

YEAR BOOK
AND
HISTORY

OF

FAYETTE COUNTY

REHABILITATION PROJECT

NOV. 30, 1939

PENN-CRAFT
PENNSYLVANIA

FOREWORD

To our many friends and neighbors we submit this Year Book and history in hope that it will enlighten them to the purpose and ideals behind the plan of rehabilitation here at Penn-Craft.

To us homesteaders, this plan of rehabilitation came as a solution to our problem of maintaining for our families, the American standard of living. The highest ambition of every American citizen is to own his own home and become at least partially free from the drudgery of being just a small wheel in the mechanised machinery of our industrial world of today. We are faced with the decline of the coal industry, which has been our main source of income and it is necessary to readjust ourselves to a condition which has arisen through the fault of no one organization or person in particular.

The Penn-Craft Project is to us, the best possible way to rebuild our American ideals and principles which has been somewhat weakened by unemployment and various causes. It gives us the opportunity to own our own home and obtain from the land the livelihood which gave to our forefathers the traditions of which we are so proud. As you read through this book we hope you will realize the amount of work and patience that has been necessary to build our community to the stage the project is in today. We hope you will live through with us the earlier years of construction and the problems that had to be overcome and the long hours of work that were put in by the first few homesteaders before any of the stone houses could be started and then the feeling of gratitude when at last, we are ready to move into our new homes.

In reading this Year Book and history you will find the story of fifty families who are working together with one objective in mind.....accomplishing together what no one could do alone.....constructing a community and endeavoring to create an environment which will make Penn-Craft the most ideal place to raise our families. Our hopes and expectations are portrayed here, likewise our social and economic problems which we hope will be solved to the satisfaction of everyone concerned.

With these thoughts in mind we submit to you this Year Book and history in hope that it will give you a picture of work in the past years and what we are hoping to accomplish in the years to come.

Editorial Staff

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DEDICATION

THIS YEARBOOK IS DEDICATED TO THE FRIEND'S SERVICE, INC.
ESPECIALLY TO DAVID W. DAY, ERROL D. PECKHAM, AND LEVINUS K.
PAINTER FOR THEIR LABOR, BENEVOLENCE AND SINCERITY TOWARD THE
DEVELOPMENT OF PENN-CRAFT.

PENN-CRAFT PIONEERS

"Where can we find the man who is guiding the community garden project near Tower Hill Number One works?"

"Can't be sure, stranger, but he spends most of his time out on the hill where the miners are planting their gardens."

With this brief bit of information a car bearing Vermont number plates gathered speed and made its way westward on Route 21. Additional information helped guide the traveller to Tower Hill Number One. There in the midst of a group of folk busily engaged in planting their gardens we found Errol Peckham.

The second invasion of Quakers into Fayette County had begun. That was in the spring of 1936. The first invasion of Fayette County by the Quakers began while the more militant folk of the colonies were waging the war for independence. These first Quakers had come to build for themselves homes in the wilderness and to create for themselves and their families a new and independent economic life.

This second group of Friends came not so much to establish homes for themselves as to help others establish homes. They came to open the way for a new kind of pioneering in the face of economic defeat and social chaos. The soft coal industry was sick. Everybody was painfully aware of the fact, but nobody knew what to do about it any more than the veterinary knew what should be done to heal the summer sores on black Bill's legs and shoulder. Possibly at best the sickness could only be relieved.

Errol Peckham had come into Fayette County after some years of experience in the soft coal areas of Clearfield and Cambria counties. In June of 1936 Carl and Martha Landes, Mennonites who took their religious faith seriously, left the care of their church in Philadelphia and came to make new neighbors on Orient Hill. In July of the same year the writer brought his family from the green hills of Vermont to share experience with the folk at Brier Hill.

During the next months effort was made to gain some understanding of the human problems of the coal area in Fayette County. Already Friends were familiar with the general picture in the bituminous coal fields. In 1932 Ex-president Hoover had asked them to come into the coal areas to assist in child feeding. Homer Morris had written his carefully compiled volume on "The Plight of the Bituminous Coal Miner." Friends were not willing to stop at that point. Here was a human problem and something must be done about it. Surely some way could be found to help at least a small group of families from the mining patches to help themselves.

