

### State Has 6,500 Miles of 'Horse And Buggy' Roads

#### Highway Dept. Planning Modernization Program

Pennsylvania has 6,500 miles of "truly horse and buggy roads," Ray F. Smock, state highways secretary, said the other day, but the commonwealth is without sufficient funds to reconstruct them. All of this macadam or concrete mileage was constructed prior to 1925 and designed for a comparatively light volume of traffic, he disclosed, explaining:

"From the actuarial standpoint our replacement responsibilities are enormous and far beyond our ability to finance reconstruction of such a vast mileage. Many roads become obsolete from a traffic standpoint before the actually wear out."

Smock said in a statement that the 20-foot width for two-lane pavement was not considered necessary until 1925 and that now single lanes of 12 feet each are required for three of four lane highways.

"Easy curves and reduced grades are now demanded by passenger and commercial vehicles," he added. "Increased sight distance and wide shoulders are necessary to provide adequate safety. Specially designed intersections at grade and overpasses and underpasses are now common on the primary roads."

"Turning to costs, the highways secretary explained that adequate highways constructed after World War I cost \$50,000 a mile, while a two-lane highway today of concrete costs from \$125,000 to \$150,000 a mile; three lanes, \$200,000 a mile; four lanes divided, \$300,000 to \$500,000, and controlled access roads in urban sections from three to seven million dollars a mile.

**FIRST MEDICAL BOOK**  
The first American medical book was written by two Aztec physicians about 1550. The Smithsonian institution has a photographic copy of the book.

**CAUSE**  
Effects on the human body at high altitudes are caused by the decrease in atmospheric pressure rather than lack of oxygen.

—Rewards go only to those who earn them and to no others.

### Coal Men Declare War on Building Of New Pipe Lines

#### Say Gas Reserve Not Sufficient in Emergency

The Western Pennsylvania Coal Operators' Assn. is embarking on an all-out fight against new pipe line construction.

During the past week, after declaring the natural gas industry is embarking on "reckless exploitation," the coal men urged Gov. Duff and the PUC to oppose applications filed before the Federal Power Commission by Transcontinental Pipe Lines Co. and Tennessee Gas & Transportation Co. The coal association's officers were authorized to seek the right to intervene in hearings before the governmental agency.

The coal operators adopted a resolution opposing the construction of pipe lines after President R. E. Jamison of Jamison Coal & Coke Co. in Greensburg declared: "We are convinced that the proven reserves of natural gas are not sufficient to warrant the program of reckless expansion upon which the natural gas industry has embarked x x x Any widespread displacement of Pennsylvania's coal, whether bituminous or anthracite, will seriously affect the economy and prosperity of the entire state."

He continued: "We do not believe that as a people we can afford to encourage the importance of a competing fuel, of which only a limited supply is available, to the detriment of our own industry and all other related industries such as our coal-carrying railroads, coke plants and producers of goods and supplies required in their operations."

Jamison also said that gas, "which constitutes only two-tenths of one percent of this Nation's fuel resources, cannot serve this country's need in the event of war" and declared "we cannot afford to dislocate our coal production resources or our railroads to make room for the production of other adequate and available sources of energy and transportation."

**DO YOU KNOW**  
The skull is composed of 22 bones, eight of which form the skeleton of the cranium and 14 of the face.

—Qualities of character may not be obtained by wishing for them; they must be cultivated.



### Driver Should Heed Highway Manners For Safety's Sake

"Do we need a key to watch every motorist?" Keystone Automobile club asks in a discussion of the highway accident problem.

"The big question," says Edward P. Curran, safety director of the club, "is, 'What can be done to make motor vehicle drivers fully conscious of their responsibilities to society?' Obviously, we cannot continue the policy of groan and condone, which has characterized the public attitude on highway deaths and casualties for many years. The time has long since passed for viewing with alarm without adequate measures to counteract the bad habits of our drivers, not only here in this state, but the country over. The behavior of our drivers en masse is a black blot on motoring."

"Should good manners be forced on the motoring public by putting car owners under such complete police scrutiny that no censurable act can escape detection? Or can we, as individuals, be brought to recognize our own shortcomings and do something about them?"

"The whole subject of motorist behavior was thoroughly considered recently at a conference of police officials with officers and staff members of the club. It was agreed that the highway accident problem narrows down to the individual, and it was further agreed that only a tremendous educational job can bring about any appreciable change in the driving habits of motorists. The logical starting point, insofar as new drivers are concerned, is proper driver training in the schools with coincident inculcation of a sense of responsibility so obviously lacking in the present-day operators."

