



ITEMS CONDENSED.

SCHOOLS GOING DOWN.—That mine caves threaten the destruction of another Stanton school building was discovered when large cracks appeared in the walls of No. 17 school, on Keyser avenue, and it would not be surprising if sessions in the building are discontinued. Whether this is done depends upon the result of the "paper test," applied Monday by officials. Strips of paper have been placed over the cracks on the inside of the building and fastened by strong adhesive. The strips will be watched, and if they are broken the sessions will be discontinued, because it will be evident that the settling continues. A few days ago the floor of John Canterbury's cellar, a short distance from the school, dropped several feet.

JUST RETURNED.—When the Civil war broke out over 50 years ago, William Neady left his home, at Plymouth township, Luzerne county, and went to the front. After the war he drifted to the west. His family believed that he had died on the battlefield. The father and mother died, as did several brothers and sisters. William Neady prospered in the west, and a week ago decided to visit his old home. Last Wednesday he arrived at Plymouth, where the postmaster told him that there was living at Five Forks, in Plymouth township, a man named Neady. William Neady went to the place and found that the man in question was his brother.

VISIONS.—In an address to the Ministerium at Altoona, Rev. Dr. Charles W. Carroll, of Harrisburg, president of the Pennsylvania Anti-Saloon League, declared that he was sure of 98 votes for the local option bill in the next legislature. He said that 75 members were already pledged to such a bill, nine Keystone Party assemblymen would support it, nine others not pledged were personally favorable to the bill, and five others can be brought into line. He believes the necessary majority of 104 will be attained.

TEACHERS TO MEET.—The Pennsylvania State Teachers' Association will meet in Harrisburg December 28, 29 and 30. The general sessions will be held in the Board of Trade. Various department meetings and round tables will be held also, beginning with the High school department on the evening of December 26. These department meetings will be held in the Board of Trade, the High school and the caucus rooms of the capitol.

BOOMING THINGS.—A new 100-acre demonstration farm, an agricultural school, fruit exchanges and cold storage houses are among the things planned to make the Lykens valley, Dauphin county, one of the richest agricultural and fruit sections in this country, incidental to the building of the Midland Pennsylvania railroad from Millersburg to Ashland.

A FEW LEFT.—There are still a few stumps of timber left standing in the forest sections of Pennsylvania, but at the present rate of destruction a primal pine or hemlock tree will soon be a curiosity. Samuel Boyce, a lumberman, has just completed the job of cutting 500,000 feet of lumber at Dimeling, Clearfield county.

SOMETHING FUNNY.—While Morris Cope, of East Bradford, was driving home in a sled, with his wife on the back seat, she was thrown into a snow drift and her husband drove quite a distance before he discovered her absence. She was wrapped in a large robe which prevented her from making an outcry.

PROGRESSIVE POLANDERS.—At Oil City the Polanders seem to be progressive. They have let a contract for an \$8,000 brick building two stories high. The lower floor will be used for tenement purposes and the upper one for a dancing hall. The latter will be equipped with a spring floor and strictly up to date.

ONE BUFFALO LIES.—A large buffalo belonging to Buffalo Bill, wintering on the Charles Trego farm at Coatesville, died yesterday. The big fellow was one of a herd of seven and died from an attack of paralysis.

INFORMS ON HUSBAND.—John Richter, a rural mail carrier, of Hanover, is at the York police headquarters waiting action by the postal authorities upon the charges that he has been systematically robbing the mails. His wife informed the authorities of his alleged peculations.

HAD TO CHANGE NAME.—Because his customers experienced trouble in spelling and pronouncing his name, Max Berkowitz had the Luzerne county court change his name to Max Berk.

IT WAS NATURAL.—A wandering umbrella mender whom Chief Brum, of Bloomsburg, sheltered over night, stole the chief's best umbrella when he departed in the morning.

GOOD AVERAGES.—Twenty-one cows which sold at auction in Doves-town brought an average of \$55.70 per head.

CHURCH SERVICES WERE UNIQUE

The services in nearly all the churches of Danville last Sunday evening were unique in that the same theme was employed for the sermons and that the pulpit in each was occupied by some one other than his own pastor.

