



ITEMS CONDENSED.

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John Strasser, a non-union man, was shot in a walkout of 500 union miners at Carbondale. The men refused to work beside non union workmen.

Wholesale and retail liquor licenses profited Dauphin county \$42,857.47 this year. This is a falling off of over 700 as compared with last year.

Alonzo Nabors was given \$10,000 in his suit at Uniontown against George W. Lemoore, a Baltimore & Ohio engineer, whom he accused of alienation of his wife's affections.

Thirty-seven high school boys struck at Sharon because the faculty forbade a scheduled basketball game. There has been trouble between the teachers and boys over basketball.

McKeesport school officials have discarded slates, acting on the suggestion of the board of health, and will have the students use pencil and pads in the future. The slates were given to the students and smashing contests were the order of the day in most places.

Pittsburghers are planning a royal reception for Theodore Roosevelt when he nears American shores from his foreign tour. The idea is to charter a steamer and run out to sea for the purpose of meeting the ex-president. A committee of the Young Men's Republican Tariff club is working out the details.

Allen Faltz was found dying on a bench in the City park at Reading recently, having swallowed carbolic acid. The fellow did not regain consciousness from the time he was found until he died.

Alderman A. K. Spurrer, of Lancaster, on Saturday completed the thirty-fifth year of continuous service as a justice of the peace in the same ward, making a record never equaled in the history of that city.

Senior class students in the Reading high school threaten to strike if the school board passes a rule passed by the teachers' committee, relative to commencement exercises and social affairs. The ruling would forbid a proposed class dance and the class play.

Nine-year-old Naomi Branshaw, of Reading, probably was saved from felonious assault by a negro when a colored woman yelled at the fellow while he was dragging the little girl into a kiln at Law's brick yard. The man had enticed the child away by promising her some blocks and managed to get rid of her brother, who accompanied them, without exciting his suspicion.

Dr. Charles Coleman Benson, aged 73, man of mystery and boyhood acquaintance of King Edward VII, with his wife aged 67 committed suicide in their boarding-house at Philadelphia, by taking cyanide of potassium. Disappointment over plans for great inventions of his that went astray, with the poor-house and separation staring them in the face, is said to have made the old couple decide on suicide. He was rich once.

Leo, a big lion performing in an animal act at the North Third street zoo, Harrisburg, calmly walked out through a door that had been left open leading from the cage in which he did his act and put an audience in a panic. Placidly walking to the front of the stage, the animal looked at the fleeing audience, then turned around and walked to whence he came. Some few minutes later, a sheepish looking audience drifted back to their seats.

The congregation of Tabernacle Baptist church, Harrisburg, opened the celebration of its twenty-first anniversary Sunday. The exercises will be continued until Friday evening. At a meeting of the congregation a year ago arrangements were made to raise \$4,100 to clear off the remainder of the church debt. Thirty-nine hundred dollars had been raised on Saturday and the remainder will be subscribed before Thursday when a mortgage-burning service will be held.

The Marysville police authorities are to be the defendants in a suit which it is said a citizen will bring against them to obtain the reward offered for the arrest of an outlaw, the man's brother, Amos Kinert says that he delivered his brother Albert to justice. Albert is said to have been the bandit who terrorized the neighborhood of Marysville last summer.

Certain parties are trying to oust Sheriff P. J. Murphy, of Pottsville, from the office he has held for three months. It is said that Milton H. Masters was promised a job as deputy sheriff by Murphy, before the latter had been elected, which is contrary to law. It is alleged that there are a number of witnesses to the proffer. Masters, it is said, is likely to be arrested on counter charges.

Arbitration of differences should be made compulsory.

AUTO OWNERS HERE TAKE HOLD

It was very much feared that "Good Roads Day" next Saturday would pass unobserved in Montour county but it now seems probable that the local automobilists will take up the matter.

The Pennsylvania Good Roads association in its Statewide campaign has issued a call for meetings to be held in every district on next Saturday, March 19, to be known as "Good Roads Day." Every man and woman is asked to assist in the great campaign to secure good roads.

The call issued asks that persons interested arrange at once to hold a meeting in the nearest hall, school house, or store on Saturday evening, March 19, 1910, to form a neighborhood Good Roads association.

