

DANVILLE INTELLIGENCER.

"DEDICATED BUT TO TRUTH, TO LIBERTY AND LAW—NO FAVOR SWAYS US AND NO FEAR SHALL AWE"

VOL LXXV.

DANVILLE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1904

NO. 49

Flames Lay Waste The Hospital Barn

\$20,000 Fire Consumes Structure and All of Its Contents—Four Steers Incinerated—Insurance Is \$15,800.

A fire of unknown origin swept over the State Insane Hospital property yesterday afternoon and left a wake of ruthless destruction, consuming a costly cattle barn, the largest on the farm, in which machinery and crops were up in smoke and steers that could not be rescued were incinerated. The loss is roughly estimated at \$20,000 but may exceed that amount and to offset it there is \$15,800 insurance.

At about 3:30 o'clock boys named Shultz and Beagle, working on the place, discovered the fire and gave the alarm. J. O. Warner, the man in charge of the hospital farm, hastened for the hospital house and states that whereas only a little smoke was issuing from the structure then the entire barn was a seething, roaring mass of fire flames when he returned. The scene was one of intense excitement, frightened cattle lowing and stamping and terrified hogs shrilly squealing. The mild patients who were working in the fields came rushing in to the fire in droves, but were looked after and occasioned no disorder.

The flames first appeared on the south side of the barn and when that was eaten through they greedily licked up part after part of the big structure, sending volumes of sparks skyward, but fortunately not where they seriously endangered other property, there being no wind to whirl them on the main hospital buildings. The men connected with the hospital were quick to begin battling with the fiery element, and being familiar with the location of the fire hose and apparatus did good work. The second and third Ward Danville companies responded to an alarm and worked with excellent effect, but of course the inflammable nature of the contents of the barn made any attempt to quench the furious flames folly. All that could be done was to play streams on the numerous surrounding buildings. This was done and they were saved. The horse stable was kept drenched and a store building was kept wet. The buildings adjoining the cattle barn, however, were damaged, but even to save them at all was doing well. Six streams of water from the Hospital reservoir were played on the fire.

Henry M. Schuch, a trustee of the Hospital, had been at the main building and was just driving away when the fire broke out. He assisted in driving the cattle from the building. Officials and everyone about the place bent willing hands to do everything they could to keep the disaster within the smallest confines possible. The cows were in an enclosure near the barn and were safe, although terrified. Six steers were in the flanking structure and only two of them could be rescued, the others perishing.

The fire was an unconquerable one and beam after beam weakened, tottered and fell as the flames gained headway until at 4:45 o'clock the big stack of hay and grain in the loft and the surrounding timbers crashed in, the whole structure collapsing. As it did so great clouds of densely black smoke rolled up. The heat during the progress of the fire was so intense as to keep the hundreds of persons who gathered on the grounds at a safe distance from the burning structure. The corn crib and contents were the first part of the building to go. Eventually the flames attacked and damaged the ice house and slaughter house. The new silo, with a capacity of 150 tons, which was just finished this summer, costing \$500, was destroyed. It had been filled not more than two weeks ago with the product of two fields of corn.

The barn was totally destroyed with all of its contents, which Mr. Warner described as best he could remember under the existing circumstances. There were 100 tons of hay, much straw, 1200 bushels of wheat, over 500 bushels of oats, machinery worth over \$1000 and other contents of a minor nature.

The only explanation that seems to offer as to the origin of the fire is spontaneous combustion, which of course might easily have happened in the well filled building. Mr. Warner says not more than an hour prior to the discovery of the fire he was in the barn, but not in the part where the flames broke out. At that time there was no indication of the approaching destruction of the big concern.

On September 9, 1904, the old barn was destroyed, with a loss of about \$14,000. The barn that yesterday was reduced to ashes was erected on the site of the first one, but was larger, finer and more modern and substantial. Its loss for the second time places the hospital at great inconvenience, leaving the scores of cows without shelter. Temporary sheds for them will be built at once.

