



ITEMS CONDENSED.

Nearly \$2,000 was distributed among the employees of the Reading paper mills recently, following an annual custom of giving each employe \$1 for each year he has been in the plant's employ.

Carl Lee, of California, who fell off a trestle seventy-five feet high, while he was doing some work on it, is expected to recover from the injuries he received. He sustained serious hurts about the head, had one hip fractured and the other dislocated.

F. R. Barnum, superintendent of the Houston Run mine of the Diamond Coal and Coke company, near Washington, and Thomas Jenkins, foreman of the colliery, have been held in \$500 bail each for alleged failure to observe State laws on mine ventilation.

James Gordon was held without bail at Wilkes-Barre for murder in the first degree for the death of his mother-in-law, as the result of the verdict of the coroner's jury. The man shot at his father-in-law, it is said, and a small wound to the aged woman's arm resulted. She died from fright.

Ebenezer Hunsicker, a huckster of Bristol, to keep his horse from slipping, drew women's stockings over the animal's hoofs and as a result has a broken arm and a badly cut head. The horse went all right until the stockings partly were through, then it turned a somersault. Ebenezer was landing the nag and went down with it.

Some unknown fellow in Chester fired five shots at James P. Connell, of Philadelphia, after Ellen Smith, aged 18, had asked him to escort her because she was being followed by the mysterious man. While she and Connell were walking together he noticed their shadower put his hand towards his hip pocket. He told the young lady to run into a house and stepped behind a pole when the fellow fired. The man with the revolver escaped.

When John Morton's horse fell dead on the railroad tracks at Pittsburg he was so bemuddled as the result of imbibing to freely that he had no thought of danger but clammy got down from the set of his carriage, entered the vehicle and went to sleep. A policeman happened along in time to save the outfit from being struck by an express and when he wakened up the slumberer that individual was found to have thought that his horse was merely asleep. Morton wept copiously when told of his loss.

Pittsburg bakers will support Chief Chemist Harvey W. Wiley, of the department of agriculture, in his fight against bleached flour.

Norman Miller, of Boyertown, was set on fire when a ladle of molten metal tilted. His fellow workmen tore his clothing from him and saved him from fatal injuries.

Daniel S. Emerich, a Reading barber who has been collecting butterflies, locusts and other insects for twenty-five years, now has several thousands from all parts of the world.

Rev. L. F. Taylor, pastor of the First Baptist church at Kittanning, bit something hard while he was eating and onset and found it to be a pearl. He will have it mounted on a stick pin.

Philip Hoch and Andrew Mest, of Pleasantville, have shipped 2,000 muskrat skins and 1,500 skunk pelts to London, England. They have gathered over 100,000 pelts since they started to buy them from Berks county trappers.

Pittsburg's Young Men's Christian association has started a campaign to raise \$300,000 for buildings in various portions of the city and for the extension of work generally. It is hoped to raise the amount in ten days after the work starts on January 25.

Misses Gertrude and Margaret Davis of Sharon, have made application for recognition by the Carnegie hero fund commission because they saved the life of Charles Bodamer, a wealthy real estate owner. He slipped on the ice in front of a fast approaching train and they pulled him off the tracks.

Arrangements have been completed by Secretary of Agriculture N. B. Critchfield for the annual meeting of the State board of agriculture which will be held in the State capitol the week of January 24. Governor Stuart and other State officials will attend as well as representatives of every agricultural society in the State and many men identified in general farming work.

Mrs. Annie Munce, of Darby, was held up by a negro and gave a vicious fight to retain the possession of her handbag which contained a considerable sum of money. She was walking with another woman when they were approached by the man who asked some ordinary question. He made a grab at her handbag and she showed fight. At last he grabbed the handle from the bag, the rest remaining in her hand, and made his escape. The other woman fled screaming. Mrs. Munce is suffering from shock and bruises and three suspects have been arrested.

BUTTERINE IN DEMAND

The recent introduction of butterine into Danville has brought about a new condition affecting the demand for butter. The latter at present quotations is little short of a drug. Evidently there will have to be a readjustment of prices.