After the meeting the name of the chairman elected is to be sent to Howard Longstreth, secretary of the Pennsylvania Good Roads association, Philadelphia, who will arrange for a meeting of all these chairmen within the county for the purpose of organizing a county association. These in turn will elect a representative to the Pennsylvania Good Roads association.

In many of the townships where the supervisors are organized the latter will hold their annual meeting on "Good Roads Day," when prominent speakers will be heard and questions pertaining to good roads will be discussed.

Unfortunately Montour county is one of the few in the State in which the supervisors at present have no organization. The township supervisors association of Montour county was organized in Danville on February 7, 1907, with W. B. Moore of West Hemlock township, president. The first meeting, which was a highly successful one with representatives of the State highway department present, was the last one, no call being issued subsequently for a convention.

Under the circumstances it would seem that what support Good Roads Day is to meet with in Montour county must come from individuals. The automobilists of town, everyone of whom is an advocate of good roads, are showing interest in the matter. These gentlemen for some time past have been in favor of forming an "Automobile Club," for the sole purpose of remedying some abuses that occur in road construction. They now see an opportunity to accomplish their purpose by falling in with the popular movement and observing "Good Roads Day," meeting and electing a chairman as directed, thereby assisting in the State wide campaign to secure good roads. Several automobile owners have expressed themselves and judging by the enthusiasm manifested by them by next Saturday there will be something doing.

A leading automobilist inveighed heavily against the practice of hauling large stones upon the country roads and there leaving them lie until worn down by traffic. Roads thus treated, he said, were rendered impassable for automobiles last summer. The same roads are now in pretty good condition but he is afraid that before the summer is half over other sections nearby will be spoiled in the same manner. This practice, he declared, is an abuse in the eyes of the law and is the first thing that the automobilists of Danville will seek to abolish.

Mrs. Margaret Hilland, aged 73, was found lying unconscious in a Pittsburg cellar after a long search lasting over night. She is thought to have been walking along the street and to have fallen down into the cellar, where she remained about eighteen or twenty hours. She lives with her son-in-law and had been at the bank. She was sent to a hospital where it was discovered that she had \$53 on her person.

Firemen douse the trees in the public square at Wilkes-Barre with water every night, in an attempt to rid the place of the thousands of sparrows that live there. The only effect that the treatment has had on the birds thus far was to drive them into other trees. After the trouble is over they return to their original perches. It is hoped that the continuation of the water treatment will so disgust the birds that they will leave for good.

After walking softly down stairs, a tall man, and haggard, who had registered at the Merchants' hotel, Pittsburg, as W. H. Smith and who is unknown, went over to the dozing clerk and tapped him on the shoulder, telling him to get a doctor, as he was about to die. He dragged himself across the room and fell gasping on a couch. Dr. B. F. Mullin was sent for but when he arrived the man was unable to speak. Restoratives were applied, without avail. The doctor rushed to a drug store for an oxygen tank, but when he went back the man was dead.

The Methodist preachers are off to conference.

RECOMMEND RETAINING WALL

The grand jurors after probably the shortest session ever held in Montour county presented their report at 3 p. m. Monday, after completing the inspection of the bridge and public buildings of the county. They were immediately discharged.

Following are the recommendations: That the Sheriff's office be papered; that the iron work on the first floor of the prison be painted; that the cement floor be repaired where needed; that the prison be repainted on the outside; also that electric light be installed in the building. The court house was reported in good condition and no repairs were recommended.

At the north end of the river bridge, as far as the county property extends, it was recommended that a retaining wall be built, the same to be well guarded by railing, as it was the sense of the jurors that this is a very dangerous spot.

As relates to the river bridge it was recommended that the iron work be cleaned and repainted; also that new plank be laid on the sidewalks at several spots. The report explained that it was the opinion of the grand jury that the bridge is put under too great a strain through fast driving.

Adverting to the recommendation that a retaining wall be built at the bridge Judge Evans explained that this was no new thing; that at other sessions of court the grand jurors were impressed with the need of a retaining wall at that point and made similar recommendations. The county commissioners for some reason that he could not understand, Judge Evans said, have ignored the recommendations made successively by men of good judgment who had investigated conditions. He did not approve of any policy, he said, that might be "penny-wise and pound-foolish" and was afraid that eventually an accident would occur at that point in which event the county would be liable.