The new barn was erected at a cost of about \$12,000. As it is wholly gone and likewise the big stock that it contained the loss will run easily to \$20,000, this sum including the damage done to the other structures that were burned but not destroyed. W. H. Orth went over the records of the amounts of insurance and found a total of \$15,800 is held on the buildings that were burned, distributed as follows: barn, \$10,000; contents, \$5,000; ice house, \$500; corn crib, \$300. The silo had been so recently completed that it was not insured.

INSTITUTE OF TEACHERS

C. W. Derr, the Montour County Superintendent of Schools, and City Superintendent Gordy, of the Danville schools, are perfecting arrangements for the approaching annual Teachers' Institute that is to be held in this city in November. The institute usually comes in the week following Thanksgiving, which this year falls on November 24, and in consequence will open on Monday, November 28, continuing throughout the week.

An effort is being made to secure thoroughly competent instructors to give the institute the highest possible standard of work. Several prominent men have already been engaged, including James M. Coughlin, of Wilkes-Barre and Professor Wilbur, of the Bloomsburg Normal. A lady from a Boston training school probably will be here and one of two other leading educators may come to Danville for a day or so during the institute.

The schools of this city, have an efficient force of teachers, numbering thirty-one in all. These teachers will all be on hand at the institute ready themselves to be taught. The annual gatherings of this kind are always highly profitable, as those who attend get new ideas and learn the approved modern methods of successful instruction. When all arrangements are made for the sessions to be held next month and the program is completed in detail it will call for a very interesting line of work.

New, Sharp and Distinct.

The Edwin J. Haffey Company entertained a large assembly Wednesday evening with what can be declared to have been the best moving picture exhibition ever given in this city. The views shown were all new, sharp and distinct, and devoid of the annoying flicker heretofore seen. A return date will be eagerly looked forward to. Haffey's moving pictures show the best in the city. —Warren, Pa. Mirror.

At the Danville Opera House, next Saturday evening, October 22nd.

GOOD USE OF APPROPRIATION

With about a dozen men engaged on the protecting wall at the Water Works the progress of operations is rapid. The wall has risen over half of the entire height, but is not laid to the full length yet. So far as it has gone it shows up as a fine piece of masonry and at the same time an improvement in the way of the appearance of the river bank.

Superintendent Keefe's ferry from the third bridge pier to the shore is a new feature of this work and is proving an unqualified success. It is the regulation cable ferry, but is of Mr. Keefe's own construction. The flat is a small one, but it carries a good-sized load of stone, taken from the third pier, every time it goes to shore. A horse power derrick has been placed in operation, too, over the new wall to raise wheelbarrows loaded with dirt. The dirt is taken from a bar in the river and is used to fill in back of the wall as fast as it rises.

It will be remembered that Council some time ago made an appropriation of \$1,000 to apply on the building of this wall. At the time the action was taken it was not thought that the money would go very far in the work, but the judicious manner in which the task is being done is a revelation. So far only a few loads of stone have had to be purchased. Now the stone is being taken from the river at a great saving and the wall continues to go up steadily, with the prospects of getting the whole job completed this fall and that, too, at an extremely reasonable cost. The wall has long been considered an absolute necessity. Its erection now under such favorable circumstances will please Danville's progressive people, bent on improvement in all lines.

Penn Company Gets Contract.

The Penn Bridge Company yesterday was awarded the contract for the erection of the Breish bridge over Catawissa Creek in Columbia county, the structure to cost \$21,900.

STRONG ARGUMENT IN INJUNCTION CASES

In an all day session of court Friday the argument on the D. L. & W. railroad and Danville and Bloomsburg trolley injunction cases was made and the spirited contests of the opposing attorneys were followed with interest by the crowd that filled the court room. At 5:15 p. m. the afternoon session ended and court adjourned. It now remains only for Judge Little to weigh the merits of either side and as soon as he does so his decision will of course be filed.

Judge Little convened court at about 10 a. m. and the argument for the railroad company's side was opened by Attorney Hinkley, who said the bills of the case were filed under the act of 1871, providing that the mode of crossing any railroad shall be such as will work least damage to the road to be crossed. He cited other acts and numerous decisions and urged as the duty of this court the determination of the possibility of avoiding a grade crossing at Mill street. He argued that the least damage to the first road and the greater safety of the people would result from discouraging grade crossings. Giving several Supreme Court decisions against grade crossings, he said cost and difficulties encountered in abolishing grade crossings are in the balance against life, and limb and it is the policy of this state to prevent the increase of grade crossings.

