

# AROUND THE CAMPFIRE

with FRED KIEFER

Dallas Camp number 227, United Sportsmen of Pennsylvania held its spring meeting, April 1st, at, and through the courtesy of the Odd Fellows Hall.

As has been the rule lately the meeting was sparsely attended, though sufficient were present for the election of officers. Ben Eckhart is the new president, Jim Robinson, vice-president; Ralph Rood, secretary; and Harold Titman was re-elected to his old post of treasurer.

The Camp was happy to have with them A. Q. Creveling, a member of that excellent non-political body of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, which is the organization which, because of its separation from commonwealth interference, provides additional game reserves for the propagation of deer. It puts at the disposal of the hunter thousands of acres of state owned land for hunting purposes. The commission raises considerable numbers of pheasants, quail, rabbits, some partridge (ruffed grouse) and turkey yearly. Through its adequately trained and schooled wardens, protection is given these species of wild life as well as many many birds which are of inestimable value to the farmer and his crops. Vermin is held in check by bounty payments on wild-cats, gray foxes, goshawks, and weasels in every county. These bounty claims run into considerable cost as witness the total for January, 1936, of \$26,849.00. Luzerne County sportsmen and vermin hunters were paid \$692.00 of this amount that month. Annually the cost figures \$125,000, and all these benefits come out of our \$2.00 license fee. Planned forays against crows and stray cats are organized and carried out by individual clubs and the United Sportsmen of the state ridding the countryside of many of these pests (of which there is no wicker in killing young birds and eating eggs.) Grain is placed in specially constructed shelters during hard winter months and many farmers leave corn stand in patches during this period.

Quoting the Pennsylvania Game News for January 1936 there is this to say:

"The burning of brush patches by farmers may seem harmless, but it destroys wildlife habitat, and if a conflagration is permitted to spread it will devastate large natural nesting and breeding areas for our furred and feathered friends, and may even threaten or destroy fences or farm buildings.

"Brush burning for the most part is done merely to improve the esthetic value of the farm. The modern landowner thinks mostly in terms of artistic farm improvement, laying all his fence rows bare, burning brush-covered ravines, and otherwise denuding his property of the very things which are so essential to wildlife. These farms may go on producing good crops for some time, but when the valuable game and song birds are driven out because of lack of nesting and breeding areas, noxious insects and weed seeds will increase tremendously and destroy many crops."

Even if you are not a member of any club or sportsman's organization we plead that you subscribe to this interesting and instructive publication. The cost is a mere fifty cents a year for twelve monthly copies, and the information contained within its covers is part of the educational campaign to broaden the scope of the Game Commission's propagation and protection policies. It is not a profit making enterprise just a sincere effort in helping to make the outdoors beneficial to all and to preserve good hunting for the generations to come.

The Dallas camp of United Sportsmen is closely allied to the Commission, as are all camps, in its steps in this direction. We have personally placed in advantageous spots of good cover and feed, in the past few years, many pheasants and rabbits. Three crates of the latter were released last Fall by Ralph Welsh and according to last reports had weathered the difficult season in good condition. Clinton Ide has raised young birds from hatchlings and released several broods in scattered sections at various times. Bill Powell has distributed grain as have several others, during the past winter.

It is men like these, together with the officers and members of this local camp that are endeavoring by actions to give your crops protection and your sports much success afield. And this camp needs support. Not in finance for that comes with membership, but with members of the outdoor type. Dues in this organization are \$2.00 a year and when you have brought home a couple of nice birds and a half dozen rabbits you are compensated for the expenditure and you know you will have had a part in the Plan of Propagation and Protection.

Mr. Russell Womelsdorf, head fish warden for Luzerne County, talked on the work of stream improvements now being carried out by C. C. C. units and groups of WPA workers. It is first necessary to contact the landowner along the banks of the stream under consideration to understand and secure releases along the right of way. It is necessary to understand that property along the water will suffer no damage as the dams are so constructed so that the pools formed are on the down side of the obstruction preventing the flooding of any area and offering deep, cool spots for lingering trout. WPA funds are available for work of this kind and streams of this nature should be reported to Mr. Womelsdorf for survey at his home in Wilkes-Barre. The Head Warden pointed out that members of the camp who know the landowners can secure releases much easier than wardens with whom the owners are not acquainted. He suggested that from casual survey he thought Leonard Creek would make an ideal stream for this method of improvement.

Mr. Womelsdorf told members that Harvey's Lake had received a shipment of Lake trout and that the Lehigh River had been stocked with brown and rainbow as well as brook trout for the season we are now in the beginning of.

Dr. Mortimer, secretary for United Sportsmen gave his usual but none the less interesting talk on conservation and he allied co-operation of clubs.

The liberation throughout this section of many full-grown, Ring-necked pheasants from the Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners marks the beginning of a new game propagation policy, looking toward maximum reproduction in the wild of pheasants liberated from the State Game Farms.

Upwards of 6,700 cock birds, all splendid specimens of the Ring-necked pheasants, are being shipped from the State Game Farms for liberation by District Game Protectors through the Commonwealth. These male birds are being released to establish a better mating balance with the many hens now in the wild, and represent a vast increase over the number liberated last year.

