

# FOREST RECREATION

By J. M. Hoffman—Chief Bureau of Parks

Our forefathers were greatly influenced by their intimate associations with Nature and we need this influence in our lives today. All civilization has been greatly influenced by contact with flowers and forests. All great leaders of mankind have been men of the great outdoors.

We cannot doubt the tremendous influence that close communion with Nature has had on the founders of our country. Even a generation ago, life with its association with old Dobin, and our still remaining fine forests and our comparatively quiet manner of living, afforded a greater opportunity for reflection. Living in the forests provides for just the type of recreation that the vacationist needs today. If we would secure the greatest enjoyment, we must make a determined effort to stem the tide of certain phases of modernism in our life.

Of course, you can attend a baseball or football game, visit movie, pool rooms, or any of our many commercialized amusements. Even your walk on the city streets or in the city parks does not provide the same nearness to Nature that one may receive in our State Forest recreational areas. This special benefit received from recreation is the forgetting of your artificial environments and associations, throwing off your present lines of thought and bringing into play new ones. It is for this reason that most artificial features are debarred from the developments of our recreational work.

Man is the only free moral agent in all Nature. In this mechanical age when the law of motion seems almost to dominate our acts even when at leisure, riding aimlessly on the highways, we need the restraining influence and the discipline of Nature. Man by contemplating its wonders can feel himself in proper relation to all creation. There is a certain nearness to Nature that inspires man to live nearer in harmony with all life. He can understand the smallness of self and the greatness of life. The creative force of the universe is love and we may feel that spur to action by imbibing from the marvelous wonders of Nature about us. This will discipline our lives and free us from the shackles of the artificial. When we love the beautiful crystal stream and waterfall and hills, with the gorgeous autumn colors or the fragrant spring blossoms, the marvelous coloring of the winter sky, or the evergreen tree all wrapped with its woolen blanket of snow, then we love all mankind. The artificial, the commercial, the living by forms and creeds will vanish when we live in a right relationship, with this all-prevailing force of Nature.

Let us lie away where the roar of the car and locomotive, the hum of the motor, the rumbling of the street traffic and all their associations shall be lost in the quiet peace of the forest. Here we may hear the indistinct sound of the stream as it seems to listen to its own murmur, the chirp of the warbler, the whisper of the winds; all in Nature is an impressive contrast, if we seek to feel and understand it. Expect great wealth from the dynamo of Nature and you will not be disappointed. You will be recreated, as in a moment the beauty of all life will reveal itself to you. The cold shafts of love in Nature are tempered by the tender graces of human affection. Probably less than one person in a hundred visits the State Forests of Pennsylvania. Doubtless, people will continue to spend money and time for recreation and the great problem is only that of intelligent direction. More than one-half the motor cars in operation are used for other than business purposes.

Forests have always been the companion of man. They are the unconscious uplifters that inspire the ideals of mankind. Recreation facilities need to be provided so that the poor with large families may have the opportunity of enjoying a quiet time in the woods. The school term has been increased until now the pupil attends school almost twice as many hours as formerly. This condition requires that more consideration be given to the up-building of the health of the children during vacation.

Many people can no longer afford to spend the money necessary to visit places of recreation in other states or at a great distance. With the great demand for recreation of all types, the forests provide for the unique phase and type of enjoyment. The artificial condition of recreation supplied by the dance hall, motion picture, skating rink and city park, with all its amusement features, is not the type of recreation which the forests are supplying. Forest Parks furnish to the public Nature as near as possible, in the natural state, unspoiled by hand of man. Man's eye is attuned so as to see all things in their state as beautiful. Only the perversion of human nature causes man to be at odds with the World. The ideal recreation is the communion of the unspoiled soul of man with the unspoiled beauty of the physical World. When we visit these natural beauty spots we are tuning in and receiving the highest benefits of peace and happiness in existence.

There are still many people who do not enjoy Nature, forgetting that each season has its own reward. All creation is beautiful, nothing was made that was not designed by the Master. In spring, summer or fall we have the petals of the flower, the heart of the rose. In winter the snow flake that you examine on your coat sleeve is a crystal that cannot be outdone in beauty by the summer flower garden. The banner-like stream of snow blown in the air from the mountain peak, the mountain streams creeping along its channel is happy as is all Nature. The functioning of all life is an expression of joy to the Creator. Since much of our plant and tree life lies dormant in sleep in winter our rivers, our clouds, snows and many of the natural



JACOB M. HOFFMAN.

**EDITOR'S NOTE**—Mr. Hoffman is a former Cambria County Controller, resigning about four years ago to accept his present position with the State. This is the first of a series of articles written by him that will appear in the Courier from time to time.

phenomena may charm us. In the spring open the window and the sweet blossoms will flood the room and in their intimacy warm the heart.

