

# THE PATTON COURIER

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Thos. A. Owens, Editor & Prop.  
E. F. Bradley, Associate Editor

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## OWNERS OF FOREST LAND PROFIT UNDER SPECIAL TAX PLANS, SAYS STATE REPORT

Many private forest owners in Pennsylvania are taking advantage of the Auxiliary Forest Reserve Act, according to a statement issued the other day by Secretary Charles E. Dorworth of the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters.

The auxiliary forest reserve laws provide for separate assessment of the forest land and the standing timber. The land is taxed at not more than \$1 an acre, and no taxes paid on the forest growth until the trees are cut. Ten per cent of the stumpage value is then paid by the owner. The purpose of this plan is to postpone taxation while the forest is growing, and provides no source of income until the time when profits from the cutting and sale of timber are derived, and the owner is in a position to pay.

"The possible objection of paying an annual tax upon a timber crop that requires forty, fifty or seventy-five years to mature is obvious," Dorworth said. "It means that the wood growth is taxed over and over again, year after year. In the case of a forest handled on a fifty year rotation, the first year's growth is taxed fifty times, the wood added to the trees in their thirtieth year's growth must pay annual taxes for twenty additional years, before it is cut. It is altogether possible that the forest owner may find that his taxes, carried forward over a period of years, with interest included, equal or so reduce the profits of his forest investment that it really pays not to grow timber."

An additional advantage in deferred taxation of growing timber pointed out by Dorworth is that the tax is all paid at one time and is easy to calculate. It is more accurate and equitable, because it is based on timber products whose exact quantities are definitely known at the time of cutting. The sale value provides a true index for assessment, and there can be no difficulties arising from guesswork as to the amount or value, nor are impartial assessments possible. The work connected with numerous annual assessments is also eliminated.

The principles involved in Pennsylvania's Auxiliary Forest Reserve measure have since been embodied in practically all legislation for the relief of growing timber by other states. The Chamber of Commerce of the United States after a nation wide study of forest taxation in 1926, approved the principle of the Pennsylvania plan. Following this study the Chamber expressed the belief "that the taxation of growing timber should be based upon the principle of the yield tax, with reasonable uniformity among the states in such taxation," and stated that "to require those engaged in raising forest crops to take deductions annually rather than against the proceeds of the crops to which they relate is a denial of justice."

## BLAMES BAD DIET FOR MALNUTRITION IN MANY CHILDREN

Dr. J. Bruce McCreary, chief of the bureau of child health, State Health Department, issues a warning to parents regarding the condition known as malnutrition.

"The fact must be constantly borne in mind," said Dr. McCreary, "that the frequent cause of malnutrition, the most crippling of all the children's diseases, is over fatigue. Malnutrition can be briefly defined as underweight for height and age. All children who are 10 per cent, or more under the standard weight for age should be considered as cases of malnutrition. This condition is usually not due to lack of food, but to improper food, too much work or too much play.

"The records show a large percentage of malnourished children in the rural sections, where their food is abundant. In these days of activity a child's time is occupied from early in the morning to late at night with the school duties, home chores, movies and other recreational activities.

"All children suffering from malnutrition face a greater hazard because of their lowered resistance in case of infectious diseases. Over 12,000,000 sessions were lost through absences last year.

"It is safe to say that malnutrition had much to do in developing the diseases which were responsible for the vast loss."

DAVID F. BORING.

David Franklin Boring, aged fifty-nine years, passed away at his home at South Fork recently. Mr. Boring was the father of fifteen children and was married twice. Burial took place in Belmont.

## FOUR HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FOUR NURSES HELP GUARD HEALTH OF SCHOOL PUPILS

Staff Has Grown Constantly in Pennsylvania Since Passage of Act Back in 1911.

Four hundred and sixty-four nurses are engaged in guarding the health of the children in the schools of the commonwealth, the department of Public Instruction announced the other day. One hundred and fourteen of the nurses are in first class school districts, and 350 in second, third and fourth class.

The present service is the outgrowth of an idea that began in Philadelphia in 1904, when the visiting Nurse Society offered the services of a nurse to the public schools.

As a result of various studies and demonstrations, school nursing service gradually became recognized. So that when, in 1911, medical inspection was made mandatory in Pennsylvania by Section 1508 of the school laws, it was made possible for any school district to provide nursing service.