Due to the Commission's new policy of holding matured birds over the winter at the farms for Spring liberation, tremendous losses from severe winter weather and destructive floods were avoided. Thousands of birds were wintered at the farms this year with less than normal loss.

## Orange

MRS. MARY EMMANUEL CORRESPONDENT

Mrs. Myrtle Miller recently entertained Mr. and Mrs. Reese Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Carlson and daughter Marian of Courtdale and Mr. and Mrs. George Snyder of East Dallas.

Mrs. Eliza Robling and Ruth Robling of Moosic visited Mr. and Mrs. David Emmanuel on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. David Emmanuel entertained at cards Friday night, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Sickler and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Brace.

Betty and Ruth Morgan have returned to their home at Parsons after visiting their cousin, Mrs. Glenn Sickler.

Mike Prokopchak, a teacher at Noxon, spent the Easter recess with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Prokopchak.

Shirley Snyder and Lillian Mann visited friends at Ebbensburg over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Woolever spent the week-end with their sons at Vestal, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Orval Cain and daughter Jacqueline, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Kunkle and son Paul motored to Lime Ridge on Sunday.

John Berlew is visiting his daughter, Mrs. Laird Stanton.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Sickler were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Morgan of Parsons Easter.

Mr. and Mrs. Walters of Lockville have returned home after visiting their daughter, Mrs. Leslie Dymond.

Arthur Gay, Giles Gay, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Brace motored to Washington, D. C., over the week-end. Giles Gay remained to visit relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. John DeWitt and son John, Jr., of Wyoming called on Charles Ross on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Ferry entertained at dinner Tuesday night, Rev. and Mrs. Judson Bailey and son Wesley.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Nolan and daughter Nellie of West Pittston were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Eaton on Sunday.

Miss Norma Agnew and Walter Stauffer have returned to Upper Darby, Pa., after spending the Easter vacation with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Agnew.

Robert Snyder entertained over the week end Leroy Strausser of Tunkhannock.

Mrs. Mildred Boston and Clarence Boston of West Pittston visited Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Ferry on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Welch were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Dymond.

### Birthday Party

Mrs. Harry Sickler recently entertained in honor of her son Harry's Birthday. Those present were Marietta and Jean Emmanuel, Marian Brace, Madge Dymond, Myrtle Evans, Josephine Sickler, Gertrude Hanson, Evelyn Dymond, Helen McHenry, Thelma Paux, Corey Sickler, Leon and Jack Van Tuyle, Elwood and Glenn Dymond, Kenneth Larish, Sheldon Sickler,

### 81 YEARS OLD

Mrs. Marilla R. Brown of Ryman's Pond celebrated her 81st birthday anniversary when a host of friends and relatives gathered at her home Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Brown is the daughter of the late Richard and Marie Spencer Ryman of Dallas Township, pioneers in the Back Mountain Region. She is an active member of the Free Methodist Church.

### SISTER DIES

Mrs. Anna Englehart of Lehman is grieving over the death of her sister, Mrs. Simon Pitcavage who died suddenly Tuesday night at her home in Larksville following a stroke of apoplexy. Mrs. Pitcavage leaves six children.

Harold Burns, William Jones, Harry Sickler, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sickler, and Mrs. Harry Sickler.

### Missionary Society Meets

Mrs. Mark Kunkle entertained the Missionary Society at her home, Tuesday night. Those present were Mrs. Mabel Evans, Mrs. F. A. Snyder, Mrs. Florence Agnew, and Mrs. Myrtle Kunkle.

### Farewell Sermon

Rev. Judson Bailey will return from conference Sunday evening to preach his farewell sermon at the Carverton Church at 7:30 P. M. Rev. Bailey will retire at this conference and will make his home at Nicholson.

## Fertilizer Comes From Far Places

### Mixed At Lord's 10,000-Ton Plant In Columbia County

Local farmers who have occasion to travel down-river are invited to visit the large fertilizer plant of Fred E. Lord at Espy, in Columbia County, one of the most modern in Central Pennsylvania.

Mr. Lord's plant is unique in many respects. He conceived the idea of manufacturing and selling fertilizer direct to the farmer in 1920. That year he sold 200 tons. Last year his business had multiplied to the extent of 3,800 tons.

In 1934 his entire plant was destroyed by fire. In its place, Mr. Lord erected a new structural steel, fire proof building, 60 feet wide by 320 feet long, with a capacity of 10,000 tons per year.

He buys Potash direct from the German Potash Imported Corp., Nitrate of Soda from Chilean producers in South America, Animal tankage, bone and blood from Argentine, Fish meal from the Manhattan Fish Factory at Louis, Del., and Acid Phosphate or Superphosphate from the only factory in Baltimore that produces old time, old method, properly cured acid phosphate.

The plant is always open and visitors are welcomed. Mr. Lord has facilities for delivering fertilizer in Montour, Columbia and Luzerne Counties.



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**C**ONGRATULATIONS, VETERANS! Our hats are off to you. You've waited a long time for a well-deserved obligation to be fulfilled... you've gone without things you could have used very well... but that's over now! We're glad for your sake, and sincere in our congratulations.

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