Mr. Hinkley then maintained that no local sentiment may be considered, even where the welfare of the public is at stake and informed the court that no light objections or excuses may be regarded, the citations showing that grade crossings are to be abolished except in cases of imperious necessity. Here he stated that the D. L. & W. is not at all bound by the borough ordinance giving the trolley company right of way and requiring the laying of the tracks at the accepted grade only and he further asserted that the jurisdiction of the court is not affected by action of municipalities, claiming that if so the street railways and Councilmanic bodies might reach agreements and defeat the purpose of the act of 1871.

Decisions intended to show that telephone and telegraph companies may not interfere with public travel next were offered. Mr. Hinkley contended that it can not be proven that it is impossible to interfere with electric trolleys and even if so claimed that the trolley company is at fault in having chosen such a route. He further alleged that damage to property that may result from constructing an overhead crossing is an element that does not enter into the consideration of the court. Next he stated that the present dangerous nature of the crossing with only 14 trains a day is not to be passed upon, but the court must allow for the future. The claim of the danger of a seven per cent. grade overhead incline being greater than a grade crossing he said could be refuted by Supreme Court opinions. He then opposed his judgment against that of Engineer Pascoe, who testified that safety devices make grade crossings safe. After referring to the manner in which the trolley people crossed the D. L. & W. tracks, he concluded by asking for the injunction against the D. L. & W. to be dissolved and that against the trolley company to be made permanent.

Lawyer Scarlett at 11:30 o'clock began a reply to this argument. Not the decisions cited, but their application have bearing on the present controversy, he said. Then he recited the fact that the trolley crossing at Mill street was in place and in use before the injunction was served. The overhead crossing was acknowledged more dangerous than the grade. The Supreme Court never has passed upon the question of the danger of the overhead crossing. In his brief opening statements Mr. Scarlett maintained that the legislation of a borough Council will stand despite the court.

"To avoid a grade crossing no company must erect a slaughter house," he said and after briefly referring to the delay of public improvements, to obstructions that can not be removed unless the telephone and telegraph companies agree to the removal of poles, he scouted the idea that his legal adversary could set up his opinion against Engineer Pascoe's as to the efficiency of safety devices. At a final hearing the speaker said it could be shown that the D. L. & W. has produced no evidence of right to traverse the streets of Danville and he further informed the court that the Supreme Court has sustained the lower court in allowing the operations of a grade crossing until the final settlement of the case.

He caustically scored the D. L. & W., which he claims has very little real regard for public interests in Danville when it a few years ago in a prospectus spoke very slightly of this city. When the D. L. & W. was a weak, miserable, crawling thing and not a power that could defy the court he asserted that it got more dollars from this town than from any other town on its line and now it refuses to help the town that has helped it. The purpose that actuates the railroads in trying to abolish grade crossings is to be able to gain greater speed, not to protect life, is the view that Mr. Scarlett takes of the matter.

Before Mr. Scarlett concluded court adjourned until 2 p. m. A soon as court reconvened at 2 p. m. [Continued on Fourth Page.]



HARRY E. DAVIS.
DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS IN THIS 16TH DISTRICT.

CONDITIONS GOOD IN RURAL DISTRICTS

A news representative traveling in the rural districts of this section brings in an interesting account of the conditions of affairs of the farmers of Montour county, who mainly have had a prosperous summer and who now have an encouraging out-look. Corn throughout the county is nearly all out and in shock and now is being husked. Possibly this is the last year in which the old-fashioned, tedious hand method of husking will prevail. A corn husking machine exhibited at the Bloomsburg fair last week was purchased by J. A. Merrell, J. P. Snyder and B. Hendrickson, all of Valley township. The machine will husk 1000 bushels of corn a day as well as cutting the fodder. This extremely rapid work will bear no comparison with the slow and laborious hand system. The weather is still a little warm for husking.

