

Community Letters

FROM NEWS CORRESPONDENTS

All Correspondence Must Be in This Office Tuesday

Independence

(Mrs. Floyd Clarke, Reporter)

Dec. 23.—The Christmas program with candle lighting service and social hour at the parish house Sunday night was very interesting and well attended.

Dr. and Mrs. B. R. Crandall of Alfred called on Mrs. Mary S. Crandall, Friday afternoon, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Clarke.

Mrs. John Lewis and son Donald were called to Buffalo Friday afternoon to see John, Jr., who is quite ill in the hospital there.

Charles Spicer and Donald Lewis are spending their holiday vacation with their respective families.

Mr. and Mrs. Earle Greene were in Whitesville Thursday afternoon and evening, helping to care for their grandfather, Ira Brown, who has pneumonia.

Prof. Wallace Clarke of Solvay is spending his Christmas vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Clarke.

E. R. Crandall of Corning called on his mother, Mrs. Mary S. Crandall, Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Whitford of Watstown were Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Whitford's mother, Mrs. Maude Clarke.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Spicer and son of Whitesville were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Clarke.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clarke were shoppers in Hornell Wednesday and spent the evening with friends here.

Mrs. Carrie Slade of Andover and Mr. and Mrs. Decatur Clarke and son of Whitesville were guests at the Floyd Clarke home Sunday afternoon.

Several from here attended the annual meeting of the Farm and Home Bureau in Belmont, Thursday.

Mrs. Minnie Wilson and Mrs. Lottie Drew called on Mrs. Carrie Slade in Andover Friday afternoon.

Wanda Matteson of Whitesville was a week-end visitor of her aunt, Mrs. Cleon Clarke.

R. E. Spicer accompanied by Wm.

Flint, Edna Joyce, Mrs. Paul Vincent and Flora Flint, were Hornell shoppers Wednesday.

West Greenwood

(Mrs. Dan Mullin, Reporter)

Dec. 21.—The West Greenwood Grange installed their new officers at the regular meeting Dec. 18. Lester York, the installing officer, was assisted by Douglas York, Pauline Pease and Idanette Brewster. The new officers are as follows: Master, Gordon Pease; Overseer, Edward Mullen; Lecturer, Stanley Murray; Stewart, John Swarts; Assistant Stewart, Howard Brewster; Chaplin, Ruth York; Treasurer, Lester York; Secretary, Nelson Brewster; Gate Keeper, Freeman Rogers; Ceres, Rose Swarts; Pomona, Margaret Murray; Flora, Pauline Pease; Lady Assistant, Idanette Brewster. Daniel Mullen Jr., is passing some time with his sister, Mrs. Shirley Evans and family of Stephens Mills. Several from this place attended the Christmas operetta Thursday evening at the Greenwood Central School.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Robbins of Beleviere called on Mr. and Mrs. Dan Mullen Friday.

George Burd of Canisteo was through this place on business Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Teribury and sons called on his mother, Mrs. Lillian Teribury, Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Mullen and sons spent Sunday with her mother Mrs. Emily King of Slate Creek.

A farewell party is to be given at the West Greenwood Grange hall Dec. 27 in honor of Howard and Edward Brewster who have volunteered in the Selective Service Training for one year.

"That's a nice little boy," said the visitor, as young Freddie collected his scattered toys. "I imagine your mother has promised you something if you clear up the room."

"She promised me something if I don't."

ASK The Scientist

If you have a question for the scientists, mail it to the New York Press Association, The Castle, Syracuse, N. Y. The Science Board of Syracuse University's Radio Workshop will answer in those columns each week those questions considered most timely and interesting.

Question 1. Why are most persons right-handed?

Answer. About 90 per cent of our population is right-handed and about 5 per cent left-handed, while the other 5 per cent use either hand equally well. The reason these differences in the facility with which hands are used is not known at the present time.

The general belief, however, is that handedness is determined by the psychological dominance of one side of the brain over the other and the hand opposite the dominant side of the brain is the preferred hand. Incidentally, there is right and left eyed preference which may be explained on the same basis.—Dr. Verlus Lindeman, physiologist.

Question 2—What is the accuracy of weather forecasts?

Answer. Weather forecasts made for use in aviation are almost perfectly accurate for as much as four or five hours in advance. The accuracy generally decreases as the time increases.

Twenty-four hour forecasts have an accuracy of 85 per cent. For greater lengths of time it is not possible to predict specific weather for a particular place. Seasonal forecasts are not at present satisfactory.—Dr. Karl Apfel, geologist.

Question 3—What is the principal tree cut in New York state forests?