In 1921 the number of school nurses employed had grown to 71 in the first class districts and to 149 in the second, third and fourth class districts.

In an effort to improve the quality of service rendered to school districts, definite standards for qualifications for this position are being promoted by the department of public instruction. Specific requirements for certification are placing the school nursing service in a rank similar to that of the teacher. Districts are being urged to employ nurses who can at least meet the minimum standards for temporary certification, which include graduation from a four year high school or its equivalent, graduation from an accredited school of nursing and nurse registration in Pennsylvania.

A large percentage of nurses are securing additional educational training in order to obtain permanent certification.

Seventy-five per cent of the school nurses employed in the second and third class districts of Pennsylvania have secured four years high school education or its equivalent, while the figures for the United States as a whole indicate that only 34 per cent of public health nurses are graduates of a four year high school course.

The major aims of the school nursing program are to secure 100 per cent correction of remediable physical defects of pupils; to prevent and control the spread of communicable disease, to secure healthful surroundings at school and in the homes. To accomplish these aims demands that the greater portion of the nurse's time is spent in visiting the homes of the pupils.

An important feature of the school nursing program during the past year has been the increased number of pre-school clinics which have been held by school officials. At these clinics the children four and five years of age were given a complete health examination. An intensive effort was made to have all remediable handicaps corrected before the child entered school, as such handicaps have a direct bearing on school progress.

Approximately 70 per cent of the second and third class school districts now provide a school nursing program for their pupils. The need for this work is said to be as great in small third and in fourth class school districts as in the larger districts. Frequently, however, such districts are handicapped by lack of funds or by the fact that the school district is not sufficiently large to use the service of a full time nurse. Some counties are solving this problem by employing a county school nurse, other districts are employing the services of a school nurse jointly with one or more adjacent districts.

## STATE'S DEATH RATE THE SAME AS MANY OTHERS

Pennsylvania's death rate of 11.4 in 1927, was exactly the same as for the entire birth registration area of the United States, according to a report prepared by the bureau of vital statistics of the state department of health. The area includes 37 states.

Of these thirty-seven states, sixteen have a distinctly lower rate than that of Pennsylvania, eleven a somewhat higher rate, while nine others have the same or approximately the same rate as Pennsylvania. Of states immediately adjoining Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland and Delaware reported higher death rates in 1927 than us, while Ohio, West Virginia and New Jersey had lower rates.

Since the death rate is affected by changes in population and by the composition of the population, the infant mortality rate, which is the number of deaths under the age of one year to every 1000 live births, is considered a better measure of the relative physical well being of various communities.

In 1927 the infant mortality rate in Pennsylvania was 69.0. The highest of the death rates was in Arizona with 125.8 and the next highest 125.6 in the state of Washington. Among the states immediately adjoining Pennsylvania, the highest rate was in Maryland and the lowest in New York. Maryland, West Virginia and Delaware had higher rates than Pennsylvania and New York, New Jersey and Ohio lower rates.

Detailed mortality statistics are not yet available for many of the registration states. The largest states for which figures are now available are Minnesota and Kansas. Both of these states have low death rates and low infant mortality rates. But Pennsylvania has a lower typhoid fever death rate than has Kansas, and a lower cancer rate than either of these states. These statistics have better records than Pennsylvania in most all other causes of death.

In general Pennsylvania is usually close to the average of the states in the registration area.

## DENNIS SULLIVAN.

Dennis Sullivan, aged 83 years, died at 9:10 o'clock Tuesday morning near Ebensburg from arterio sclerosis and bronchial pneumonia. He was a veteran iron moulder and had worked for the old Johnstown Foundry Company for years. So far as is known he left no relatives and the funeral was held on Wednesday with interment in an Ebensburg cemetery.

## TESTS SHOW VALUE OF TREE LEAVES IN TIMBER GROWTH

Chemicals Worth \$4.46 Are Found in A Single Ton; Fire Causes Loss.

The richness of virgin forest soil is proverbial, but form studies conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters it has been possible to translate in dollars and cents the commercial value of leaf fall from an ordinary forest cover.

