

**STUDENTS TO HELP PICK FLOWER FOR STATE**  
Contest in Cambria County Schools Is Part of Plan for Competition That Is State Wide.

Co-operating in a movement initiated by the Altoona Lions Club to have a state flower adopted for Pennsylvania, the only state in the Union that does not have an officially designated flower, the Johnstown Lions Club will sponsor a contest among junior and senior high school students in Cambria county, who will be invited to select a flower they think will be appropriate and to set forth in an essay of not more than 200 words the reasons for their choice. Preliminary plans for staging the contest on a wide scale were formulated at a meeting last week.

All students of either public or parochial junior and senior high schools of the county are eligible to enter the competition. One stipulation is that the flower selected be indigenous to Pennsylvania and not duplicated by any other state. Students have until January 25th to forward their choice of flowers and essays thereon to Leo J. Buetner, second floor of City Hall, who is secretary of the Lions Club.

First prize will be \$5 and second and third awards \$3 and \$2, respectively, and will be given by the club. Competent judges will be selected to decide the merits of the suggested flowers and essays. Judging will be completed in time to enter the three prize winning contributions in a state wide contest to be conducted next month under the auspices of the Altoona Lions club.

It is expected that the Altoona Club's invitation will result in similar district contests being held in many sections of the state. From the selections from the various districts a distinguished committee will make a final choice, for which the Lions club of Altoona will award a first prize of \$25, second prize of \$15,

and a third prize of \$10.

For the committee that will judge the selections that are received from the various districts it is proposed to enlist Irving L. Camp of Johnstown, President of Lions International; Hon. Charles G. Jordan, state secretary of Agriculture; one good politician and two leading educators of the state.

**PLEADERS SENTENCED BY COUNTY COURT**

**Nanty-Glo Man Pleads Guilty to Driving Motor Vehicle While Intoxicated; Sent to Bastille.**

James Conage of Nanty-Glo pleaded guilty in court last week to driving an automobile while intoxicated and the possession of liquor and was sentenced to the county jail on the first charge, and on the second to pay the costs and a fine of \$100.

Edward Murton of Johnstown, charged with the forgery of a check for \$11, entered a plea of guilty and was ordered to pay the costs and further sentence was suspended. With Murton before it, however, the court ordered an attachment for him and for this remanded him to jail indefinitely for failure over a long period of time to pay for the support of his wife under an order of court.

Jesse Barber, colored, of Johnstown, pleaded guilty to felonious assault and was

remanded to jail for further investigation he being alleged to have wielded a knife and chased a boy in West Taylor township while he was cutting dandelions, but the defendant claimed that the boy had been annoying him and that he merely chased him away, not intending to do him harm.

Daniel Dvark, aged 18, and Frank Cuomo, aged 14, both residing near Dyarsburg pleaded guilty to breaking into a house and stealing two guns of the value of \$25. They were ordered to pay the costs, make restitution and further sentence was suspended.

**1,365,826 PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES IN STATE**

Registrations of Year 1927 Exceed Those of 1926 by Seven Per Cent in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvanians owned 1,365,826 passenger automobiles in 1927, the State Department of Highways announced last Thursday.

This represented an increase of seven per cent over the 1,276,519 cars registered in 1926.

In addition to the passenger automobiles the highway department issued registration certificates for 217,937 trucks of all classes. This represented a gain of 5.6 per cent over 1926. There were 14,267 motor cycles, 196 motor bicycles, 7,699 motor busses and 774 omnibuses in the state during 1927.

The registration of all classes of motor driven machines, including traction engines and tractors, was 1,642,751, or a gain of 6.6 per cent over 1926.

From these registrations the Department of Highways collected \$26,017,495.46. This was \$17,000 in excess of the estimate made at the beginning of the year. Check penalties in 1927 totalled \$18,590.

Pennsylvania motorists paid \$437,681.22 into the state treasury during the last year in the form of fines, an increase of 17.5 per cent over 1926.

The department announced that it renewed the operators' licenses of 1,570,632 motorists and that 224,333 persons successfully passed the examination for license in 1927 and received drivers' permits.

The report shows that due to intensive farming, Pennsylvania farmers produced more corn per acre of ground under cultivation than was produced by the farmers of Iowa, and that the wheat farmers of the state produced more wheat per acre than was produced in Kansas.

It was also pointed out that the corn and wheat crops in Pennsylvania in 1927 were far below normal.

The state led the entire nation in the production of buckwheat and cigar leaf tobacco. The potato crop of the state was second in value in the country but fourth in quantity and the apple crop ranked third in value and fourth in quantity.

On other crops the state ranked fifth in grapes, seventh in tobacco, eighth in commercial apples, eighth in tame hay; eighth in pears; ninth in winter wheat; ninth in rye; ninth in peaches; twelfth in oats and seventeenth in corn.

The aggregate value of all crops produced in the state placed Pennsylvania in 16th position.