THREE DEATHS

The grim reaper has, indeed, been active in this vicinity during the last few days, but at no place has the multiplicity of deaths manifested itself so oddly as at the Montour House, this city.

At 6:30 o'clock Monday morning Miss Dalton, chief cook, was called to the phone and informed that her sister, Mrs. Perry, was dead.

About half an hour later Miss Cassey, assistant cook, was informed that her uncle, Thomas McBryan, had passed away during the night.

It was thought it would end there, but at exactly 7:30 o'clock, an hour after the news of Mrs. Perry's death reached the hotel, Barney Armstrong, the bartender, was called to the long distance phone and informed that his brother, John Armstrong, of Berwick, was dead.

MISUSE OF STAMPS

Several postmasters in this section have issued a warning against the misuse of postage stamps that have been cancelled or partially cancelled. In several instances where the cancellation marks are barely visible, the parties in question have removed the stamps from the letters received and by the use of mucilage have endeavored to use the stamp again.

The law against the using of such stamps is very severe, carrying with it a conviction, a heavy fine and imprisonment. In cases where the stamp is discovered, the letter is marked "postage due" and is then forwarded to its destination. The postmaster at the destination is supposed to find out the sender of the letter and get possession of the envelope. These he is supposed to forward to the authorities at Washington and they in turn will bring the prosecution.

A Birthday Surprise.

A pleasant surprise party was held at the home of Elizabeth Lees, Water street, Friday evening in honor of her seventeenth birthday. Those present were: Misses Mae Fox, Dora Shatz, Mildred Foust, Ethel Cromley, Margaret Lovett, Elizabeth and Esther Magill, Beulah Heddens, Rose Rodenhoffer, Sue and Anna Lees, Florence Beaver, Olive Miller, Mae Raup, Bertha Kessler, Jesse Hemmerly, Bertha Heller, Olive Madden, Elsie, Mabel and Elizabeth Lees; Messrs. Howard Morrison, Allen Fornwald, William Brietenbach, Frank Cooper, Roy Fox, Guy Hoke, Howard Ricketts, Charles Heller, Raymond Foust, Frank Wilson, James Foster.

Lent Is Dwindling.

Lent is rapidly dwindling. The faithful have but a few more days in which to deny themselves. Next week is holy week, after which they may indulge in many things their belief forbids now.

SCHOOLS TO CLOSE GOOD FRIDAY

Professor Moyer of the high school faculty appeared before the school board Monday eve to determine the attitude of the members toward a proposition to organize a high school athletic association on a new and more approved basis.

He deplored the fact that athletics as they relate to the high school in Danville are in a bad state. There has been no system. In base ball and foot ball heretofore many participated under the name of the high school who were not members of the school at all. The goods belonging to the Athletic association, too, are missing and gross irregularities are charged against the members.

Mr. Moyer explained the provisions of the proposed constitution and by-laws, which provide for a systematic method of conducting athletics and place the management squarely up to the high school faculty.

On motion of Mr. Sidler it was ordered that the borough superintendent and faculty be given permission to organize a high school athletic association in accordance with the proposed constitution and by-laws.

On motion of Mr. Swartz it was ordered that the schools of the borough be closed on Good Friday.

A committee from the high school waited on the board to determine, if possible, the date of holding commencement.

Borough Superintendent Dieffenbacher explained that the school term this year will close on Friday, May 27th.

It was the sense of the board that there is plenty of time in which to act and on motion of Mr. Heiss it was decided that the making of arrangements for commencement be postponed until the next meeting.

The matters of a speaker for commencement and a preacher for the baccalaureate sermon, on motion, were referred to the high school committee, to report at the next meeting. The following members were present: Seehler, Orth, Swartz, Redding, Pursel, Oliver, Diller, Heiss and Cole. The following bills were approved for payment:

FOR NORTHUMBERLAND

The two coal dredges belonging to Mr. Ruch, which lay below the water works all winter, together with their flat boats, Tuesday were taken to Northumberland, where they will receive an overhauling preparatory to entering upon the season's work. The dredges were taken down the river under their own steam.

