 hours, 15 minutes. The total cost of operation for the month was \$339.00.

The following members were present: Gibson, Boyer, Dietz, Vastine, Sweisfort, Russell, Eisenhart, Jacobs, Woodside and Angle.

ADA KRUM RESTORED TO HOME

Charles Sutton and Miss Ada Krum the runaway couple, who were apprehended at Athens, this State, with John Grier Voris, arrived in this city Monday. The girl has been restored to her parents and Sutton alias Wray, is languishing in the county prison with two charges hanging over his head.

The couple arrived on the 4:31 Pennsylvania train and were hustled directly to the office of Justice Dalton where the deserted wife and the mother of the latter as well as of the runaway girl had been in waiting since twelve o'clock.

The meeting of the mother and the daughter who had been given up as lost contained an element of deep pathos. The woman yielding to her motherly instincts, although deeply hurt, showed a disposition to take her daughter back and to forgive all. The girl, however, had much to explain.

She confessed that she did not know what had prompted the course she had taken. "I just got it into my head to go away," she said, "and I did not want to go alone." The little journey abroad, however, will probably last her a life time. Sutton and the girl made their way on foot the entire distance from Danville to Athens, estimated to be 148 miles. They left Danville on November 5, arriving at Athens about Thanksgiving day. Some where between Berwick and West Nanticoke they spent two weeks with a farmer, where both Sutton and the girl were employed husking corn. They confessed that they had endured many hardships, but that there was only one night when they had no shelter. This occurred where a forest fire was raging and the country folk were all out. The burning timber afforded warmth amid among the fire fighters Sutton and the girl found plenty of company.

The following from the "Athens Evening News" of Saturday, through the kindness of Mr. Grier Voris, is published for the information of the public:

"Charles Sutton was taken into custody by Chief Mulligan and County Detective McGovern today noon at the local plant of the American Bridge company where he has been employed for the last five weeks.

According to his story he and the 17-year-old girl, his sister-in-law, left Danville last November and walked to Athens, working at various farms for a few days at a time along the way. They reached Athens about December 1 and he secured work at the bridge plant. He and his sister-in-law having been living as man and wife, boarding with a family residing in one of the old tannery houses west of the Chemung river. The girl is in a delicate condition but Sutton maintains that she is not the responsible party."

Sutton was committed to the lock-up Saturday afternoon, the girl being detained at one of the hotels. At her own request late Sunday night she was taken to the lock-up and was placed in a cell next to Sutton.

The girl is only seventeen years of age and is prepossessing in appearance. It is a sad case of infatuation and, mere child that she is, she becomes an object of deep sympathy. Sutton, who was working and earning fair wages, had purchased some-up-to-date clothing for her so that notwithstanding her hard lines she was by no means unrepresentable.

To the charge of desertion and non-support preferred by his wife, Jennie Sutton, he pleaded guilty, but under oath to justify his conduct by making verbal counter charges against his wife.

To the other charge embodied in information lodged by Mrs. Mary A. Krum, accusing him of being responsible for her daughter, Ada Krum's condition, he pleaded not guilty and in this he was borne out by the sworn testimony of the young girl herself.

The girl's testimony, however, had little force in view of evidence given in by officer Voris, which was to the effect that she had told the county detective at Athens that Sutton was guilty. This and other testimony to practically the same effect the girl at the hearing before Justice Dalton acknowledged was true. In view of all the facts Sutton was held for court on both charges, bail in the first case being fixed at \$300 and in the last case at \$500. He made little or no effort to secure a bondsman and was committed to jail.

The mother, the deserted wife and the restored daughter, after the hearing, all returned to the home in the country.

SPECIAL COURT YESTERDAY

The court house bell rang yesterday morning, Judge Evans and Associate L. W. Wellver were on hand. Attorneys and witnesses were present and everything had been arranged for a habeas corpus proceeding, which at the last moment was unexpectedly called off.

The proceedings had been instituted to secure the release of James M. McKenney, Jr., from the hospital for the insane at this place. The petitioner set forth that he is unlawfully restrained of his liberty and that such restraint to the best of his knowledge and belief is not by virtue of any commitment or detainer for any criminal or supposed criminal matter. He, therefore, prayed for a writ of habeas corpus agreeably to the act of assembly directed to Dr. Hugh B. Meredith, superintendent of the said hospital.

All the parties were in court or within easy reach including, not only the petitioner and Dr. Meredith, but the mother and other relatives of the former. James M. McKenney is a handsome, finely built young fellow belonging to a prominent family of Pittsburgh. He was well dressed and as he appeared in court bore none of the traces of dementia. What story lay back of his commitment did not develop, as the hearing did not proceed.