The farmers are well pleased with the good crops they have had this season. Some of the corn has been small but nearly everywhere on this side of the river it has been of good quality. In some cases the present planting has resulted poorly. Wheat is now in the ground and doing nicely. The crop gives promise of being all right unless a blight like that of last winter should affect it.

The apple crop is of unprecedented size. Older, apple butter and dried apples are being prepared in unheard-of quantities, the farmers desiring to use as many as possible of the apples, which are of exceptionally fine quality in every variety. Many farmers have had losses through potato rotting, but not severe ones. This fine weather is very favorable for the work incident to the ending of the season. The prices received for crops of all kinds have been good and the farmers on the whole are greatly encouraged.

Football on Saturday.

The Danville Football Team, an organization made up of Danville's best players, will play the Sunbury High school football team at DeWitt's Park next Saturday afternoon. The game will be called at three o'clock. Admission 15 cents.

The leaves are losing their grip on the trees.



THE Y. M. C. A. ANNIVERSARY

St. Paul's M. E. and the Mahoning Presbyterian churches were filled with large congregations Sunday eve when the Young Men's Christian Association Anniversary services were held. Several of the city churches were closed to allow their people to attend the services at either church above named. At St. Paul's church B. W. Musselman presided and at the Mahoning Presbyterian James B. Watson was in charge of the interesting service. Following the organ voluntary in each church the opening prayer was made by the Rev. E. J. Swartz in the Methodist and the Rev. M. L. Shindel in the Presbyterian. The Rev. W. C. McCormack and the Rev. N. E. Cleaver respectively, read the scriptures in the churches and O. R. Schilling and William D. Laumaster read the President's and Secretary's and the Ladies' Auxiliary reports, first presenting the combined report of President and Secretary.

The report began with a review of the facts of the organization of the Young Men's Christian Association by George Williams, a London, England, clerk, in 1844 and dealt with the growth to over 300,000 members, with property investments of \$20,000,000 in their buildings and running expenses of \$3,000,000 annually. In a general way it then told of the world-wide extent of the work and described what the Association does for young men in giving them home influences, combined with entertainment, physical, mental and moral instruction and development.

In the educational classes there are 30,000 men and boys enrolled in the United States alone. The Y. M. C. A. now has branches in colleges and schools with a membership of over 50,000. The boys are receiving needed attention and over 90,000 of them belong to the Association, while over 60,000 railroad men also are members of the Y. M. C. A.

At this point the report takes up the local end of the work and is given here in full:

The work of the Danville Association has been fairly prosperous during the past year, and we feel that good has been accomplished, but we are not wholly satisfied with the results. We wish that greater interest had been manifested in the various departments of work, and that more members had been secured. We trust that greater things may be brought to pass during the coming year. For this we will work and pray.

Our building is one of the finest in the state, and is well adapted to the work. All the rooms throughout are neatly furnished, well-lighted and comfortable. The reading room is supplied with first-class periodicals and newspapers, and the game room contains various interesting games for amusement of young men. All the furniture has been brightened up, and the gymnasium and bath rooms newly painted and furnished with several new pieces of apparatus.

The Sunday afternoon Men's Meeting, the Sunday morning Men's Bible Class, and the Monday evening Bible Class for ladies and gentlemen, were well attended during the year. The Thomas Beaver Boys' Bible Class still continues popular with the boys, and is one of the most encouraging departments of our work. The membership for the past year was 250.

In the gymnasium, the past season showed the largest and most interesting classes in the history of the Association, and with our present equipment, it is hoped that during the coming season many will avail themselves of the advantages offered for physical development.

The Committee and Board of Directors were attentive to the duties assigned them, and through their efforts, much good work was accomplished. The Star Course of Entertainments given in the Opera House was made up of the best talent obtainable, but for some reason or other was not a financial success. This year it has been decided by the Directors that the course will be omitted.