The value of an intensive program of recreation will be improved health and add a more wholesome spirit of support and love of government as well as result in considerable financial returns. The three great values that the people of Pennsylvania will receive from an intensive program of recreation will be financial return, improved health and a more wholesome spirit of cooperation with our government. There is a refinement imbibed from contact with Nature that impels man to nobler and better deeds. To ever encourage this spark and to awaken it to new zeal and endeavor is the work of recreation—a labor of love that will eventually crown man with a more noble and satisfying life.

The fraternalizing of humanity with Nature creates a common bond of sympathy. This is a spontaneous expression without human dictation, does not guide and control this army, it is none the less powerful. All sportsmen lovers of Nature and men of the outdoors are bound by one common bond of understanding. This is a union more powerful than the commercial or labor unions in the World.

## CAR CRASH IS BLAMED ON GIRL JAY-WALKERS

Gallitzin Postmaster and Banker in Automobile Was Forced Off William Penn Highway.

Three girls said to have repeatedly jeopardized themselves and motorists by walking far out on the William Penn Highway Sunday afternoon are blamed indirectly for a crash in which the driver, H. G. Wissinger, and his wife and companions, one of whom was the postmaster at Gallitzin, narrowly escaped serious injury.

A heavy truck, traveling east just ahead of the Wissinger machine, then bound for Altoona, swerved sharply to the left when the hiking trio failed to step out of its way, and the driver, unaware that Mr. Wissinger was trying to pass, caused the automobile to be forced off the left side of the highway by his maneuvering.

The Wissinger automobile, bearing Mrs. Wissinger, their daughter Barbara and Postmaster and Mrs. Howard Weston, all of Gallitzin, plunged into a telephone pole and was damaged badly. The driver, cashier of the Citizens' Deposit bank at Gallitzin, suffered lacerations of the face and shock. The other occupants were badly shaken up. The mishap occurred at the Summit.

**LOST**—Brown, German Police Dog, answers to name of "Flap," bears license No. 2912. Reward if returned to W. B. Cornelius, 516 Palmer avenue.

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# PLANS FOR THE STATE HUNTERS

Division Game Supervisors throughout the State met at the offices of the Game Commission last week to discuss plans for the coming hunting season. Reports on game generally were very good. Feed, too, is fairly plentiful throughout most of the State and particularly is there a good crop of beechnuts reported in northern tier counties. Sportsmen throughout the State are urged to cooperate in every way possible with officers of the Commission, not only during the season but prior thereto. Already the illegal deer hunter during the past few days a number of such violators have been apprehended.

Sportsmen should never hesitate to report any violation of the game laws that come to their attention. It is only in this manner that the Game Commission can apprehend the vandal.

Sportsmen are urged to exert every care with firearms while in the woods this year. Too many accidents occur each season.

There is no need to stress the matter of guarding against forest fires. As a general rule hunters are ever careful of fire while in the forests for they know only too well that when the cover goes the game goes.

If sportsmen will be guided by the following rules they are apt to enjoy a much better hunting season.

Don't forget, trappers, that the season for muskrats opens December 1st instead of November 1st. You may trap muskrats from December 1st to February 28th. For mink, opossum, skunk and otter, the trapping season opens November 1st and ends February 28th. Woodcock may be legally killed from October 15th to November 14th.

Don't forget to cooperate with the game protectors. Help them perpetuate your sport. Game protectors are the sportsmen's best friends.

Don't forget, sportsmen, that the pre-season gunner is stealing your sport. Send in the license numbers of those who you see violating the game laws; that's what you call cooperation.

Don't neglect to carry a roster with you when three or more are hunting big game together. This applies to day-hunters. Those in camps must have rosters posted in the buildings.

Don't neglect to send in the stub attached to your resident hunter's license certificate giving the amount of game killed for the season. Such data helps the Board of Game Commissioners.

Don't unload your firearm in a building. Go outside and remove the loads. Always have your guns pointing toward the ground when removing the shells.

Don't get excited if you become lost in the mountains. Three clues in succession from your gun will very often bring assistance. Following the course of a stream will most always bring you out to civilization.

Don't neglect to extinguish a bonfire before you leave it. If you can stand the cold weather, it's better not to make a fire in the woods. Put out cigarettes or cigars before throwing them away.

Don't forget to count the number of deer you see while hunting; then give information to your nearest Game Protector.

Don't try to kill the limit of game every time you go hunting. Leave some for the next day. Maybe your fellow hunter can't get out the same day you go afield.

Don't shoot into a flock of wild turkeys. Better to single out your bird and miss him than to kill several birds with one shot and have to pay a fine. You are permitted to kill one wild turkey a season.

Don't get behind a blind and use a turkey call. Blinds and calls are forbidden. Anyhow it is dangerous to conceal yourself and imitate the call of a turkey. Two men were killed last season in mistake for wild turkeys.

Don't hunt in fields where stock is grazing. Better target that field until some other time.

Hunters who get lost and have no compass can use their watch for this purpose very easily. When the sun is shining turn the face of the watch to the sun in such position that the hour hand will point to the sun. Half way between the hour and twelve o'clock will then be the south point.