### Fewer Properties Sold in County During Past Month

For the first time since last March, real estate transactions in Cambria County represented property valued at less than \$1,000,000.

During November a total of 396 deeds were filed in the office of Recorder of Deeds Clark Powell. Of these, 259 carried revenue stamps placing total value of the property at approximately \$953,661. The others were county deeds or carried no revenue.

Total value of property which changed hands to date this year is placed at \$15,524,104. This shows a considerable drop from last year when real estate deals were approximately \$25,000,000.

In November of 1946 there were 496 deeds filed at Ebensburg, just 100 more than in November of this year. The total to date this year is 5,401 as compared with 6,689 for the first 11 months of last year.

In all, there were 708 instruments, exclusive of discharge papers, entered for recording in November. Two hundred of these were mortgages and 112 were satisfactions.

### Eligible Veterans To Receive Medals

American Defense and World War Victory Medals will be distributed to all eligible Pennsylvania servicemen through a program set up by the military affairs department of this state.

Adj. Gen. Frank A. Weber says he has obtained 100,000 medals which he will send to county veterans affairs officers. J. Harold Gibb holds such title in this county.

County directors were urged by Weber to enlist the aid of local veterans organizations to distribute the medals to individuals.

The Defense Medal is awarded for service between Sept. 8, 1939, and Dec. 31, 1941; the Victory Medal for duty between Dec. 7, 1941, and Dec. 31, 1946.

—It is easier to start a thing than to keep it going.

—Read the Classified Ads!

### Springfield Mine Gets U. S. Mine Bureau's Approval

Safe operating practices employed by two mines in this section have drawn favorable comment from the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

Inspector Thomas B. Powell commended the Springfield Coal Co. No. 4 mine at Spangler for taking steps to provide safe working conditions. He suggested surface-underground telephone service, installation of a stairway in the manway slope and the wearing by all employes of protective hats and shoes. The mine, with a roster of 204 workmen, has an output of 1,100 tons of coal a day.

Workers and officials of No. 11 Mine at Mentle of the Redlands Coal Co. were commended by Inspector William Rachunis for "the Federal Safety Code." He mentioned particularly the recent installation of warning signals for shuttle cars.

### Soil Conservation Not Satisfactory

#### Planning Board States Sufficient Agencies

Two years of intensive soil conservation efforts in behalf of Pennsylvania's 1,000 farms has been encouraging but far from satisfactory, the State Planning Board says.

Declaring that although there are a sufficient number of agencies in the field to assist in the development of a state wide program of soil conservation, the board asserted in a 26-page analysis of the problem:

"An effective overall result on a matter so important to all of the people of the state will only be possible, however, if the efforts of those various agencies are coordinated to insure effective service from each of them."

Under a 1945 law, any county may be established as a soil conservation district of "substantial number" of farmers sign a petition for such action and it is accepted by the county's board of commissioners. The law provides for the conservation of soil and soil resources by control and prevention of soil erosion.

### Report of Cambria Co. Prothonotary

The account of John L. Hite, Prothonotary of Cambria County, as certified to the State Department of Revenue by Auditor General G. Harold Wagner, shows that 1,596 taxable papers were handled by the office during the year 1946. Total collected totaled \$795,75, of which \$771.88 was paid into the treasury of the Commonwealth, while the balance of \$23,87 represents the commissions paid.

A summary shows that there were 110 D. P. A. satisfactions, at 50c each, \$55; 637 writs at \$100, \$63,700; judgments at 50c, \$414; and 21 appeals at 25c, \$5,25.

### Hiked Employment In Bituminous Coal

Employment in the bituminous coal and lignite industries increased during 1946 for the first time since 1942 although production dropped 8 per cent below the 1945 level, reports the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

A bureau summary last week estimated 1946 soft coal and lignite production at 522,000,000 tons compared with 577,517,327 tons in 1945. Mines employed an estimated 400,000 men in 1946, an increase of 21,000 over the previous year, the bureau said.

The drop in production was attributed by the summary to major work stoppages which caused an estimated loss of 107 million tons.

—A style committee of clothiers and furnisiers says there will be no change for a while in men's clothing—except from one old suit to another.

—Important duties and responsibilities are rarely ever held in trust to the individual who has failed to perform the minor chores satisfactorily.

—There is a way to refuse a request without engendering rancor, but only those who possess the qualities of a diplomat know how.

# Gifts for the Home



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### Farmer Exposed To Many Dangers Doing Daily Work

Farming is one of the most hazardous of occupations, according to statistics recently released by the Medical Society of Pennsylvania.