It was what was known as Y. M. C. A. night when the services have special reference to the association—its object and its urgent need of support. The services were arranged by the Danville Ministerial association at its last meeting. It was decided that at all of the churches the same theme should be employed—"The Young Man," and that each congregation should be asked to contribute an offering for the Y. M. C. A.

It was also decided that there should be a general exchange of pulpits on the occasion. The allotment was left to a committee of one member, who in assigning to the ministers churches for their special effort was to employ the scriptural method of casting lots. All had agreed that no minister was to be informed of his assignment until 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

With very few exceptions, therefore, none of the congregations of town, last evening knew who was to address them until they entered their respective places of worship.

The sermons preached last evening without exception were very effective, aiming to impress upon those present the need of an active and well organized Y. M. C. A. in every community to look after the moral and religious welfare of the young men and boys; also the responsibility that devolves on the community to see to it that the association receives adequate support.

Assignments were made as follows by the committee:

- Shiloh Reformed church, Rev. George S. Womer.
- Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. J. H. Musselman.
- Pine Street Lutheran church, Rev. Charles Cameron Snavely.
- St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. A. J. Irey, D. D.
- Maconing Presbyterian church, Rev. Joseph E. Guy.
- First Baptist church, Rev. C. D. Moore.
- United Evangelical church, Rev. James Wollaston Kirk.

ELOPING PATIENTS ARE CAPTURED

Charles E. Reigel and Charles Rote, the two patients who escaped from the hospital for the insane Monday, were captured and returned to the institution Tuesday. Each of the men paid a penalty for his indiscretion in attempting to escape during zero weather; both of Reigel's feet were frozen. Rote was a little more fortunate, only one foot being injured by the frost, although, like his companion, he suffered great discomfort.

Tuesday morning the two men were found in the barn of Peter Dyer about a mile from Pottsgrove on the Montandon road. The men bore the appearance of having been on a tramp and were in a deplorable condition, their feet being frozen as described above.

It did not take Mr. Dyer long to discover that the two men were escaped patients. He did what he could to make the poor fellow comfortable, endeavoring meanwhile to inform the hospital authorities that the patients had been captured. He entrusted his message to a milkman, who on arriving at Danville in turn telephoned the news to the hospital.

Tuesday afternoon the hospital authorities sent a conveyance out to the Dyer farm and brought the elopers back to the institution.

The two men escaped early Monday afternoon. Reigel's home is near Lewisburg and there is little doubt that the two men were bound for that destination. They were too cunning, however, to follow the beaten routes of travel, but in leaving the hospital struck out northward through the snow. Crossing Bloom road they kept on till they came to Frosty Valley, whence they proceeded in the direction of Lewisburg without incurring much danger of detection.

JULIUS MOESCHLIN

Julius Moeschlin one of the proprietors of the Cold Spring Brewery, at Sunbury, died suddenly at his home in that place yesterday morning at 4 o'clock. He was aged about 63 years. Death was due to heart trouble.

Mr. Moeschlin was born in Germany, and came to this country in 1867 and a year later located at Sunbury, where he has since resided. He was well-known in Danville. The funeral will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

THIRTY DAYS ON BREAD AND WATER

There seems to be a lingering suspicion that among the multitude that fall into the police dragnet about this time of year are a goodly number born with a natural aversion to work who would be a little rather put in a month or so behind the bars where there is steam heat and three meals a day than to assume the responsibility of looking out for themselves during this zero weather. In order to give this class a proper reception it has been decided to adopt a bread and water diet for certain cases at Fort Startzell.

This does not imply that roast beef or turkey with cranberry sauce is ordinarily on the menu at county prisons, but it does suggest that the daily bill of fare at those places is of a sort that proves very satisfying to the fellow who is used to subsisting without work.

The new order of things went into effect at the Montour county prison yesterday when Charles Rainier was committed for thirty days. Rainier has given the officers a good deal of trouble for some time. He is charged with being drunk, in addition to which he became an annoyance by violating the rules about the Continental engine house. Frequenting or loitering in this building at night is strictly forbidden. Rainier possessed the secret of getting into the building whenever he wanted to and was often found there after it had been locked up.

He was arrested by officers Mince-moyer and Voris and arraigned before Justice Dalton Monday morning. He was sentenced to pay fine and costs. In default of payment thereof he was committed to the county jail for thirty days to be kept on a bread and water diet.

