

## Pitkin Reviews School Changes

### Sees Curriculum Reflecting Transition In Social Structure

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(Special To The Post)

Though this is the season for "time out" on school books and other implements of learning, it may not be inappropriate for a review of the State's educational system if we are to keep up with the frequent changes and progressive ideas being adopted to meet modern demands.

More than one-fifth of all Pennsylvanians are pupils or students in school or college. The great majority are in the 12,000 or more public schools, which had an enrollment of 1,944,022 boys and girls in 1934. The others are in private schools, colleges, or normal schools. The State has 54 recognized colleges and 16 normal schools.

For over a century the State has had free public schools for all children. During these hundred years many of the schools have developed into large modern institutions with wide, varied programs. Others have in some respects advanced little beyond their pioneer ancestors, for even in this age of consolidations made possible by good roads and motor buses, there are still more than 4,000 one-room schoolhouses in Pennsylvania.

Boys and girls now go to public school not only to study the common school subjects, but also to get training in art, in music, in stenography, in agriculture, in home economics, in care of the health, and in many other branches that serve as good preparation for citizenship.

It is possible that the schools of a hundred years hence will be as different from those of today as they are from the first public schools of 1834, which taught little beyond "the three Rs." Schools are constantly changing to meet the changing needs of society. Many more children will remain in school until they are eighteen or twenty. This will mean wide changes in the courses offered.

Many modern schools are tying up their work more and more closely with life itself. In the more progressive institutions children are taught by actually doing things, rather than by merely reading and writing about them. English, arithmetic, and geography are not isolated but all are taught and used together as they are in the actual process of living. Boys and girls are given opportunity to learn to do the things for which they are best fitted.

## Want To Discover Old-Time Fiddler

### State's Homespun Minstrels Get Chance At Bucknell Festival

Lewisburg, Pa., June 24—Perhaps the oldest of Pennsylvania's old-time fiddlers will be discovered at the Pennsylvania-German regional folk festival in Allentown Saturday.

If he is, he will have seen more summers come and go than Garney Kelly, 78, of Ashland, who thus far is the oldest entrant in a State-wide fiddlers contest to be held at the Pennsylvania Folk Festival here July 30 and 31, under the auspices of Bucknell University.

Should the most aged of Pennsylvania's homespun minstrels be discovered tomorrow, he will be paid special honor at the state-wide fete of indigenous lore and minstrelsy. He will not be required to compete unless he feels his aging bones will let him, according to George Korson, festival director.

If he does compete, it will be against such stalwart survivors as Kelly, who will represent the anthracite coal regions; John Wilsoncroft, 72, of Clearfield, representing the old-time river raftsmen who floated huge rafts of virgin timber down the Susquehanna River to tidewater in days of yore, and Charles Anderson, 76, of Rome, Pa., delegate from the lumbering country of Pennsylvania's Northern Tier counties.

Kelly has played the same fiddle for 60 years. The same instrument which enlivened many a miner's shindig in its time will be heard by thousands of persons assembled in Bucknell's concrete stadium, probably by many more of the radio audience.

Western Pennsylvania's contribution to the old-time fiddler's contest will be selected at the All-Nations Folk Festival in Pittsburgh July 5. Others will be entered as they are discovered throughout the State, and all of them will be at least 70 years old.

The program for the festival opens on the evening of July 30, when Nanticoke Indians, Moravians, Welsh, Scotch, Pennsylvania-Germans, Swedes, Ukrainians, and Negroes will depict their folk-lore, and a mummies' string band will play. State-wide contests in fiddling, jig and clog dancing, ballad singing, tall-story telling and country auctioneering, an Indian powwow, and English folk songs are features for the afternoon of July 31, while the folklore of the Conestoga wagners, canal boatmen, railroaders, sailors, raftsmen, lumbermen, and coal miners will be seen that evening, climaxed by a State-wide contest for the square dancing championship of Pennsylvania.

## AS TWILIGHT DESCENDS



The photographer who snapped the Market Street Bridge over the Susquehanna River from this unusual angle captured all the impressive beauty of one of the great arches, silhouetted against scudding clouds as the sun was dropping below the horizon. This picture is typical of the artistic work that is being done with a camera today, rivaling in beauty and tone some of the most beautiful of paintings.

## Tragedy Stalks Bird Families

### Reader Tells Of Mysterious Fate Which Lurks In Shrubbery

The following communication to The Post is presented, not only because the story is related in interesting fashion, but because some reader may be able to suggest, through the columns of the paper, what our correspondent can do to prevent a recurrence of the tragedy.

"Tragedy stalks the life of birds. Early this year a robin built her nest high in the limbs of a blue spruce that is a part of the shrubbery just outside the windows of my home. For several days we watched her build her home and followed her daily goings and comings as she laid four eggs in the nest. Then one morning as we made our daily inspection to see how housekeeping was going in the robin household, we found her dead on her nest. All evidence pointed to a violent battle between the robin and some intruder. The nest was a shambles, with twigs and bits of string scattered over the branches of the spruce. One eye was plucked from the badly battered side of the dead robin's head.