Of times hunters have run across water which appeared none too clear for drinking purposes. A practical and effective way of clarifying muddy or apparently undrinkable water is to pour two tablespoonfuls of condensed milk in a five gallon can of water. This, being heavier than the water, will sink to the bottom, drawing down, also, all sediment contained in the water. In a few minutes the water may be poured off, clear and fit for drinking and cooking.

## LEROY LAUER

Funeral services for Leroy Lauer, 33, who died Saturday morning in Cambria Township were held in the Holy Name Catholic church at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning, in charge of the Rt. Rev. Mons. Hugh M. O'Neill. Interment was in the Holy Name cemetery.

Mr. Lauer died at the home of his brother, Irvin in Cambria township. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lauer of Ebensburg, and the following brothers and sisters: Irvin Lauer, Ralph D. Lauer, Merle E. Lauer and Mrs. M. T. Lauer, all of Ebensburg; John Lauer of Cambria township; Mrs. James Forst of Lilly and Mrs. Luke Durbin of Cresson.

## NOEL-KILEY

Miss Lillian Kiley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Kiley of Greenwald, Pa., and Ferdinand W. Noel, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Noel of Cresson were united in marriage at noon Sunday, Oct. 19, in St. Bartholomew's Catholic church, Greenwald.

# FARM CALENDAR

Timely Reminders from The Pennsylvania State College School of Agriculture.

**Improve Farm Woods**—Many owners of young timber of just the right age for thinning are planning to do some improvement cutting this winter. Some will cut pulpwood, a few will cut chemical wood, more will cut mine props, and many will cut firewood.

**Get Ready for Winter**—Repair all muslin curtains and broken windows in the hen house before winter arrives.

**Save Flowers from Disease**—Peony tops and leaves may carry disease which will damage bud formation next spring, therefore it is necessary that they be destroyed this fall.

**Boarders do not Pay**—No dairy farmer ever makes any money running a boarding house for unproductive cows say State College dairy specialists.

**Feed Colts Well**—Oats is considered

the best grain for colts, but corn or barley may be used in the ration if properly balanced with nitrogenous feeds, such as linseed oil meal or wheat bran. Alfalfa and clover hay are rich in lime, the principal mineral component of the bones.

**Keep Milk Clean**—Wiping the cow's udders before milking, cooling the milk quickly, and scalding milk pails and strainers will reduce milk rejection at the plant or factory.

**Save Berries from Weeds**—Mulch the

strawberry bed with material that is free as possible from seeds or the bed will become foul with weeds.

**Take Care of Sprayer**—Drain the water out of all parts of the sprayer and oil the working parts well before storing the machine for the winter.

**LOST**—The lad who picked up the string of pearls in front of Aaronson's store on Magee avenue the other day is known. Kindly return same to the Courier office and received reward.

# THE CHALLENGE TO REPUBLICANISM!

Only twice since the Civil War have the people of Pennsylvania turned from the Republican Party in the election of a Governor. The second experiment of that kind was in 1890 (for the gubernatorial term 1891 to 1895), so that for 35 consecutive years our State has been under Republican administration.

In this more than third of a century our State Government has grown from a relatively small enterprise employing only 169 persons and operating within a very restricted sphere at an annual expenditure of 12¼ millions of dollars, to a tremendous institution employing more than 26,000 men and women in every conceivable kind of service to the people, for which our expenditures now exceed 200 millions of dollars per year. That means some 800 millions during the Administration of the next Governor.

During the term of Gifford Pinchot (1923-1927) this State Government was administered in the interest of all the people of Pennsylvania. The same principle has been followed throughout the administration of Governor Fisher.

**IN THE MAY PRIMARY THE REPUBLICAN VOTERS OF PENNSYLVANIA AGAIN NOMINATED MR. PINCHOT AS THEIR CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR.**

**SOME OF THOSE WHO OPPOSED MR. PINCHOT IN THE PRIMARY ARE NOW SUPPORTING HIS DEMOCRATIC OPPONENT, IN AN EFFORT TO DEFEAT THE WILL OF THE REPUBLICAN ELECTORATE OF THIS STATE.**

The attack that is being made upon the Republican Party of Pennsylvania is an attack upon the Republican Party in the Nation—with a Presidential election only two years away. For in each of the two instances since 1860 when Pennsylvania went Democratic, the country went Democratic in the next Presidential election.

**UPHOLD THE PRIMARY—STAND BY THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF THE STATE AND NATION—SEE THAT YOUR STATE GOVERNMENT IS ADMINISTERED IN THE INTEREST OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE**

**VOTE THE STRAIGHT REPUBLICAN TICKET TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4**

For U. S. Senator <b>James J. Davis</b>	For Governor, Gifford Pinchot For Lt. Governor, Edward C. Shannon	For Sec'y of Internal Affairs Philip H. Dewey
For Supreme Court Judge George W. Maxey	For Superior Court Judge William B. Linn Judge James B. Drew	

**Republican State Committee of Pennsylvania**