MUMMERS ELSEWHERE

The fact of Danville's announcing no Mummer's parade for the approaching New Year's day is being received as good news in a number of the towns in this section where demonstrations will be held and which expect to have Danville paraders and sight seers swell their big times.

In Bloomsburg the celebration is being boosted by the Athletic association, with Thos. B. Moore, as president. A Marathon race will also be held in connection with the celebration in Bloomsburg.

Over in Milton the Mummer's committee has promised three bands, fire works in the evening and a big parade participated in by Milton and out-of-town organizations.

At Mt. Carmel, where the New Year parades have always been elaborate, the committee announces that this year's event will eclipse all previous efforts and that \$500 has already been raised for the pageant.

BOYD FUNERAL

The funeral of James Boyd, one of Harrisburg's most prominent men and a former resident of Danville, who died Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock, at Weymouth, Moore county, N. C., will be held from his late residence, 21 North Front street, Harrisburg, this afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. Dr. Geo. S. Chambers, pastor of the Pine Street Presbyterian church, which Mr. Boyd attended and Rev. Edwin Mulock, pastor of the Paxtang Presbyterian church, which Mr. Boyd attended in the summer time, while living at his summer home, Bonnymede, near Paxtang, will officiate. The interment will be made in the family plot at the Harrisburg cemetery.

The honorary pall bearers will be: Governor Edwin S. Stuart, Judge Nathaniel Ewing, of the Railroad Commission; Judge William R. Rockefeller, W. K. Atricks, O. M. Copelin, Dr. Hiram McGowan, J. S. A. Rutherford, Casper Dull, Vance C. McCormick, Charles A. Kunkel, Lane S. Hart, James M. Cameron, A. J. Dull, William B. McCaleb, T. F. Weirman, Lyman D. Gilbert, Daniel C. Herr.

Northumberland Co. Directors.

The directors of the schools of Northumberland county will assemble at the court house at Sunbury on Wednesday morning, December 21st, at 10:45 o'clock, in their annual meeting. The following program will be rendered: Opening address by the president, John Wildsmith, Transaction of general business. Address, Dr. Shawkey. Address, Superintendent Pierce. The officers of the association are: President, John Wildsmith, Riverside; vice presidents, H. W. Brace, Trevorton; Fred Swopes, Lewis township; secretary, H. W. Armstrong, McEwensville; assistant secretary, W. J. Gass, Shamokin township; treasurer, C. P. Rinehart, Upper Augusta township.

When a woman holds a man in the hollow of her hand she can palm off any kind of talk on him.

DISSATISFIED WITH INSTITUTE

The school board held a regular meeting Monday night. Chairman W. A. Seelcher being absent J. N. Pursel was chosen president pro tem. Beside Mr. Pursel other members were present as follows: Orth, Swartz, Burns, Marks, Shultz, Heiss and Cole.

On motion of Mr. Burns, owing to the Christmas holidays, it was ordered that the teachers and janitors be paid on December 21st for two weeks.

Borough Superintendent Dieffenbacher presented his report for the third month of school, ending December 7th.

Number of boys registered during month, 574; number of girls, 537; total, 1111.

Average attendance of boys during month, 532; average attendance of girls, 494; total, 1026.

Percentage of attendance by boys during month, 94; percentage of attendance by girls during month, 92; average, 93.

Number of pupils not absent during term to date, 453; number of pupils not tardy during term, to date, 862.

Number of pupils absent during month, 440; number of pupils tardy during the month, 174.

Cases of tardiness by pupils, 193; cases of tardiness by teacher, 1.

Number of pupils reported to truant officer, 23.

Number of visits made during the month, 57.

There were no cases of corporal punishment during the month. There were no cases of suspension.

Mr. Pursel reported that there is still a great deal of whooping cough in the schools; in fact that in some of the schools "they are all coughing."

It was reported that the recent Teachers' Institute was something of a disappointment, not only to the town teachers, but also to some of the teachers from the rural districts. Mr. Pursel thought the matter ought to be investigated. The institute, he said, costs the Danville school district three hundred dollars, and if it can not be demonstrated that it is a benefit to the teachers it becomes a matter for very serious consideration by the board.

