

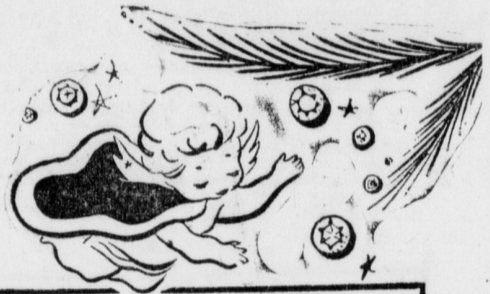
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Folklorist Tells Of Last Elk Kill In Pennsylvania

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania Folklore Chief Henry W. Shoemaker today told the tale of one of the last elk kills in Pennsylvania.

"I have met and conversed with George W. Gaylord, of Pottersdale County, who killed one of the last elk in Pennsylvania," Shoemaker said.

"I happened to be in that community one day in 1927 and met Gaylord. I asked him when the last elk was seen in that area and he looked at me and said 'strange as it may seem, I not only saw it, but I killed it.'"

"Here is Gaylord's story the way he told it to me:

"It was about the spring of 1865, just after President Lincoln's assassination. I was living at Farnandsville, above Lock Haven, at that time. Many boys who worked in the woods went home for the Easter holidays. One of them, George Dewey, was lumbering on Hix Run, a tributary of Bennet's Branch of the Simmahoning and he called me aside, knowing how fond I was of hunting, and to tell me of a great bull elk, which hung around their operation, feeding on the elkwoods which grew plentifully there.

"He said he knew it was my ambition to shoot an elk, they were nearly all gone, and if would have come with him the next day, he would show me where I could obtain one. Just then Jim David, the old surveyor and great elk and panther hunter came by, with his long staff. I signalled to him and said I was going to see an elk the next day, would he come along. The old six foot five inch giant, smiled, and nodded in the affirmative, so our party was now complete.

"We started that same night in Dewey's wagon, and were at the Bell brothers Lumber camp where he worked before noon on the

(Turn to page 12)
next day. Driving up the creek to the camp we saw where an elk had crossed the muddy road several times, but we first had to put the old horse away David got

out to watch the trail and as soon as Dewey signed on, we returned up the Creek again, and the hunt began.

"We followed the fresh trail around the camp, and down to the mouth of the creek when, darkness coming on, we put up for the night with Cracker Hix, the first settler in that region, for whom Hix Run was named. He let us have his elk dog, Spy, the next morning.

"The elk had taken to the water, and we trailed him up the stream, until just before noon we saw, a dark object moving in a clump of elkwoods. It was a five point bull elk with horns nearly six feet long. We drew lots as to who should fire the fatal shot, and I won. I advanced to the thicket with the little dog and the mammoth full moved out of the brushwood and stood in the open in Bennet's Branch posed as if to die bravely. I took aim hitting him in the heart and he fell forward on his antlered head a dead bull. We divided him into three parts, I taking the head, horns, and hide and forequarters and we started back to Bells' camp. A mighty cheer went up as the crew saw us, just after coming out from dinner, and we were congratulated on our kill."

Bonfires Banned On State Highways

Harrisburg—In an effort to avoid unnecessary damage to roads, Secretary of Highways Joseph J. Lawler urged property owners to refrain from burning leaves on macadam highways and streets.

This is the time of the year when most people tidy up their premises by getting rid of the fallen leaves.

"They are unaware that burning leaves on macadamized streets and highways is injurious to road surfaces," Mr. Lawler said.

The heat from the fire is destructive to all roads but more so to bituminous surfaces. In addition, the damaged section of road creates a traffic hazard until it can be repaired.

By cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Highways, unnecessary damage to roads as well as expenditures for their repair and accidents to others can be avoided.

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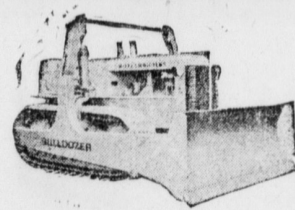
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FINED FIFTY DOLLARS
Christian Flory, Mt. Joy, pleaded guilty to maintaining gambling devices and was fined \$50 and costs in the Friday session of court in Lancaster. Detective Raymond Wiggins said he confiscated a punchboard at Flory's service station, 471 New Holland Avenue, Lancaster, on Oct. 10.

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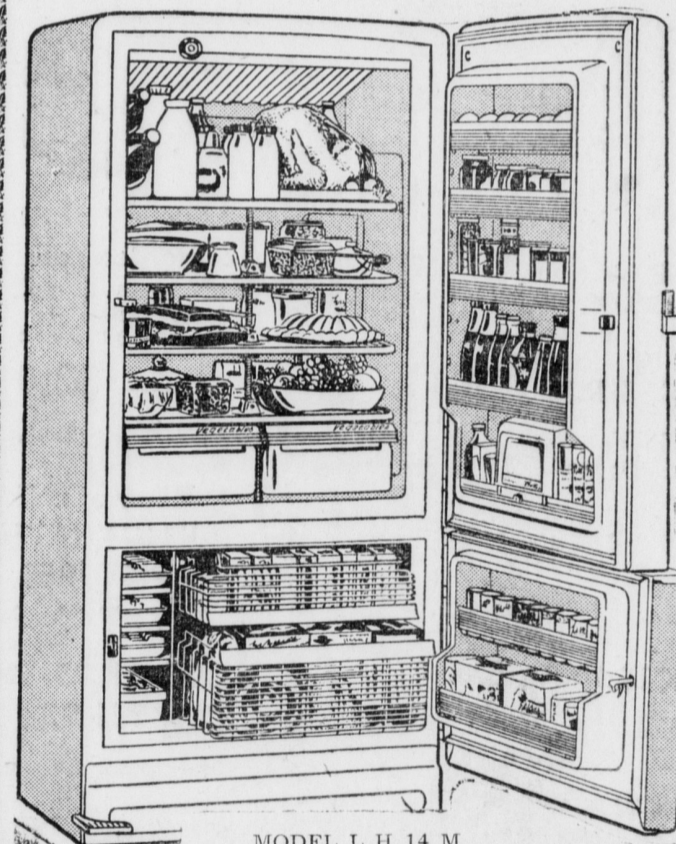
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