The social side of the work received its share of attention, and from time to time, during the year, a number of social gatherings were given for the pleasure and profit of members. One of the valuable features of Association membership, is that young men leaving home with a Y. M. C. A. ticket are accorded all privileges in Associations in other cities. This is a privilege of great value, and will be appreciated more fully when young men are away from home. One of our present needs, in order that the work may be properly carried on, is a larger number of subscribers and more young men and boys who will enroll as members of the Association. If renewed interest on the part of the people is shown, the work of the coming year will be greatly facilitated in every way.

We take the position that the work is needed in Danville, and that the citizens desire to see it go forward. We also assume that the good accomplished is appreciated and understood, and for these reasons we take courage and will labor more earnestly for the accomplishment of greater good for young men.

We would not be ungrateful at this time of the many valuable favors rendered to our Association by both clergy and the press; also by many private individuals, who have assisted in many ways to make the work more attractive. We are especially indebted to the

Plunged From Log To Death In Creek

Samuel Henderson Loses His Balance In Crossing Stream At Billmeyer's Deer Park And Drowns —Funeral Today.

Samuel Henderson for the past fifteen years employed in the care of Hon. Alexander Billmeyer's deer park at Washingtonville, was accidentally drowned about 5 o'clock Tuesday evening. He had been sent to what is known as the "lower meadow" after the cows and to reach it had to cross a creek, passing over a log that spanned it. Falling into the water, nine feet deep at that point, he must have struggled helplessly until death overcame him, being unable to swim and there being no one near to rescue him. Harry Billmeyer saw the cows returning without Henderson and surmised that something was wrong. An investigation resulted in the finding of the man's lifeless body floating on the surface of the water. His person bore no marks of violence and his clothes even were not disarranged, so it was evident that he must have lost his balance and plunged from the log into the stream.

Before going to work for Mr. Billmeyer, Mr. Henderson was employed in this city by Mrs. A. A. Geisinger, as a gardener. The only relatives who survive him are his sister, Mrs. Sarah J. Hancock, of Burlington, N. J., and a brother, William Henderson, who lives in England. The deceased was born in England and was sixty-eight years old. The funeral will occur at 10 o'clock this morning from the Lutheran church at Washingtonville, burial to be made in the church cemetery. The Rev. Owen Reber will conduct the services.

members of the Ladies' Auxiliary, who have always willingly assisted us in our efforts to carry on a strong, aggressive work for young men. Their practical help, rendered during the past year, in raising funds to make needed improvements, and for their interest and sympathy in the general work, is acknowledged by the entire membership of the Association. Their many helpful and self-sacrificing acts for the good of young men will surely be rewarded.

In closing, it is our wish that we shall have the continued sympathy, influence, prayers and financial support of the people. Our cause is worthy. The work is urgently needed. Let us go on in the strength of the Lord, looking unto Him for every blessing. The Ladies' Auxiliary report was as follows:

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A. with a membership of sixty-five have endeavored to be of help to the General Secretary and the Board of Directors during the past year, having given three hundred dollars for repairs, etc. Money was also expended for the Christmas treat to the Thomas Beaver Boys' Bible Class, for their picnic and a course luncheon to members.

The money made was from membership fees and from the proceeds of a supper and strawberry luncheon. Entertainments were provided once a month for the Boys' Bible Class with a different committee of ladies in charge of each entertainment. Any person who will take the time to attend one of these meetings will see how carefully these boys are trained at their meetings. The order is all that can be desired, and the appreciation of the boys is noted. A special entertainment is given them at Christmas and a picnic in June.

The Auxiliary assisted at the Members Reception, serving a course luncheon. We desire to thank the public for all assistance rendered during the year, and at the same time, solicit your patronage and support in any project undertaken during the present year. For we must work.

We would especially be delighted to receive a number of accessions to our membership. The fee is only \$1.00 a year. Every woman in the town who feels an interest in the work for young men and boys should be identified with this organization.

MRS. J. E. MOORE, President, L. GERTRUDE SECHLER, Secretary, W. V. Oglesby read the Treasurer's report in St. Paul's and Dr. J. E. Robbins read it in the Mahoning church, as follows:

Reports for Year Ending August 31, 1904.