P. G. Baylor has taken his coal digger across the river, where his new flat boat is moored. He is giving his entire outfit an overhauling and will have everything in ship shape by the time the river falls low enough to make coal dredging practicable, which will not be for a couple of weeks, at least.

Just what success the coal diggers may meet with this season is uncertain. Undoubtedly the heavy flood has brought more or less coal down the river from the collieries. It is quite as likely that a considerable quantity has been deposited in the river at this place. The action of the water in dealing with river coal is bound by no rule. Coal deposited here at one stage of the flood may have been carried away later.

Proprietors of the dredges are optimistic, however, and are hoping for the best. Owing to low water they were much handicapped during the last two years and it is hoped that all causes will conspire to give them a profitable season.

A Delightful Quilting Party.

A very delightful quilting party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. E. Thomas, Jerseytown R. F. D., on Saturday. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas, Mrs. August Shultz, Mrs. Boyd Billheim, Mrs. Barber Shultz, Mrs. Clarence Shultz, Mrs. John Sees, Mrs. Lloyd Dilline, Mrs. Gertrude Girton, Mrs. Fannie Sees, Mrs. Lillie Sees, Mrs. Jennie Thomas, Mrs. Russell Hacke, Mrs. Ira Zeisloff, Mrs. Obet Wagner, Mrs. David Williams, Marie Shultz, Ruby Shultz, Marian Hendrickson, Roy Sees, Myron Sees, Helen Sees, Roy Remley, Jay Thomas; John Dilline, Nancy Dilline, Raymond Thomas, Kimber Billhime, Harold Zeisloff, Urna Sees, Sara Thomas, Katherine Musselman and Chas. Thomas.

Died at Shumanstown.

Peter Beaver, the father of Mrs. Wesley Deshay, of this city, died at his home in Shumanstown, Columbia county, Sunday morning, aged 88 years. He was engaged in farming all his life. The funeral will be held Thursday morning at 9 o'clock.

ISAAC GRESH FOUND GUILTY

A Commonwealth and a civil case were disposed of at the first day of court Monday. Isaac Gresh charged with "assault and intent" and "assault and battery" was found guilty in manner and form as indicted. In the civil suit of Catherine Foust vs. Alfred A. Blecher the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff.

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

The constables presented their returns, which showed that there are no obstructions on the highways, that the index boards are all in position, that the liquor laws are all being observed and that no disorderly houses are maintained. Judge Evans, assuming, he said, that the constables were not mistaken, took occasion to congratulate the county on the orderly state of affairs, especially, as relates to violations of the liquor laws and disorderly houses.

Harry Ellenbogen was appointed foreman of the grand jury. The court explained that there were no bills of indictment to present and that all that remained for the grand jurors to do was to examine the public buildings. But one criminal case was before court, a true bill having been found by a former grand jury. It developed that not a single case had been returned to court by any of the justices since the previous term. Judge Evans said he regarded this as an enviable showing and a cause for congratulation.

The civil cases were all continued with the exception of two, those of Catherine Foust vs. Alfred A. Blecher et al.; assumptit, and William R. Pursel, surviving administrator of Daniel Pursel, deceased, now Blanche E. Pursel, substituted plaintiff, vs. The Reading Iron company assumptit.

The case of Commonwealth vs. Isaac Gresh was called for trial, the charge being assault, &c. The first witness called was Mary J. Murray, wife of Charles Murray, the prosecutor. Mrs. Murray, the victim of the alleged assault, related what took place in her home on the evening of October 1, 1909. She had only recently returned from the hospital, where she had undergone a surgical operation, and was still under the care of a nurse. The latter was temporarily absent from the room and Mr. Murray, the husband, had not yet returned from work. The defendant, according to the witness, obtusely entered the room and inquiring for the nurse, took his seat by the couch on which the witness was reclining. The testimony that followed was of a very serious and incriminating nature—not suitable for publication.

On cross examination the witness testified that she detected no evidence of intoxication on the part of the defendant. Anna Murray, the nurse, and sister of Charles Murray, testified, corroborating the evidence of Mrs. Murray. Charles Murray, the prosecutor, testified after which the Commonwealth rested.