Hon. Grant Herring, counsel for the petitioner, stated that an agreement had been reached between his client and the relatives of the latter, in which his release was agreed to provided he would yield to a certain wish of his relatives. This was fully brought out in the following order of court, which was immediately made by Judge Evans:

"And now January 7, 1907, this matter came on to be heard and after consideration thereof and the production of the said James M. McKenney, Jr., in person before the court and the said James M. McKenney stipulating that he will voluntarily go to and remain at the farm of William Muldoon near White Plains, New York, for a period of two months from this date, it is ordered that said James McKenney be forthwith discharged from the custody of the State hospital for the insane at Danville, Pa.

By the Court,
CHARLES C. EVANS, P. J.
Charles P. Orr, of Pittsburg, and Hon. John G. Harman, of Bloomsburg, represented the relatives of the petitioner, at whose instance the latter was committed to the hospital.

The occasion yesterday was the first that Grant Herring and John G. Harman, with his Honor Judge Evans, the three contestants in the bitter fight for the judgeship last fall, met together at the local bar since the election. It was indeed a pleasure to see these talented gentlemen with no conflicting interests and all differences buried working together harmoniously as during the many years of the past.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

Baldy Smith, of Sunbury, sent Sunday with friends in Danville.

Miss Amanda Youngman returned to Wellesly Sautraly after a visit at the home of Mrs. Angus Wright, Upper Mulberry street.

Miss Bess Drumbeller, of Sunbury, spent Sunday in this city as a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Grone, Mill st. et.

Mrs. W. A. Blinde and daughter Mildred, of Nanticoke, spent Saturday at the home of D. C. Hunt, West Market street.

Mrs. Harry Billmeyer, of Washingtonville, called on friends in this city yesterday.

Harry Blue, of Sunbury, was a visitor in this city yesterday.

Alfred Esterbrook returned yesterday to Rochester, New York, where he will finish his course at the Rochester Business Institution.

Charles H. Cowan, of Stonington, Connecticut, called on friends in this city yesterday.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Holloway arrived in this city yesterday from Philadelphia in response to the news of the serious illness of the former's father, W. K. Holloway.

Miss Katherine Francis, of Lewisville, arrived in Danville last evening for a visit with Miss Katherine McCormick, West Market street.

Mrs. S. A. York returned to Philadelphia yesterday after a stay with friends in Danville.

LUNACY COMMISSION AT HOSPITAL

The lunacy commission visited the hospital for the insane at this place Tuesday and conducted a thorough investigation, not only as relates to overcrowding and the condition of the buildings, but also as to management, the pay and treatment of employes and as to whether or not the State is being defrauded by the admission of patients into the hospital as indigent insane who have estates or relatives who are responsible for their maintenance. Some deplorable facts were unearthed and it is quite evident that radical recommendations will be made along at least several of the lines of inquiry.

Of the lunacy commission the following gentlemen were present: Hon. Henry F. Walton, chairman, Hon. Edward F. Beidelman of Dauphin; Senators Milton Hiedelbaugh of Lancaster, and James F. Woodward of Allegheny City. Of the board of hospital trustees the following were present: I. X. Grier, Esq., H. M. Schoch, Hon. James Foster, of Danville; Dr. B. H. Detwiler, of Williamsport; Howard Lyon of Hughesville, and G. R. Van Alen, of Northumberland. Dr. H. L. Orth, superintendent of the hospital for the insane at Harrisburg, was also present. Newspaper men were on hand as follows: Fred A. Long, Thomas F. Logan and Ben K. Raleigh, representing respectively the Philadelphia "North American," the "Inquirer," and the "Evening Bulletin." A representative of the AMERICAN was also present. John R. K. Scott, Esq., of Philadelphia, accompanied the commission as attorney. Harris Lighty, of Philadelphia was stenographer. In addition to the above the county commissioners and the local board of poor directors were present by request.

The commission did not arrive at the hospital until nearly 11 o'clock and as soon as practicable got down to work. Every inquiry was conducted in the most searching manner. There was no mincing of words, nor was there any special consideration shown for the standing or position of the person questioned. The commission had no fault to find with the management, nor with the capability of the board of trustees. The flagrant defect of the hospital, aside from the lack of room, that impressed the commission was the antiquated type of building.

It will interest the people of Danville to know that the big institution here, which, viewed from the outside, is the object of much local pride, was Tuesday pronounced the worst, the most obsolete and objectionable of all the hospital buildings in the State. Chairman Walton in an interview with the AMERICAN representative, after the investigation, expressed his disapproval in these words: "The building is wholly unfit for the purpose and I would recommend that the whole structure be torn down and replaced by new buildings constructed according to modern ideas. I would recommend that the building be torn down wing by wing and the new structure completed in sections, to take over the patients gradually."

He regretted that the temporary buildings for which an appropriation was made by the last legislature had not been erected. These structures, he said, embodied modern ideas and would have improved conditions very much.

At noon the lunacy commission, board of trustees and all others present had dinner at the institution. Dr. Meredith, the superintendent, was the only witness examined during the morning session. The bulk of the work was done in the afternoon.