One ton of oak leaves evaluated in this manner is said to possess a chemical value alone amounting to \$4.46. This comprises 2.8 pounds of phosphate 18.8 pounds of nitrogen, and 7 pounds of potash. The nitrogen alone at 24 cents per pound is worth \$3.73.

When the lightest ground fire passes through forests, burning the leaf litter, wood, and humus, the nitrogen of high fertilizer value is lost, although a large portion of the potash remains on the ground. To this loss may be added the great value of the forest carpet as a retainer of moisture.

It is estimated that two tons of leaves fall to the ground yearly on an acre of well stocked oak trees. Four dollars probably estimates conservatively the money value of the fertilizing elements that goes up in smoke and gas when a single year's crop of oak leaves on one acre is burned.

Foresters point out that this measure of fertilizer value of leaves is arbitrary, for the leaves do not contain great value in the forest as they would if transferred to agricultural land. It would necessarily mean, they say, that \$4.46 worth of wood value would have to be added to the timber in the forest each year on account of the fertilizer value of each year's leaf fall, and must therefore be regarded as an agricultural measure of a forest value.

Experiments covering many years of study in Europe substantiate the fact that wood growth is materially decreased with the removal of litter from forests that are otherwise well handled. When the litter is removed annually in good Scotch pine stands, the increment is reduced eight to eleven per cent; in beech woods it falls off eight per cent on very good soil, and from 25 to 50 per cent on poor soil. All studies show that losses in wood increment increase with the number of years during which the litter is removed from the forest.

The protection of forests from fire in Pennsylvania not only preserves from destruction the leaf fall of the current and past years, but insures the continuance of the forest cover, every tree of which is in effect a tree adding fertility year by year. At the same time growing in wood value. Thrifty growth of the trees is promoted by reason of abundant leaf fall, and in forests protected from fire they are enabled to reach correspondingly greater sizes year by year, and add a greater amount of fertility to the soil in which they grow.

## CLEAN RAGS HELP PREVENT DISEASE; MUST USE THEM

Pennsylvania will likely take its place as one of the states requiring that only new or sterilized wiping rags be provided for use of industrial workers if a recommendation of the bureau of inspection of the Department of Labor and Industry is adopted. The matter probably will be presented to the industrial board of the Department at an early meeting.

A bureau of inspection official said this week that the need of a regulation of this sort has frequently been impressed in the past, and the modern ideas of health protection of the workers can no longer countenance a complete lack of restriction of the condition of the materials provided for the numerous processes which call for wiping rags.

Inspections, it was stated, frequently reveal that rags of the filthiest sort, apparently offering every possibility of communicating disease to those handling them, are contained in bales supplied by junk dealers or purchased from individual rag gatherers. Quite a number of concerns, after having their attention called to this health hazard, have voluntarily agreed to purchase in the future only washed and sterilized rags or new rags. At least one large establishment recently installed a sterilizing equipment of its own.

A study conducted by the bureau of inspection in the south central part of the state recently showed that there was not much difference in the quotations of junk dealers on soiled rags and on those that had been washed and sterilized. The unreclaimed rags were quoted at about 9 cents a pound and the washed and sterilized ones at about thirteen cents. There are today in several cities laundries devoted to the washing and sterilizing of rags. It was pointed out by one dealer that the difference in cost between dirty rags and those that have been treated probably vanishes entirely when it is considered that 100 pounds of dirty rags contain about 15 pounds of foreign materials, which means that they have about 15 per cent less absorbent value than the washed rags.

In some localities the rags supplied to industry by junk dealers are nearly all imported. It is considered not at all improbable that epidemics from other parts of the world are transmitted here through the medium of unclean wiping rags employed in industry.

## FEW LOCUSTS ARE FOUND IN MANY SECTIONS THIS YEAR

The seventeen year locusts which made a visit to Pennsylvania this year were less abundant than in the previous visitation according to reports reaching the bureau of plant industry, Pennsylvania department of agriculture.

The locusts were reported as very numerous in Dauphin and Schuylkill counties, in southern Luzerne and in northern Carbon counties. The majority of the reports indicate that the infestations were lighter than seventeen years ago.

## REPORT MALTA FEVER.

Several new cases of Malta Fever have been reported to the bureau of communicable diseases of the state in the past week.

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## 208 ACRES OF SEED POTATOES GIVEN CERTIFICATION O. K.