Isaac Gresh, the defendant, testified in his own behalf. He is twenty-four years old. On October 1st, the date of the alleged assault, he said he was working for A. E. Seidel a part of the day. On finishing the job he had a couple of glasses of hard cider. Later he had several drinks of whiskey in town. He then had some more hard cider. Beyond this point he has no recollection of what occurred. He was given a hearing before Justice Kerswell of Washingtonville, charged with drunkenness and was sent to jail for 90 days. He soon was rearrested and arraigned before Justice of the Peace Oglesby of Danville, charged with the offense for which he was being tried yesterday. Wesley Jackson and Charles K. Gresh also testified for the defense.

W. Kase West, counsel for the defendant, went to the jury at 11:30 o'clock. He was followed by District Attorney Gearhart for the Commonwealth, both speaking briefly.

The civil suit of Catherine Foust vs. Alfred A. Blecher, administrator of Jackson Blecher, went on trial about 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon, the action being one to secure payment on a judgment exemption note for four hundred dollars alleged to have been given by Jackson Blecher. Charles V. Amerman appeared for the plaintiff and William Kase West for the defendant.

The first witness called was William Sunday, justice of the peace in Mahoning township for twenty years, who identified the signature on the note as that of Jackson Blecher. He was followed by W. L. Sidler, who was also of the opinion that the signature was that of Jackson Blecher. Mrs. Leah Magill, whose mother held the note was also a witness. The defense contended that the signature on the note in the form and slant

NEGOTIATING FOR MONTOUR HOUSE

The rumor that a syndicate is endeavoring to purchase a chain of hotels in this section of the State and to cater especially to commercial trade by selling coupon books at a reduction from the standard two-dollar-a-day rate is given color by the fact that three strangers—evidently agents—appeared in this city Monday and opened negotiations for the purchase of the Montour House, which, it is understood, is for sale.

The men, whose identity and purpose was not made clear, seemed very much in earnest. When informed by Mr. Johnson, who is in charge of the hotel, that he could not enter into negotiations looking to a sale until he conferred with the proprietor at Chicago, they seemed greatly disappointed, as they seemed desirous of closing up the deal quickly. They left town after a short stay, but Monday evening called up Mr. Johnson urging him to get into communication with Chicago immediately by long distance phone.

The syndicate agents, it is claimed, have made a campaign through the North Branch Valley. It is reported that they made an offer of \$35,000 for a hotel in Berwick, but that the deal fell through because the owner demanded \$30,000. The men who appeared in Danville were very careful to determine what was paid for the Montour House by the present owner before they approached Mr. Johnson.

According to the Berwick story it was learned when the agents were there that the syndicate is seeking principally hotels either owned or controlled by brewers. There are known to be many such throughout the State, the brewers in many instances furnishing practically all the capital invested in return for the privilege of having their beers sold over the bars of the houses backed.

It is known that many brewers throughout the State are growing tired of financing hotels, both on account of money tied up and because in some counties the courts have looked askance at such a business. Some of them believed to be the actual property of members of the Brewers' association. The agents are said to experience great difficulty in finding good hotels willing to sell out, as the majority of them are not believed to be under the tutelage of the brewers. Nevertheless it is said that the syndicate has purchased or taken option on many houses.

It is thought that the projected chain of hotels will commend itself to wholesale concerns. Not only will the rate be materially lowered but it will be necessary to furnish traveling salesmen with relatively only small amounts of actual cash for contingent expenses.

The bodies of seven miners killed in the explosion at No. 5 colliery of the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal company at Wilkes-Barre have been brought to the surface. Every man in the zone of the explosion was killed. Two of the miners left the place not long before and thus escaped death. The end came without pain to the men, who were suffocated by fire damp. Six widows and twenty-four children are left behind.

Some of the letters differed from Jackson Blecher's signature on his will and some other documents. It was also alleged that no attempt was made to collect the note during the lifetime of Mr. Blecher. Alfred A. Blecher took the stand for the defense.

The case was given to the jury at 4:15 o'clock. At 5:20 the jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff, Catherine Foust, for \$490.67.

Immediately following noon intermission the court charged the jury in the case of Commonwealth vs. Isaac Gresh. It was about 2 o'clock when the jury retired. At 5:30 o'clock the twelve men came to an agreement returning a verdict of guilty in manner and form as indicted, but recommending the defendant to the mercy of the court.