It has been scarcely three months since the first butterine was advertised for sale at the local stores. In this short interval it has gained a foothold among our working people that promises to be permanent. One of our Mill street stores affords an illuminating object lesson. Here, where formerly hundreds of pounds of butter were sold weekly and where the supply brought in by the farmers was rarely sufficient to meet the demand, on Saturday night were found seven to eight hundred pounds of butter in stock, all brought in during the week or so past for which there is no demand at the prices quoted—thirty-two cents per pound.

The merchant explained that nearly all his butter trade has gone over to butterine. He exhibited some very fine samples of the latter, which sells at 25 cents per pound. Although a great deal of the butter on hand at the store was of a choice quality yet the difference in the price is too great and people, especially those of limited means, turn to butterine.

Butterine, like butter, varies in quality, and while the best retails at 25 cents there are other grades that sell at 20 cents per pound or even lower. The merchant in question stated that taking in the general run of butter that comes into the stores there is a fair proportion of it that is below good butterine in quality.

He had not the least idea of what he would do with the tremendous accumulation of butter in his store unless he should sell it at a loss. Unfortunately the same conditions prevail over pretty nearly the entire State and the market in neighboring towns that the merchant used to supply when overstocked are like those in Danville glutted with butter.

A visit to the other stores revealed the same state of affairs. At places where butterine is not sold the effect is perceptible in the diminished demand for butter. Every store is well stocked up.

In the curbstone market Saturday thirty-two cents were generally asked, although some butter of first class quality was sold at thirty-five cents. A great deal of butter remained unsold, although toward the close of market it was offered as low as twenty-eight cents per pound.

The local dealers explain that the supply of butter was inadequate to meet the local demand and that the prices—thirty-eight to forty cents per pound—were nearly prohibitive. They were, therefore, compelled to deal in a substitute for butter, just as they were obliged last fall to ship thousands of bushels of potatoes into Danville to supply the trade at prices which people could pay.

Although butterine is a very good substitute for some butter it will never win out in the race with good butter so long as the difference in prices is not too marked. Under the present schedule of prices, however, it is obvious enough that butterine has wholly the advantage. As stated above, obviously, there will have to be a readjustment of prices if butter is to retain its hold on the local market.

SHOT POULTRY THIEF

Mrs. James Gotshall of South Danville on Tuesday night rid the community of a dangerous poultry thief. Incidentally she demonstrated that a woman can be as good a marksman as a man.

For some time the residents of the south side had been missing poultry, Mrs. Gotshall especially being a heavy loser.

On Tuesday night Mrs. Gotshall was home alone with her little son. About 10 o'clock she heard the chickens in her yard cackling and making a great noise. She determined to investigate and seizing the toy rifle of 22 calibre belonging to her little son she rushed out to the henry.

Upon opening the door she was confronted with two fiery eyes, which was all she could see in the darkness. Instinctively raising the gun she blazed away, shooting four times.

When a light was produced it was discovered that the chicken thief was an opossum, considerably bigger than a house cat, which lay on the ground dead, each of the shots having taken effect.

Trolley Cos. Chose Same Officers.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Danville and Bloomsburg and the Columbia and Montour electric street railways companies, these officers were elected for both companies: E. R. Sponser, president; W. F. Lowry, M. I. Low, C. M. Creveling and A. W. Dwy, directors.

FREE WATER FOR CHURCHES

At the request of the borough solicitor the preliminary step for the legal establishment of the disputed boundary line between the borough of Danville and the township of Mahoning was taken by council at its regular meeting last night.

On motion of Mr. Everhart the following resolution was adopted: Whereas all efforts to amicably ascertain and establish the disputed lines or boundaries between the borough of Danville and the township of Mahoning have proved unavailing and ineffectual and

Whereas, it is to the manifest interest of the said borough that such lines and boundaries be legally ascertained and established without further delay; therefore be it

Resolved by the town council that the chief burgess and secretary of said borough be hereby authorized, empowered and directed for and as the official act of said council and borough to sign, execute, serve and deliver all notices, the petition, the bond and all other papers and legal process and do whatever else may be found necessary and proper to be done in the foregoing premises.