On motion of Mr. Burns it was ordered that the public schools close December 23rd for the Christmas vacation and that they reopen Tuesday, January 3rd.

On motion of Mr. Burns it was decided that the school board will not hold itself responsible for any indebtedness incurred by the High School Athletic association. Also that it is opposed to the association presenting a play.

The following bills were approved for payment:

F. C. Derr	\$50.00
Pauline Farnsworth	32.50
J. H. Woodside	3.75
Ezra S. Haas	2.00
Thomas G. Vincent	12.50
Danville Store & Mfg. Co.	4.80
William Quigg	8.50

BUS TEAM IN RUNAWAY.

The team of grey horses belonging to the McCormick bus line and driven by Edward Rishel caused some excitement by running away about 7 o'clock Tuesday evening.

The team escaped from the driver while he was putting the mail bag on the train at the Reading station. They came down town at a very lively gait.

On Mill street Benjamin Miller, the junk dealer, jumped on the rear step, and succeeded in getting into the bus. He was unable at first to reach the lines, which were tied up in front, as the end window fit tightly and could not be raised until after repeated efforts.

Meanwhile the horses were beginning to go faster and faster. They dashed by the Montour house and, evidently bound for the Pennsy station, began to descend the hill. Mr. Miller did what he could to stop the horses by repeatedly calling out "whoa!" but they paid no attention to him. Finally after an heroic effort the man succeeded in getting the front window open, after which he grasped the lines and stopped the horses.

Father of Mrs. R. H. Foust.

Isaiah Rabert, father of Mrs. R. H. Foust, this city, died yesterday at his home at Bloomsburg, aged 67 years. The deceased had been an invalid for several years. He was a retired undertaker.

For the Serious Moment.

"I hear he refused to take chloroform when he was operated on."
"Yes; he said he'd rather take it when he paid his bill."

A Precaution.

He—They're weighing the anchor. She—I don't blame them. The trades people aren't to be trusted nowadays. —Century Magazine.

SENT TO JAIL FOR TWO DAYS

Alfred Kennedy, a resident of the third ward, was sentenced to two days' imprisonment Tuesday for failing to keep his child in school as required by law. Other patrons who are indifferent as to whether their children attend school or not would do well to heed the warning, as the school authorities have a duty to perform and declare that in every case they will apply the remedy provided by the law.

Kennedy was arrested by Chief of Police Mince-moyer on a warrant sworn out by Attendance Officer W. E. Young. The information charges that Alfred Kennedy is the father of Addie Kennedy, a minor child between 8 and 15 years of age, who does not attend school as required by law; also that the father had been notified as is provided by the act of assembly.

Kennedy on being arraigned before Justice Dalton pleaded guilty, but he averred that it was impossible for him to work and watch his children to see whether they went to school or not. The attention of the defendant was invited to the compulsory school law, which provides that the pupil must be present seventy-five per cent of the time it belongs to school; also that for every neglect of duty imposed by the act upon conviction thereof the person in parental relation offending shall forfeit a fine not exceeding two dollars on first conviction and a fine not exceeding five dollars on each subsequent conviction and that in default of payment of said fine the defendant may be committed to the county prison for a period not exceeding two days for the first conviction and a period not exceeding five days for each subsequent conviction.

The fine in Kennedy's case was two dollars. He was also obliged to pay the costs, which amounted to three dollars. He made an effort to secure the money but was unable to do so. Nothing remained but to carry out the provision of the act and accordingly Kennedy as above stated was committed to the county prison for two days.

WHERE ICE ACCUMULATES

A good many of the sidewalks are already in a very icy condition due to the melting of the snow on the roofs. At many places the rain pipes seem to be of little service in carrying off the water that accumulates from the melting of snow. Early in the season the pipes become clogged up with ice and water from the roof drips down where it freezes into a solid mass, making it very dangerous for pedestrians.

The icy places can be avoided in the daytime, but at night when they are concealed by darkness one must exercise very great caution, indeed, if he would avoid the danger of falling. There is scarcely a square on some of our streets in which such icy places do not occur.

Under such conditions as prevail at present, it behooves persons to exercise the greatest care in walking or even in stepping outside their doors. Many a fall may be thus averted, while a broken bone, especially in the case of a person on in years, means much suffering and probable permanent injury.