"Immediately we laid the blame for this tragedy on an attack of starlings, although we had not seen any starlings in the vicinity. We reasoned that no cat had committed the crime being of the opinion that a cat would have carried off the robin as a morsel for dinner. Four blue eggs in the nest were undisturbed. There was no further solution to the mystery. But we determined that from that date on we would be mortal enemies of starlings.

"Some weeks later two catbirds paid a call to our shrubbery and judging it a fit place to build a home and rear a family started in earnest to build a nest. Again every morning we took up our position just inside the window to observe the daily activity of the catbird family. It was not long before there were four young catbirds

in the nest with two very busy, catbird parents working from dawn until dusk to keep them well fed. Then Wednesday morning we found a dead catbird on the nest, three of the young gone, and the remaining young catbird, not yet large enough to fly, badly frightened and resting on a lower limb of the shrub in which the nest was built. In this case there was no evidence of violence. Again we reasoned that no cat had committed this crime, but we were likewise unwilling to blame it on starlings.

"Perhaps there is somewhere among your readers someone who takes an active interest in the observation of bird life, who can help me to clear up this mystery or who has had similar tragedies among the birds in his own trees. To all appearances the shrubs about our house should be ideal nesting spots for birds. They are well protected against storms, furnish ideal concealment of the nests except from an observer at the windows within the

## SOCIAL

Miss Catherine Gensel of Parrish street was taken to the General Hospital for an emergency operation on Tuesday.

### BERLEN-SHOTWELL

Loren L. Berlew and Martha A. Shotwell were united in marriage by Rev. Gertrude Ross of Dallas Thursday evening, June 17, at 8 p. m. at the home of the groom, 708 Merger Avenue, Kingston, in the presence of a large number of friends.

Asa Shotwell, son of the bride, gave her away. Other attendants were Loren Berlew, Jr., Robert Shotwell, Mrs. Vivian Atkinson and Mrs. Sarah Ellsworth, children of the bride. Mrs. Berlew wore a pale blue crepe with gray slippers; Mrs. Atkinson wore a white linen, and Mrs. Ellsworth wore wine-colored voile. All carried corsages of mixed flowers. On Saturday evening seventy-five friends gathered to congratulate the couple.

### Alderson M. E. Children's Day

The children's day program at Alderson M. E. church will be held on Sunday, as follows:

Prelude, Roannah and Edwin Shoemaker; children's prayer service; welcome, Carol Scouton; recitations, Marion Parsons, "A Little Pansy"; Ruth Zimmerman, "A Tiny Violet"; Arnold Garinger, "Much Too Small"; William Beseker, "Just Watch"; Elizabeth George, "Welcome to You"; baptismal service; graduation of Junior boys' and girls' classes; pageant, "The Festival Queen", entire primary group.

### Himmlers Plan Trip To Western States

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Himmler of Lake Road, Dallas, and Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Morgan of Kingston will leave early next month for a trip to California and Western states. Among the interesting places they will visit during a six-month absence will be the Yellowstone National Park, Salt Lake City, the Grand Canyon, Boulder Dam, Chicago, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Colorado Springs, Glacier National Park, the copper mines in Arizona, Mt. Hood in Oregon, and Hollywood, where they will visit the film studios.

No children disturb the birds and I have never seen any cats in the vicinity.

"I shall appreciate some suggestion from your readers which may help us to protect any birds which seek refuge in our shrubbery."

## Back Mountain Biographies—No. 19

Thomas J. Miers, who many will remember as a retired Kunkle farmer, was born in Chemung County, N. Y., September 20, 1830, the son of Jacob and Sarah (Wilcox) Miers, both of whom were also born in New York state. They came to this section in 1834, locating in Dallas Township, on the place later occupied by William Goss. Jacob and Sarah lived there until they died. Jacob had a seventy-five acre farm. He was postmaster for several years and upon his death at the age of 43 his wife succeeded him in that office. Thomas J. was the fourth in the family and was reared and educated in Dallas Township. He was married to Miss Hannah J. Ferguson in 1834 and they had seven children, Frederick, George, Elizabeth, Ida, Miles C., and two who died as children. In 1863 Thomas Miers went to New Jersey and became a member of the Fourth New Jersey Light Artillery, to serve for a term of three years. He was wounded in both hands by the explosion of a shell during the battle of Deep Bottom. He was honorably discharged and drew a pension until his death. A Democrat, he held several township offices, having served as supervisor, poor master, and assessor, with much credit.

### Taylor-Garinger Wedding Announced

Robert Taylor of Harvey's Lake and Norma Garinger of Idetown were married at Bloomsburg in June 15 by Justice of the Peace Josiah MacKenzie. Richard Gibson and Catherine Taylor, a sister of the groom, were the attendants. Mr. Taylor is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Taylor of Harvey's Lake.

### Unemployed And WPA Workers Meet June 28

Harvey's Lake unemployed and WPA workers will meet on June 28 at Beseker's Restaurant, on the Picnic Grounds. Speakers from the Workers' Alliance will talk on WPA layoffs and explain how they can be avoided. The election of new officers will take place as soon as the speakers are through. Every unemployed man or WPA worker is urged to attend the meeting.

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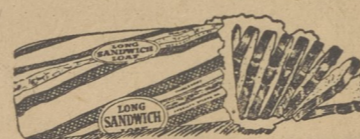


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