A petition representing five different churches and signed by members of church boards, councils, trustees and vestrymen was presented to council last night praying that the borough furnish the churches the water they need free of cost, thereby encouraging congregations in their work for the general good of the community.

On motion it was ordered that the borough furnish the churches proper the water they need free of cost.

On motion it was ordered that legal notice be served on the Danville and Sunbury Transit company to remove the rails on East Market street within sixty days. On motion of Mr. Cleaver it was ordered also that the borough solicitor and the borough engineer be instructed to prepare plans for paving and curbing of East Market street, to the end that there may be no delay when the season arrives for beginning the improvement.

On motion Robert Farley was re-elected as a member of the board of health to represent the fourth ward.

The following members were present; Messrs. Schatz, Curry, Marshall, Everhart, Jones, Iles, Pursel, Cleaver and Deutch.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Includes Borough Department items like Freight and hauling, People's Coal Yard, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Includes Water Department items like Washington Fire Co., People's Coal Yard, etc.

DIRECTORS ELECTED

The annual meetings of the three national banks in Montour county were held Tuesday for the purpose of electing boards of directors.

DANVILLE NATIONAL. At the Danville national bank the following directors were re-elected: William J. Baldy, Esq., Alexander Billmeyer, Frank C. Angle, Charles P. Hancock, D. R. Eckman, Thomas J. Price and Robert Adams. The election of officers will take place at noon today.

FIRST NATIONAL. At the First national bank the following board of directors was elected: I. X. Grier, Esq., R. M. Cathcart, C. G. VanAllen, H. T. Hecht, John F. Tooley, J. B. Cleaver, D. O. Cotner, Samuel Mourer and W. H. Orth.

FARMERS' NATIONAL. The stockholders of the Farmers national bank, of Exchange, chose the following directors: James L. Brennen, A. H. Litchard, James F. Ellis, William Brennen, William Houghton, R. Scott Ammerman, Esq., Alex. Billmeyer, John Herr, D. R. Rishel, William Ellis and J. Harvey Litchard. The directors organized by electing James L. Brennen, president; A. H. Litchard, vice president, and James F. Ellis, cashier.

SLEIGH AS GIFT

As a most appropriate gift at this time, when the sleighing is almost un-surpassed, came a present the other day to Rev. W. J. Kohler, the pastor of the Trinity Reformed church at Strawberry Ridge, of a fine sleigh and bells.

Rev. Kohler is the possessor of a horse, but his congregation thought his equipment needed a sleigh and forthwith voted the money for the purchase. They got the finest cutter that money could buy. The pastor is very proud of his new possession and thankful to the donors.

The churches are specially active in their chosen work just now.

JANUARY COURT BUT NO CASES

Court convened at 10 o'clock Monday morning with his Honor, Judge Evans, and Associates Blee and Welliver on the bench.

The constables of the county being called and sworn presented their reports. Following custom Judge Evans called the constables before court and questioned each one separately as to the full observance of the law in his jurisdiction.

W. E. Young of the first ward of Danville was the first constable examined. After reporting that he had visited each place in his ward where liquor is sold at least once per month since the last term of court and that he had discovered no violations of law he was asked by the court if he knew what a slot machine is. The constable replied in the affirmative. He was then asked if he had discovered no slot machines in his ward. The constable replied that he had found none in the hotels, although they were maintained at some other places in the ward.

The court informed the constable that it was as much his duty to report slot machines where found as to report illegal sale of liquor and other violations of law. The constable was instructed at the next term of court to report every place where slot machines are maintained together with the names of witnesses.

The maintenance of slot machines, the court reminded the constables, is in direct violation of the law. Such machines, Judge Evans said, are most demoralizing in their effect. There is scarcely a week but the court is in receipt of anonymous letters—mostly from women—charging that slot machines are maintained in Danville. Judge Evans said it is to be regretted that these writers do not sign their names so that some clue might be obtained that would bring out all the facts.

Each of the other constables were then addressed individually and having satisfied the court that they had visited all the places in their districts where liquor is sold at least once a month as required they were enjoined to look up the matter of slot machines and wherever these may be found to report them together with the names of witnesses.