Court adjourned at 5:30 o'clock to reconvene on Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Jacob Weimer, of this city, a native of Russia, was admitted to citizenship.

Harry M. Yeager was appointed guardian of Lorie E. Yeager and Raymond L. Yeager.

The report of auditor in the estate of William Saul was confirmed nisi.

The first and final account of Henry Wireman, executor of Regina Wireman, late of Mahoning township, deceased, was confirmed nisi.

First and final account of Benjamin F. Ware, executor of Joel Bogart of Liberty township, deceased, was confirmed nisi.

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The Parent-Teachers' association held a regular meeting in the high school room Tuesday eve. There was a good attendance. The Orpheus Glee club rendered a couple of selections and Miss Jessie Kimerer gave a recitation.

The feature of the evening was a paper read by Dr. R. S. Patten, entitled "Some Conditions That Influence Progress of a Child From the Standpoint of the Eyes." The paper was a most excellent one on a subject that has probably been given too little attention in the past.

The subject resolved itself into two divisions, first as "diseases of the eye" and second "abnormal refraction." The diseases and defects of the eye, the speaker said, are common enough among school children, but are too often ignored by parent and teacher. We fail to recognize their significance and to what extent they are preventing the children from accomplishing the things we so much desire and expect of them, while at the same time school duties are made laborious that under more favorable conditions would be quite easy and enjoyable.

Under the head of diseases of the eyes Dr. Patten dwelt upon the various forms of "conjunctivitis." The simple form of this disease is an inflammatory state of the conjunctiva or that thin transparent membrane covering the eyeball and acting as inside lining to the eye lid. The disease is characterized by congestion, loss in transparency of the membrane, some dread of light usually being present along with the twitching of the lids and a discharge sufficiently great to glue the lids in the morning.

The cause of this form is made evident by observing certain types, such as may be termed "associated conjunctivitis" as seen in eczema, facial erysipelas and nasal catarrh, as well as another type known as "exanthematic conjunctivitis," which accompanies or follows, as the case may be, measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough and the like.

Another variety has come to our attention a great deal this winter due to the more or less prevalence of the above named diseases. The effect on the vision of the child is about the same as that produced by looking through a dirty glass. The result must be evident—an overworking and straining of the eyes, which is made manifest by the child's report at school.

The second form of the disease may be termed "acute contagious conjunctivitis," or more commonly known as "pink eye." In this form we have the same conditions as in simple conjunctivitis, with the exception that the symptoms are more severe and that the discharge from the eyes contains a specific bacillus or germ, making it a markedly contagious disease. The injury to the child's vision is even greater than in the former variety. It has a tendency to repeat itself and by these repeated attacks more or less permanent damage is done.

The third and final form of conjunctivitis is one designated as "granular conjunctivitis" or the form known better as "granulated lids." In this variety the inflammation of the conjunctiva causes the membrane to lose its smooth surface, owing to the formation of rounded granulations, which leaves the scar-like changes on the eye-lid—at first producing a sensation like saw dust in the eye. The damage to the structure and especially the lid of the eye is greater in this form than in those previously mentioned. Often as an effect the eye-lids are drawn away, losing their proper relation to the eye.

Under the head of "Abnormal Refraction" is included "far-sightedness," "near-sightedness," and "astigmatism." All these are very common but are often not discovered by the parent. The pupil at school is unable to see figures on the blackboard and thus at a late day the defect of the eye may be discovered. The strain on the child's eyes is apparent in the slow progress made in studies.

Dr. Patten urged that parents be more attentive to their children in relation to the eye. He suggested that school children be periodically subjected to an examination to determine whether there are any among them whose eyes need treatment.

Were Wedded.

Brittain Harris, of Buckhorn, and Mrs. Minnie Middleton, of Bloomsburg, were wedded by the Rev. J. R. Shaffer, at the Methodist parsonage, Buckhorn. After a wedding trip to Delaware they will take up their residence in Buckhorn.

A Great Strawberry Year.

Strawberry growers promise that this will be a great strawberry year. It is figured that the winter conditions were just right, and that the crop ought to be a record-breaker in all parts of the country.