Tony Dypas, who was arrested in Buffalo, N. Y., after he had faked suicide by pretending he had gone over Niagara Falls, is now in the Clearfield county jail charged with evading debts. He formerly owned a shoe shining parlor in Clearfield.

**SWEEPING REDUCTIONS**

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**AGAIN SELETED FOR POULTRY HEAD**

G. Ray Johnston in Charge at Cambria Fair This Year; Leaves His Work in Johnstown

G. Ray Johnston, of Johnstown, has again been selected as superintendent of the Poultry Department of the Cambria County Fair, which position he has held since the first fair of the reorganized association was held 1924.

Mr. Johnston's present term as Secretary of the Johnstown Poultry Association expires January 24, and he announces that he will not again serve in any official capacity with the organization, devoting all his time in poultry work to making the Ebensburg show a feature of the fair, bigger and better each year.

The building erected to house the poultry for the first proved too small and the present large structure was erected in 1925, when the entries were even more than the year before and have grown constantly since. Last year more than 2,500 birds could not be accommodated to the structure has been planned for this year to take care of the great number of entries expected.

G. Ray Johnston has been a member of the Johnstown association since its organization in 1912 and served 14 years as Secretary.

**CHEST SPRINGS NEWS NOTES OF THE WEEK**

Little Pick-Ups Here and There in Our Thriving Near By Village—Comings, Goings, Etc.

A church party will be held Saturday, Jan. 21, by the committee for church benefits. Luncheon will be served at the conclusion of the card playing.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smithmyer of Altoona have concluded a visit here with friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Plunkett of Loreto who had been guests at the Nelson Charles home here for the last few days, have returned to their home.

Miss Evelyn Conrad of Altoona spent the last few days here with friends and relatives.

William Gibbons spent the week-end in Ebensburg on a business mission.

Otto Kline of Spangler, who had been here on a business mission, has returned to his home.

Charles Stohmer of Altoona has concluded a visit here with friends and relatives.

Mrs. August McElhane who has been confined to her home by illness for the last three months, was reported improved.

Patrick Maloney and Leonard Conrad of Altoona spent the last few days here with friends and relatives.

**BUSSES DRIVE OUT STREET RAILWAYS**

John P. Dohoney, of Bureau of Accidents, Reports 14 Traction Companies Suspended in 1927.

The street railway companies of Pennsylvania, especially in the smaller communities, are being driven out of business by the motor bus.

This was revealed in a report of John P. Dohoney, chief of the Bureau of Accidents of the Public Service Commission at Harrisburg.

Dohoney's report revealed that in 1927 fourteen street railway companies suspended operation. He called attention to the fact that in practically every instance the field served by the electric line has been taken over by a motor bus line.

The report then set out that during the past year 2,346 accidents were reported on street car lines. This represented a decrease of three per cent from 1926.

In the 2,346 accidents, 141 persons were killed, and 3,317 were injured. Only five of the deaths were those of passengers, and eight were of employees.

Falls from or within trolley cars was the cause of the greatest number of injuries, Dohoney reported.

**MRS. MARY M. LEAHEY.**

Mrs. Mary M. (McGonicle) Leahy, aged 68 years, died of pneumonia at her home at Lilly last Thursday afternoon. She was taken ill the Sunday previous.

Funeral services were held at nine o'clock Monday morning at St. Bridget's Catholic church in Lilly, with a solemn high mass. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Leahy was the widow of John Leahy, Sr., a coal operator, who died at Lilly in 1922.

**CROSSING ACCIDENTS CAUSE 162 DEATHS**

The bureau of accidents of the Public Service Commission reports 1053 accidents at steam railroad grade crossings in this State during the year 1927. As a result of the collisions 162 persons were killed and 629 injured. In 90 per cent of the accidents automobile were involved and in consequence 119 occupants of machines were killed and 536 injured.

In comparison with the accidents of the previous year the report shows a decrease of 12 per cent as to the number of accidents and 12 per cent, and 14 per cent, respectively, as to the number killed and injured.

Sixty-one pedestrians were struck by trains at the crossings, 40 of whom were killed and 23 injured.

**HIGHWAY OFFICIALS ASK REPORT FILING**

Officials of the Department of Highways this week asked the co-operation not only of all police departments but of private citizens as well in the reporting of major automobile accidents as required by the new motor code.

Under the new code report must be made within 24 hours when an accident results in death, personal injury or property damage to an extent of \$50 or more.

Supplies of the necessary forms for reporting have been sent to city police departments and officials of motor clubs have been urged to co-operate in crashes which occur outside of corporate limits.

**DREAD DISEASE OF INFANTS IS CURBED**

A report just issued by the bureau of communicable diseases indicates that infantile paralysis which, though never reaching epidemic proportions during the past year, was far above the average, dropped during December to a normal point. Only ten cases were reported during that month. No cases were reported during the first week in January, 1928.

It was stated that this was the first week since August 1, 1927, in which no new cases had been reported. For the year 1927 up to the latest tabulations, 476 cases were reported with eight-six deaths occurring.