Two hundred and eight acres of potatoes out of approximately 600 acres entered, successfully passed the state certification requirements, according to the Pennsylvania Bureau of Plant Industry. The fields which were certified are located in twelve counties.

One hundred and thirteen growers were entered in the certification work this year as compared with seventy-two in 1927. The number of growers certified is 35, four less than a year ago.

While almost 30,000 bushels of potatoes passed inspection in 1927, the increasing popularity of Pennsylvania grown seed potatoes has resulted in a demand far exceeding production. At no time during the past five years has the production come up to the demand, bureau officials said.

The growers and number of acres are given by counties as follows:

County	Growers Certified	Acres
Bradford	2	33.75
Cambria	7	35.80
Carbon	1	4.00
Centre	1	15.00
Erie	1	3.50
Huntingdon	1	17.00
Indiana	5	15.25
Lehigh	1	6.00
Lycoming	1	9.00
Potter	1	20.00
Somerset	11	45.00
Sullivan	2	4.00
Total	35	203.00

## RULING HELPS CURB THE POOR NURSERY STOCK

Unreliable nursery stock salesmen and dealers who caused a great loss and disappointment to purchasers of nursery stock a number of years ago, have been eliminated to a large degree through the registration of all nurserymen and dealers in Pennsylvania, according to the bureau of plant industry, Department of Agriculture.

The state law requires the inspection of all woody nursery stock offered for sale in Pennsylvania. This service is given free of charge to all persons selling nursery stock and assures the purchaser healthy plants. The Pennsylvania nurseries are inspected one to three

## EVERY WEDNESDAY IS SUBURBAN DAY IN ALTOONA BOOSTER STORES

Just to remind you that Wednesday is a good day to shop in Altoona Booster Stores for the things that your local merchants cannot supply.

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times each year and the general conditions have been found to be good, often much better than the stock shipped into the commonwealth.

Not only must all nurserymen have a license but all dealers in nursery stock as well as agents canvassing for nurserymen, must be licensed. Anyone contemplating purchasing nursery stock should ascertain the status of the grower, dealer or agent before placing an order, attaches said. All agents are required to carry a card certificate.

## FALL SHIPMENTS OF FISH IN STATE ARE NOW UNDER WAY

Commissioner of Fisheries N. R. Butler has returned from a tour of the hatcheries where he has made arrangements for the fall shipments of fish. This is what is known as the height of the season to the Board of Fish Commissioners, and it is now distributing trout, perch, sunfish and catfish.

These fish are being shipped from the hatcheries, located at Union City, Pleasant Mount, Bellefonte, Philadelphia and Corry. The majority of the shipments are going through by truck.

The policy of the Board of Fish Commissioners covering the size fish which are being sent out has met with the hearty approval of the fishermen, Butler said. No trout are being shipped out this year under six inches in length, and there are many seven and eight inches. These fish will make good fishing when the season opens in the spring.

HOUSE FOR RENT—Second and Beech avenues, Bath and double garage. Inquire Mrs. S. A. Cooper.

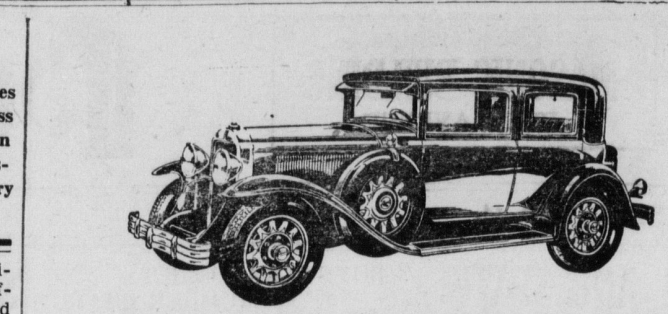
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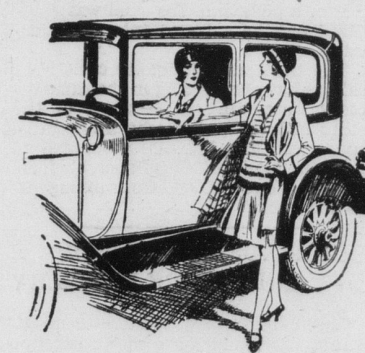
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