SUDDEN DEATH OF ESPY MINISTER

The Rev. Elmer G. Baker, for the past two years pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal church at Espy, died suddenly at his home at that place Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, death was due to neuralgia of the heart and Bright's disease. He was aged 58 years and besides his widow is survived by a son Harold who resides at home.

Prior to being appointed to the Espy-Lime Ridge charge, Rev. Baker's charge was at Baresboro, in the Altoona District. Owing to illness he was superannuated in 1907, and for a year resided at Williamsport, coming from that place to Espy.

Funeral from the church at Espy on Friday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. Burial in the Almedia cemetery, with the Rev. R. H. Gilbert, officiating.

Convicted of Murder.

Bert Delige, the negro who assaulted and killed Mrs. John Bandis at Scotia, was convicted of murder in the first degree in the Centre county court house, Bellefonte, on Saturday. Delige made a full and complete confession of his heinous crime and since has taken little interest regarding the disposition of his case.

The prettier a woman is, the less she believes love is blind.

JAMES BOYD DIES SUDDENLY

James Boyd, a native of Rush township, Northumberland county and one of Harrisburg's wealthiest and most prominent citizens, died Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock at Weymouth, Moore county, South Carolina.

Mr. Boyd went from Harrisburg to Weymouth, in the Southern Pines, last Thursday. He was accompanied by his son, John Y. Boyd, and his daughter, Mrs. Dull, who were with him when he died.

Word was received at Harrisburg Monday that Mr. Boyd was ill, and started at once for the south. When she arrived at Weymouth death had occurred.

A telegram was received by Mrs. D. M. Boyd, this city, yesterday morning apprising her of Mr. Boyd's death. The deceased was born on the homestead farm at Boyd's station. During his boyhood he attended school at the Danville Academy. He became a civil engineer and early in life left Danville for Shamokin, where he became interested in the development of coal lands owned by his father.

He later went to Sunbury where he opened a wharf for the shipping of coal to Havre de Grace, Md. This was before the days of the railroad. He was a man of rare business ability and being gifted with foresight he succeeded in his ventures and eventually became a coal king. He later opened an office at Harrisburg and entered upon the shipping of coal on a large scale. As a member of the firm of Boyd, Stuckney & Co., his name became familiar over the entire country. He amassed great wealth.

Five or six years ago he retired from business. He continued to reside at Harrisburg, although he maintained a residence at Southern Pines, South Carolina, where he spent much of his time.

James Boyd was about 79 years of age. He was a widower, his wife dying at Southern Pines one year ago last March. He is survived by one son, John Y. Boyd of Harrisburg, who is a member of the railroad commission of this state; also by two daughters, Mrs. Helen Dull and Mrs. Mary McCormick, of Harrisburg. He is also survived by one brother, Joseph Y. Boyd, of Millville, and one sister, Mrs. McClure, wife of the late Col. William McClure of Columbia. The late D. M. Boyd of this city was a brother of the deceased.

PATIENTS SLEIGH RIDING

The snow opens up a new source of exercises and diversion for the patients at the hospital for the insane. The male patients find diversion in shoveling paths around the institution while both males and females whose condition warrants it are regularly taken to sleigh rides.

The walks about the hospital, which, with every snowfall have to be shoveled open, in their aggregate foot up an enormous length. To remove the snow is slight and pleasant work affording a relief from the tedium of life within the hospital walls. With every snow, therefore, there are plenty of volunteers for the shovel brigade.

Yesterday afternoon thirty female patients were taken out sleighing. There were three sledloads, the usual route, out beyond Mansdale returning through Danville being adopted. The patients were securely wrapped in warm shawls and seemed to enjoy the experience.

Today in all probability a corresponding number of men will be taken out for a sled ride. As long as sleighing lasts, even should the snow lie till next spring, the practice will be continued. A sled ride with its pleasant diversion and outlook into the world beyond the grim walls of the hospital at regular intervals will be within reach of every patient, who is not in the violent class and whose physical condition warrants it. Instead of three, six or more sleds may be employed daily.

She Had Courage.

A self possessed young woman who knew no French strolled into one of the larger downtown cafes. She spoke to the waiter in that decisive tone which distinguishes the initiated and glanced over the French bill of fare with the nonchalant air of a Parisienne.