Balance on hand August 31, 1903	
	\$ 64.35
RECEIPTS.	
Membership Fees	\$ 821.50
Membership Fees, Boys	43.10
Membership Fees, Ladies	18.00
Subscriptions	818.00
10 Cent Fund	141.95
Woman's Auxiliary	300.00
Baths	13.90
Locker Rent	52.00
Mahoning Pres. Church	19.95
Grove Presbyterian Church	16.00
Anniversary Collection	18.49
Special collection for Dr. Nice	8.10
Income from Miss Hartman	
Legacy	18.00
Miscellaneous	7.05
Total	\$2,361.39
EXPENDITURES.	
Salaries	\$1,770.00
Furniture and Repairs	29.87
Office Expenses	349.26
Periodicals	53.63
Physical Department	6.09
Printing	53.63
State Committee	12.50
Anniversary Expenses	16.50
To Dr. Nice	8.10
Lecture Course Deficiency	18.18
Water Bond	100.00
Ice	12.48
Telephone Rent	24.00
Total	\$2,318.87

Balance on Hand	\$12.52
ASSETS.	
Miss Hartman Legacy	\$300.00
Income only is available.	
Water Bonds	\$300.00
LIABILITIES.	
Salaries	\$325.00
Furniture and Repairs	60.17
Physical Department	46.90
Periodicals	45.00
	\$477.07
Indebtedness in excess of Assets 164.57	
Respectfully submitted	
Treas. Danville Y. M. C. A.	

In the Methodist church appropriate addresses were made by the Revs. S. B. Evans and G. E. Lambert and in the Presbyterian by the Revs. J. E. Hutchinson and E. B. Dunn. The remarks were timely and tributes were given the Y. M. C. A. as a great power for good in the lives of the young men.

Death of Mrs. Edward Corman.

News of the death of Mrs. Sallie Corman, wife of Water Commissioner Edward Corman, will be sadly received by the many friends of the deceased. She passed away at her home on East Market street Sunday morning. Mrs. Corman had been ailing for about a year. During the last couple of weeks her condition was very serious and in spite of everything that could be done to overcome disease she succumbed, passing away at 1:30 o'clock Sunday morning. Neuralgia, which went to her heart, was the cause of death.

The deceased was aged almost 45 years. Besides her husband she leaves a son and daughter, John and Eleanor. She also is survived by a sister, Mrs. Samuel Vought, of Elysburg. The family has the sympathy of the community in their bereavement, for Mrs. Corman was a woman who was held in high regard.

The funeral of Mrs. Edward Corman, which occurred at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon from her late home, East Market street, was largely attended. Impressive services were conducted by the Rev. Edward Haughton, of Christ Episcopal church.

The following were the pall bearers: F. C. Angle, George Maters, John Hixon and Charles G. Cloud. Interment was made in Odd Fellows' cemetery. Present from a distance at the funeral were: Dr. and Mrs. H. Bierman of Bloomsburg; Hiram Woodruff and wife, of Elysburg; Mrs. John Woodruff of Riverside; Mrs. Elma McBride and daughter, Mrs. Mame Pope, of Philadelphia; Miss Lela Ely and Mrs. Johnson of Bloomsburg; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bird, of Mt. Carmel; and William Corman, of Scranton.

Light Question Will Come Up.

Council will hold a regular meeting tomorrow evening. Nothing of unusual importance and interest is expected to come up except the question of providing light for the city for the next month or so. The light contract expires on November 1 at which time it was thought the municipal plant would be ready to operate. The indication now is that the new plant will not be in service until December 1, at the earliest. In consequence a temporary provision for light must be made. It is understood that the Standard Electric Light company will continue supplying light and the matter promises to be easily adjusted, but the temporary contract will have to fix a date when the Standard Electric Light Company is to cease lighting the city, in one month or two or whatever length of time may be considered necessary.

Scalds Giving Much Trouble.

Dr. Stock yesterday said that the case of Stephen Molinski, the Polish workman scalded nearly two weeks ago at the Reading Iron Works, then showed a little improvement. However, the unfortunate fellow last week was very low for several days. Over a third of his body is burned and his recovery will be slow.

The pop of the corn is once more heard throughout the land.