William Curry was appointed foreman of the grand jury, which being charged by the court at 10:40 o'clock retired to its room, in charge of Harry Yagel, who had been appointed as tipstaff to wait upon the grand jury.

Clark Kern, William Iles and Jesse B. Wyant, traverse jurors, were excused from attendance at court.

H. M. Moser, Esq., of Mt. Carmel, was admitted to transact business at court.

The civil list was gone over, when it developed that there was not a single case ready for trial. The entire list was continued.

In the case of Commonwealth vs. John E. Everitt, the charge being larceny, a nol. pros. was allowed.

In the case of Commonwealth vs. Perry Mazeal, also, a nol. pros. was entered.

The two Commonwealth cases in which John Beyers is defendant, one charging desertion and non support and the other surety of the peace, were continued until next Saturday.

District Attorney C. P. Gearhart reported that repairs have been made in each case where roads in Derry and Liberty townships were reported in bad condition by the constables at the last term of court.

At 11:30 o'clock the grand jury reported on the case of Commonwealth vs. Isaac Gresh, returning a true bill. This was the only case that went before the grand jury. A jury was impaneled and the intention was to proceed with the trial of the case immediately after the noon intermission.

Court reconvened at 1:45 o'clock. It was discovered on taking up the case that the defendant, Isaac Gresh, was without counsel. The court appointed Ralph Kisner and William Kase West to defend him. Mr. Kisner made an effective plea for a continuance of the case, emphasizing the gravity of the charge and the necessity of greater preparation, if full justice were to be done to the defendant. Judge Evans very much disliked to grant a continuance, but under the circumstances he finally decided to do so.

Thus it transpired that there was not a single case on the Commonwealth list for trial. This is all the more remarkable since at the previous term of court the jurors were notified not to appear and no cases were tried.

At the direction of the court six jurors were drawn from the panel to sit at two inquisitions in lunacy that will be held in the court room at 2 and 3 o'clock, respectively, this afternoon. The six men chosen are as follows: Alfred Litchard, O. M. Leniger, George Kear, Curtis Cook, George Bedea and William Blecher.

The rest of the traverse jurors were discharged.

SCHOOL BOARD IN SESSION

It developed at the regular meeting of the school board Monday that overcrowding in the third ward schools has not proven to be such a weighty factor as was expected. It will not be necessary to employ an extra teacher nor even to transfer pupils to any considerable extent.

Overcrowding in Miss Lawrence's room, it was believed, would result from the influx of small children who had reached the school age by the holidays. The reports of the schools taught by Miss Lawrence and Miss Boudman were produced at the meeting to show that the number of pupils is well within the limit. The average attendance in Miss Lawrence's room is 42. The average attendance in Miss Boudman's room is 41. It was the sense of the board that a few pupils could be transferred from Miss Lawrence's room to Miss Boudman's room, if such a measure should prove to be necessary. Borough Superintendent Dieffenbacher, however, stated that he did not think in view of present conditions that Miss Lawrence will have any difficulty in taking care of all the pupils enrolled in her room.

Mr. Fischer complained that in some of the schools of the borough the practice of raising the windows is indulged in to an extent that proves harmful to the pupils. A good many cases of earache and bad colds have resulted. The matter will be brought to the attention of the teachers by the borough superintendent.

The furnaces of the fourth ward school building were reported as inadequate to meet the demands. It was the sense of the board that it would not be practicable to install new furnaces at this time of year and the furnaces at present in use will have to answer until the end of the term.

The following members were present: Seehler, Orth, Sidler, Swarts, Burns, Pursel, Fischer, Heiss and Cole.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Includes Charles G. Bryan, U. S. Ex. Co., J. W. Griffiths, Welliver Hdw. Co., etc.

On motion of Mr. Pursel it was ordered that following fumigation the school rooms be warmed up to the proper temperature and that if under those conditions the presence of the gas used causes discomfort to the teacher and pupils, then the schools be dismissed at once.

GRAND JURY REPORT

The grand jurors presented their report and were discharged at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. They passed upon the single case that was submitted to them on Monday. Tuesday forenoon they examined the public buildings and the river bridge.