Dr. Meredith made a very good impression on the commission, revealing that he was laboring conscientiously with considerable odds against him to care for and benefit the insane charges committed to his care. In answer to questions, Dr. Meredith stated that he is 54 years of age, that he is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, class of '77. He has been connected with the institution for twenty-eight years and has been superintendent for eighteen years. His salary at present is \$4000 annually, having been raised from \$3000 about a year ago.

The capacity of the institution, Dr. Meredith said, is equal to 500 male patients and 350 females. At present there are 683 men and 613 women at the institution. As a result of the overcrowding the patients sleep in the corridors and other unsuitable places.

The chairman explained that it had come to the ears of the commission that large numbers of patients are committed to the hospitals of the State as indigent insane when they have estates or relatives who are responsible for their keeping. It was the intent of the law, he said, that no person is to be committed in this way except actual paupers. As the result of the loose and illegal way in which insane are committed to the hospitals the State is annually defrauded out of large sums of money. Inasmuch as the commission is determined to get at the bottom of the matter the request is made that persons throughout the State come forward or communicate with the chairman who know of patients committed as indigent who have estates or relatives responsible for their support.

Dr. Meredith admitted that there are a number of patients in the institution here classed as indigent, for

FOOT RACE WITH ESCAPED PRISONER

It seldom occurs that a policeman is called upon to give such a striking exhibition of his spry qualities as was witnessed yesterday morning when Officer Voris pursued an escaped offender down the Northumberland road.

George Mook was arrested Tuesday evening charged with "disorderly conduct and with disturbing the peace of the neighborhood." George had been imbibing and was put in the lockup until he should be in a suitable condition for a hearing.

At 9 o'clock yesterday morning he was to have had a hearing before justice Dalton. He was being conducted to the "Squire's" and had reached James Martin's store when he made a dash for liberty. He crossed Mill street, closely followed by Chief Mincey, in front of J. H. Cole's store caught his foot in the curb and fell striking his knees on the pavement. He was badly bruised and momentarily disabled.

The chief quickly recovered and dashed off in pursuit, although under handicap of his bruised knee he was unable to quite keep up with the prisoner. He stuck to the chase, however, until his finish and was at no time far in the rear.

Had Mook been running for his life he would not have made better time. He dashed along the streets and alleys of the third ward and had reached a point on West Center street near the Mahoning creek bridge when he was sighted by Officer Voris, who was coming down East Center street, having joined in the pursuit.

Notwithstanding his heavy avoirdupois he made a good record as he dashed down West Center street. Mook took a short cut across to Northumberland street. Officer Voris by cutting across the foundry yard gained a little time, but when he emerged on Northumberland street Mook was already below the trestling and was making the gravel fly as he ran with freedom in full view.

It was at this point that the sight was worth seeing. The tusty officer, divesting himself of his heavy coat as he ran, flung it into the hands of a bystander and showed that when it came to sprinting he was rather more than a match for the lighter man that he was in pursuit of.

A minute later Mook was out of town headed for the dug road. It finally became evident that the officer was gaining slightly and thus the race continued until the man pursued became to climb the dug road. At this point the two men were only some ten yards apart, when the officer called upon Mook to surrender, which he did without further hesitancy.

The prisoner was brought back to town and arraigned before the justice. Fine and costs amounted to \$10, which he found a way to pay and was released.

YOUTHFUL BANDITS

Led astray by reading trashy half-dime novels, three Berwick lads, Percy Klinepeters, aged 12 years, his brother William Klinepeters, 14 years, and Thomas Horan, 15 years, saved up a considerable sum of money and after purchasing revolvers, a bowie knife and a large quantity of cartridges, together with a supply of the favorite literature, they embarked on a freight train Monday to exploit the South, as they told some of their companions, and said they would never return home.

The lads were all attending the public schools of that town, and their escape was not learned by their parents until they failed to return home for supper Monday evening. Inquiring among their former companions they revealed the scheme. The coterie of youths whose minds had become inflamed from reading the novels contained several others besides the above three. For some time preparations had been under way for the event. Money had been saved up and fire arms procured. When the time for leaving home arrived, however, all but Horan and the Klinepeters backed out. These three, bidding the others a last farewell, and saying they would never return home until they had won fame and fortune, embarked on a D. L. & W. freight train. They said they would first go to Newport, R. I., where Horan had friends, and from there go South. However, they did not have a good knowledge of directions.

The railroad detectives at Northumberland and Sunbury were notified to look for the lads, but the bunch had passed that point earlier in the afternoon and their whereabouts is still unknown.

The two Klinepeters each carried revolvers and Horan a large bowie knife. They also carried 500 rounds of cartridges each, and took a large bundle of half-dime novels. They purchased new shoes before starting, and were thought to have about \$56 in cash when they left Berwick.

Wire Had Fallen.

Several of the arc lights on Mill street were out for awhile last evening. The cause lay in the fact that a wire at the corner of Pine and Lower Mulberry streets had fallen. As soon as the accident could be repaired the lights were turned on.

Our light plant is ably managed and it is very seldom that a mishap, even of the minor sort, occurs.

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