Answer. Hard or sugar maple. Many years ago white pine was the principal tree specie cut in New York state forests; then spruce became the leading tree, followed by hemlock. For more than 30 years, however, maple has been the leading specie cut for lumber in the forests of the state.

New York forests, however, produce only a small per cent, perhaps 3 or 4 per cent, of all the lumber used in the state. The remainder is brought in from the south and the west coast with a small amount from Canada. Prof. Nelson Brown, forester.

Question 4. Why will the porpoise which is harmless to human life fight and kill sharks which are man-eating fish?

Answer. The porpoise does not attack a human being unless it is for the purpose of protecting itself or its young. In case a man did come in contact with a porpoise and was killed in the encounter, the porpoise would not eat his carcass. The natural food of this group of animals consists of small fish, crabs, and squids. They attack larger animals only as a means of protection.

Not all sharks are man-eaters either. In fact, only a relatively few attack human beings. Many persons picture a shark as a large sea monster, although, as a matter of fact, many of them are no larger than a good sized pike. The common dogfish that we study in our laboratories is a shark and seldom grows to be more than three feet long.

Were a porpoise to fight and kill a shark, it would be as a matter of protection or because the shark provided natural food.—Dr. Lindeman.

Question 5. How great a difference is there in the amount of heat which we get in this latitude at different times of the year?

Answer. Three things determine the amount of heat which we receive from the sun. They are nearness to the sun, directness of the rays, and the duration of sunlight. The earth receives about 7 per cent more heat on Jan. 1 than on July 1 because the earth is then 3,000,000 miles nearer the sun.

The more direct sun's rays in the longer summer day (15 hours to 9 hours) bring the amount of the heat received on June 21 to a little more than 31-2 times that received on Dec. 21 at the latitude of Syracuse. Dr. Apfel.

Question 6. I am a hunter and would like to know whether wild ducks can tell colors.

Answer. From what we know about color vision among animals, I should say that a wild duck was color blind and that it sees all colors in terms of different shades of gray. This answer probably will be disappointing to the ardent duck hunter who takes great pride in painting his decoys the proper colors. The

DISH FOR THIS WEEK

BRAISED LIVER WITH VEGETABLES

Especially during the holiday season when meals may emphasize the family's favorite dishes more than balanced food values, a wise home-maker tries to work in a few high-food-value foods, such as liver.

The New York State College of Home Economics' recipe for braised liver with vegetables is:

Braised Liver with Vegetables

- 1 pound of liver
- 1 1/2 tablespoons of bacon fat
- 1 cup of stock
- 1 cup of tomato juice
- 1 1/2 tablespoons of flour
- Pepper
- 1 small turnip
- 2 carrots, sliced
- 1 onion, sliced
- 1/2 bay leaf
- 3/4 cup of cubed celery
- Salt.

Cut the liver into two-inch squares and roll the squares in the flour, salt and pepper. Brown them in the bacon fat, add the stock and tomato juice, and bake them with the vegetables and seasonings for 1 1/2 to 2 hours at 350 degrees F.

Suggested dinner menu: Braised liver and vegetables, steamed brown rice, orange and grapefruit salad with French dressing, and cheese biscuits; with Christmas cookies and candies for desserts, and milk at least for the children.

size and shape of the decoy probably is more distinguishable to the duck than the color.—Dr. Lindeman.

Question 7. If rats fleas that spread disease is such disease spread as a result of the trapping and skinning of muskrats?

Answer. Wild rats have been known to create a typhus epidemic in certain of our southern states by means of the fleas they carry but it is quite unlikely that this danger exists in the northern states. Because of the muskrats' habits, these fleas have never been found to in habit muskrats and it is very doubtful that any danger exists in this part of the country.—Dr. Lindeman.

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CREATING AN OPPORTUNITY Or How To Pass the Check

An object lesson in the penurious practice of shifting the onus of paying the check is given by that famous Scot, Sandy MacTavish.

For four days Sandy and his close friend, Jock, went to the local pub and came away having nothing but several hours of conversation. Neither would bring up the subject of buying a drink, but Sandy was resourceful.

On the fifth day as they sat waiting for the other to move, Sandy said, "I saw Malcolm MacPherson this morning, Jock. He told me about some of his dangerous experiences on his elephant hunt in India. Most interesting. One in particular fascinated me. It was late in the evening and they were preparing to return to camp when they heard a blood curdling roar.

"As Malcolm told it to me he said, 'I looked up and there was an angry bull elephant charging right at us. I reached for my gun. There wasn't a second to lose. Cooly I loaded the gun, stood firm, aimed and fired. The bull dropped in his tracks. By good luck I had hit him in the only spot that would bring him down—directly between the yours."

"Marvelous," said Jock, "but tell me, Sandy, what's yours?" "I'll have Scotch and Soda."

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