In their recommendations to the county commissioners they introduce a little variety by urging that the inter-county bridge be divided into two sections, one of which shall belong to Montour and the other to Northumberland county.

The grand jury's recommendation in full, as embodied in the report are as follows:

"We have examined the court house, jail and river bridge and find them all in good condition.

"We recommend that curtains be placed on the windows on the south side of the court room.

"At the jail we recommend that the sheriff's office be papered and that the iron work be painted; also that the jail be lighted with electricity; that the cement floor be repaired where needed and that a small table be purchased for one of the cells.

"We recommend that the county commissioners of Montour county arrange with the county commissioners of Northumberland county to divide the river bridge into two sections and that each county keep in proper repair its separate section.

"We also recommend that a retaining wall be built between the bridge and the water works."

FOURTEEN INCH ICE

Cutting ice on the river was in full swing yesterday. John Jacobs' Sons had several teams hauling from the river at the foot of Ferry street. The ice was generally of good quality, of from twelve to fourteen inches in thickness.

J. L. Kline, A. M. Peters and Theodore Hoffman were cutting ice farther up stream, at the foot of Mowrey street. The ice obtained at that point has never been surpassed by any harvested in the vicinity of Danville.

The ice is the thickest that has formed on the river in the five years since the great ice gorges occurred. The water is still comparatively low.

MILK LICENSES ARE UNPAID

The matter of collecting the milk license from the dairymen under the rules and regulations at present in force is giving the board of health no little concern. From what can be learned the dairymen object to the rules and regulations relating to the license and that as a consequence during the present year they have refused to pay the license fee.

Section 1 of the rules and regulations provides that no person, firm or corporation shall sell cream or milk in the borough of Danville without first annually before the first day of March, making application to the board of health, which application shall set forth the name and route of the dairyman, the owner of and location of the dairies and such other information relating to the production and care of cream and milk as may be deemed necessary by the board of health. In addition to making said application, which is to constitute an agreement for faithful compliance, the dairymen are required to obtain from the board of health a license to carry on the business, which license shall be displayed in every wagon from which milk and cream is sold, the fee for said license to be \$10 per annum.

Back of the rules and regulations of the board of health is the borough ordinance, which provides that every person selling milk or cream on the streets of Danville shall take out an annual license of \$10. The section provides that any person violating this provision shall be restrained as the law directs and shall also forfeit and pay a fine of not less than two dollars nor more than ten dollars for each and every such offense.

The milk license has always been a source of more or less contention. As far back as when it was collected by the borough, under the ordinance, dairymen, who denied that they purchased milk from other dairies, claimed exemption from the payment of license on the ground that they sold no milk or cream but was of their own production. The milk licenses were generally collected, however, until the present rules and regulations of the board of health went into effect.

During the year beginning March 1, 1909, we are informed by the secretary of the board of health, no milk license has been paid. The dairymen who claim that they sell milk of their own production only refuse to comply. Others who object to this discrimination refuse to pay a license until all pay, while still others withhold payment on the broad ground that the rules and regulations as they apply to milk license are unjust and of questionable legality.

Such seems to be the status. Obviously a clash is pending. Council declares that under the present law it has nothing to do with the collecting of the milk licenses—that it is a matter which is wholly up to the board of health. The latter body up to the present has not assumed any such responsibility, but has held that the borough council is back of it and must take the initiative in adopting whatever measures may be necessary to collect the overdue milk licenses. Developments in the matter will be watched with a good deal of interest.

FIELDS BARE

Notwithstanding the coating of ice that covers the highways affording good sleighing many of the wheat fields between here and Berwick are bare, which causes some solicitude among the farmers owning them as to the condition of next year's wheat crop.

Wheat fields should be well protected by snow during weather such as we have had since New Year's. Frequently failure of crops can be traced to the exposure of fields during winter.

In the immediate vicinity of Danville, it is said, as a rule the wheat is well covered with a coating of ice and snow.