"I'll have," she began firmly as she plunged into the sea of French dishes—"I'll have—let me see. Oh, yes, I'll have some bisque tortoni, a sautane roll, pommes de terre and a little of that fromage. And, garçon, you might as well bring me a cup of coffee."

The waiter gasped. He started to speak, but the young woman froze him with one of those icy stares peculiar to the thoroughly sophisticated.

And the order arrived—two kinds of ice, boiled potatoes and a piece of cheese. But she ate it as if she had been used to that sort of diet all her life.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

PLANNING FOR MUMMERS' PARADE

That there are a number of people in Danville who are not willing that New Year's should pass without the customary Mummer's parade has been made quite manifest by events that have occurred during the last couple of days.

A meeting was held in the City hotel last night as the result of which an entirely new movement looking to a New Year's demonstration was set on foot. The initiative, it seems, was taken by a committee of citizens consisting of Chief Burgess A. C. Amesbury, F. G. Peters, proprietor of City Hotel, Ex-Burgess W. J. Rogers, Prothonotary Thomas G. Vincent, Chief-of-Police J. C. Mince-moyer and Officer John Grier Voris. The Washington Fire Company, which was the originator of the Mummer's parade in Danville, it will be recalled, took the initiative in a similar movement a couple of weeks ago, but although it made a diligent effort, it was not accorded the kind support that would have justified it in going ahead with arrangements. Accordingly nothing was done.

At this juncture the above named citizens got interested. At their request the Washington Fire company, whose hearty co-operation can always be relied upon in matters of this kind, Tuesday night called a meeting and appointed a committee to meet with the above named citizens at the City hotel last night.

The following proposition was made to the fire company, that the citizens, named above, who in effect become the financial committee, will assume the responsibility of raising the money and financing the New Year's demonstration—furnishing the music, prizes, &c.—if the firemen will arrange the parade, or, in other words, assume the responsibility of getting up the demonstration, filling the various parts, &c. It was the sense of all that sufficient time yet remains in which to get up a creditable New Year's parade.

The meeting was held at City hotel at 8:30 o'clock last night. Thomas G. Vincent was chosen chairman.

The following committee representing the Washington Fire company was present: Ralph White, president, and Harry Jones, secretary, of the company, J. Haackberry, Stuart White, Charles Elliott, Charles Crumb, William Jones, Grant Swayze, Russell Gibbons.

A mummer's association was organized by electing Thomas G. Vincent president; Harry Jones secretary, and A. C. Amesbury treasurer.

All the plans as outlined by the firemen's committee, the members of which on behalf of the fire company pledge themselves to get up the parade if the money needed is forthcoming.

President Vincent appointed Ex-Burgess W. J. Rogers, Chief-of-Police J. C. Mince-moyer and Officer John Grier Voris as a committee on finance to solicit funds.

Plans relating to the parade in general were discussed and from the interest manifested there seems to be little doubt but that the demonstration will be a fine success.

1,000 ORCHARDS

HARRISBURG, Pa., Dec. 14. State Zoologist H. A. Surface yesterday announced that with the conclusion of the orchard demonstration, for the control of various fruit tree pests on Saturday the demonstrators would undertake the supervision of about 1000 orchards which have been placed under the care of the state. The list of orchards so put within the control of the state authorities is the largest ever known, and includes every county.

The supervision of orchards will include inspections and advice and assistance to farmers and fruit growers for the extermination of San Jose scale and other pests which cost the state an annual loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars, according to Doctor Surface's estimates. Where possible, preventive measures will be taken to show owners how to care for trees.

It is proposed to resume the demonstrations in orchards of the state in February or March as early as possible and 800 orchards are listed to be visited before the buds burst.

This work has been in progress several years and has resulted in marked success in holding down damage of pests in many sections of the state. Numerous fruit exhibits from farms where state methods have been followed will be shown here next month during the meeting of the State Horticultural Association.

Chicken Thieves Meaneat.

Judge Endlich, of Reading, pronounced a chicken thief one of the meanest criminals that the court is called to deal with. Walter Fracht, who stole three chickens from a neighbor, was fined \$30 and given a year in jail.