In industry, a worker usually is operating only one stationary machine while the farmer may operate a dozen machines in various stages of repair, propelled by either animal or motor power and over rough and uneven terrain. A farmer works as many hours as daylight permits, and because of fatigue and undue haste, along with times plain carelessness, accidents occur at times and places where a little less hurry would avoid them.

One doctor in this state kept an accurate record of rural accidents in his area that he and his assistant took care of in the past year. It appears to be a fair cross section of the tens of thousands of accidents which doctors take care of in all rural areas.

The recording physician cared for 333 accident cases during the year and found 70 were children, 65 were women, and 198 men. Approximately 75 percent of these accidents took place after the noon hour, and the doctor believes that physical and mental fatigue and haste to get through the day's work accounted in a large measure for afternoon accidents.

There were 69 lacerations, 46 fractures, 24 puncture wounds, 5 dislocations, and 189 miscellaneous injuries. There were 9 dog bites, 3 cow kicks and 1 hog kick. Most of the 65 accidents sustained by women occurred in and about the home, and there were a total of 5 deaths from the 333 accidents.

### YOU'RE TELLING ME!

By WILLIAM RITT  
Central Press Writer

**KING GEORGE** has announced he will grant Elizabeth and Phil an annual income out of his own pocket. These days even a princess finds it cheaper to move in with the old folk.

Let's hope Santa Claus doesn't read the headlines. He might reconsider and stay in his snug harbor up at the North Pole.

Years ago we had two Thanksgiving. Who really needs today is two Indian summers.

John Mason postcards that the French in turning the premiership over to Leon Blum.

Utah He made his visit in July, 1776, the same month and year as the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

—You'll never acquire a competency looking for something for nothing.

Several congressmen admit they chew bubble gum. Appears as though they are going after the grammar school vote.

Engineers, a survey declares, make the best husbands. Married life has a better chance to run smoothly when all the gadgets in the home do likewise.

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### Spices Give Variety to Meals

By ALICE DENHOFF

THE tangy odor of spices in the stove fills the house with a wonderful aroma and promises zestful dining. So here are some spice tips geared for current conditions and this time of year.

Want something different in the way of cooked noodles, a sort of gourmet gesture? Well, add to drained, cooked noodles, ¼ lightly-sautéed blanched almonds, a generous lump of table fat and 2 tsp. poppy seeds. Let stand over low heat until flavors are well integrated. Serve with Chicken or Veal Paprika or any well-gravied dish as a good meat eker-outer.

One way to use the canned minced clams that are available everywhere, is to prepare a good New England Chowder. Use a tall can of minced clams c. 2 flat ones. Boil a quart of milk with one large minced onion. Thicken milk slightly, add a piece of table fat, and the sautéed clams. Add salt and nutmeg to taste. Heat well but do not boil. Serve with hardtack or oyster crackers.

**Emergency Dish**

A smoked shoulder butt is an emergency life-saver. Keep one in the icebox. For a spicy version simmer meat, 6 cloves, half a bay leaf, one sliced onion, a stick of cinnamon and ¼ c. wine vinegar. Be sure that all of the meat is covered, and the saucapan lid on tight. Allow 45 min. per hour for simmering. Very good with boiled potatoes and spinach.

Next time you make mashed potatoes, be generous and allow for 2 c. left-over ones, to make Potato Cake. Mix 2 c. left-over mashed potatoes, 3 tsp. hot milk or evaporated milk, ¼ tsp. paprika, ¼ tsp. celery salt, 1 tsp. minced parsley and salt to taste. Spread mixture on bottom and side of greased shallow baking dish. Bake in moderate oven 15 min. or until browned. For serving, fill with creamed meat or fish or with vegetables for another good eker-outer.

**Different Stuffing**

If you're tired of the same old flavor in roast chicken, use a rice or potato stuffing and add the sage or thyme to the gravy. It does make a difference!

If the family turns up its nose at the hearty turnip, try mashing this vitamin-rich vegetable with potatoes, and adding a dash of nutmeg. Or, boil the turnips, subed, and serve with a sauce based on meat drippings with a flavoring of nutmeg or mace and ground cloves with a cautious dash of cayenne.

And how's about giving brussels sprouts a whirl? Serve with browned gravy, richly colored with paprika and flavored delicately with powdered savory. Make the most of apples and learn that baked apples, apple pudding and even rich brown apple sauce turn into party desserts with whipped cream flavored with brown sugar and cinnamon.

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