Sleighing Party in Anthony Twp. Taking advantage of the splendid sleighing a party of Schuyler people drove to the fine home of Wm. Albeck in Anthony township Tuesday evening, where they were very pleasantly entertained. Those on the load driven by Bruce Smith were Mr. and Mrs. John M. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Smith and sons Ralph and Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Dildine, daughter Mary, and sons Myron, Lloyd and Frank, Bruce Smith and daughter Breta, Mrs. John Drumheiser and son Laurant, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Watts and sons Hunter, Lawrence and James. Others present were Mr. and Mrs. Ira Shade, Theo. Reynolds, Sadie Reynolds, Miss Allie Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hagerman and son Frank.

John Winsborough, of Pen Argyl, has bequeathed \$4,000 to the Good Shepherd home at Allentown.

BRINGS ACTION OF ASSUMPSIT

An action of assumpsit is brought by Joseph Baylor against Mahoning township to recover the aggregate sum of \$400 with interest thereon from October 5, 1905.

The plaintiff's statement shows the following facts:

That prior to its issue of certain bonds the defendant township through its supervisors duly petitioned the county commissioners to make application to the State highway department for the cooperation of the State in the reconstruction of the highway leading from Danville to the Valley township line near Maudsle, lying within the defendant township, said supervisors agreeing to assume for it, the said defendant, its proportionate share of the expense.

In pursuance of said application the section of highway was reconstructed under the contract, direction and control of the State highway department; that in such reconstruction and improvement the defendant thus incurred its proper and legal liability for its proportionate share of the cost.

That for the purpose of defraying its proportionate share of the cost and expense the defendant on Oct. 5, 1904, duly issued its series of ten certain bonds of the denomination and par value of \$100 each, and in the aggregate sum of \$1000.

That since their issue and prior to their maturity the plaintiff purchased of the said defendant, through its official and proper representatives at that time Nos. 7, 8, 9 and 10, respectively of the series of bonds at their par value of \$100 each.

That the said bonds, Nos. 7 and 8 were redeemable after Oct. 1, 1908, and Nos. 9 and 10 after October 1, 1909, at the pleasure of the supervisors and payable with interest at the rate of four and one-half per centum.

That the defendant through its official representatives has paid to the plaintiff the first year's interest, but that neither it, they, nor their successors in office have ever redeemed or attempted to redeem and pay the said four bonds, Nos. 7, 8, 9 and 10, respectively, or any more interest on them whatsoever.

That the said defendant through its supervisors duly and legally levied a special road tax of one mill and designated it as the 'road improvement tax' for the express purpose of redeeming and paying the said bonds and loans secured thereby and that the said defendant has now on hand sufficient available money and funds to pay the said plaintiff's entire claim.

That all of the four bonds, Nos. 7, 8, 9 and 10, respectively, are now due and payable; that since their maturity the plaintiff has duly demanded their payment with interest but that the defendant through its official and proper representatives has refused to pay to the plaintiff the aggregate denomination and par value of said bonds or any part thereof or any interest still due.

DEAD IN SLEIGH

Isaac Timmerman, tax collector for Union township, Snyder county, was found in his sled Tuesday afternoon, frozen to death. He had left home early in the day on a tax collecting tour, and called at several places. During the afternoon a farmer driving along the public highway, met Timmerman's horse which was joggling along at a comfortable gait. Timmerman sat in the sleigh apparently asleep. Later in the day the man was found by others who saw and stopped the horse. Timmerman was dead, having perished from the cold.

STRICKEN IN WOODSHED

J. H. Hartman, a widely known farmer, was stricken with paralysis yesterday afternoon, and now lies at his home in the southern part of Madison township, Columbia county, near New Columbia, in a critical condition.

Mr. Hartman was chopping wood in the wood shed yesterday afternoon. About 3 o'clock his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Cleveland Hartman, went to the shed and found Mr. Hartman lying on the floor. He was carried into the house and Dr. Snyder, of Washingtonville, was summoned. Last evening he was still unconscious and his condition scarcely improved.

PATIENTS OUT SLEIGHING

Along with others the patients at the hospital for the insane are enjoying the good sleighing. Each day this week several sled loads have been taken out.

On Monday a number of female patients were treated to a sleigh ride; on Tuesday the male patients were taken out. Yesterday was women's day again. Five sled loads, sixty in all, were taken out. The day was pleasant and a ride of several miles over the hills was enjoyed.