It became the task of the representatives of the American Friends Service Committee in Fayette County to open the door to some way of self help. The idea of remodeling a mining "patch" was conceived and abandoned. Some place had to be found where families could make a fresh start. While possibilities were being explored in Fayette County financial secretaries of the American Friends Service Committee were tapping possible financial resources. It became evident that the best policy would be to make a fresh start on the land. Most of the mining patches in southern Fayette County were visited, many tracts of land were carefully evaluated as possible centers of the proposed community. Early in September an option was taken out on the Craft farm. On September 10th David Day visited the community and went over the Craft and Conwell farms with the resident staff members.

PENN-CRAFT PIONEERS

During the remaining months of 1936 plans and finances were slow in becoming realities. This time was spent in trying to better understand the problems involved in establishing the new community, selection of families, method of financing, type of houses to be built, etc. It was increasingly evident that some form of new economic life would be necessary in order that families might have sufficient income to complete the project.

Late in February 1937, David and Olive Day came to Fayette County equipped with their valuable experience in the development of Westmoreland Homesteads. David Day took charge of the proposed project and on February 24th announcement was made in local and state papers that the American Friends Service Committee was ready to open an experimental homestead unit for fifty families on the Craft farm. Families would be permitted to build their own homes, working together in crews. Payments on the loan of two thousand dollars would be made on a monthly basis extending over a period of twenty years.

A steady stream of applicants came from the near by mining "patches". Some were not interested when they found they would have to work for what they could get. By mid-April applicants accepted on trial began to 'lift the face' of the old farm, grubbing fence rows, removing surplus outbuildings and preparing for spring crops. These duties were quick to reveal the moral fibre of prospective homesteaders. The more persistent remained. Names on paper became persons in the flesh, men and boys giving long hours of labor; people ready to make the venture--Arrison, Lawson, Opperman, Booker, Keeney, Stearnock, Pietrosky, Glenn--real folks with whom the staff shared the dream of the new community. In sharing hard work staff and homesteader came to know each other, and to trust each other and understand each other--most of the time.

By June 1st temporary repairs had been made on the existing farm buildings, teams and equipment had been purchased and the first crops were planted. Work was started on the road through Section one, the first real bit of construction in building the new community.

But as yet the proposed community was without a name. In fact it was still a dream. Could that dream become a reality? Would there one day be houses, trees, gardens, happy families, wholesome community life? On the first day of June, 1937 the answer lay only in the faith and courage of homesteaders and staff members. Today that dream is slowly becoming a reality, Penn-Craft is a fact, it is still in the process of becoming. If it is to flourish it must always grow, not in numbers but in the quality of life. Character and community spirit must become as substantial as the stone houses that now dot Penn-Craft hill sides.

HISTORY OF PENN-CRAFT

THE FIRST SPRING AND SUMMER.

On April 12, 1937 Levinus Painter and the Days moved from Brier Hill to the farm house at Penn-Craft. During March and prior to official transfer of deed to the land, Walter Bowser, a surveyor from Brownsville, Carl Landes and David Day surveyed the two-hundred acre farm, running the boundaries and making a five foot contour map. Ten days of tramping back and forth across the hills with instrument, stakes and chain made us acquainted with every brier and thorny bush.

The Craft farm, like much of the other land in the township, had been allowed to grow up in thorn bush and briars. Considerable time was spent that first spring clearing the fields in preparation for field cultivation. The field east of the Community Center was in sod and old timers said it had not been plowed for forty years. This area was planted in corn. The Section one road was cut through the corn field and the first temporary houses were "hewn out of the corn field."

Levinus Painter set the pace on clearing and farm work. The Arrisons applied, were accepted and moved to the old brick house (now the Regnery house) in late April. There was no electricity for any of us, no water nor roads for the Arrisons. Joel Arrison was employed to assist Levinus Painter on the farm. The first cows were stabled in what is now the blacksmith shop. The present woodworking shop was the horse stable and garage for the Pick-up truck.

During April and May the first homestead applicants were "tried out" by working for the farm on a cash basis for a few weeks. One applicant (who is not now a homesteader) worked one day until 2:30 p.m. and then proceeded to lay down his tools. The other men inquired where he was going. Said he, "I'm going home. I work on W. P. A. and we never work more than six hours per day." It took just six hours at Penn-Craft to decide that this life was not for him.

My first meeting with Pete Stermock was while surveying for the contour map over where Charles DeBord's house now stands. Pete stopped by to inquire about an application form.

The old cow shed (now the Co-op Store) was converted into an office and later a store. This was done during early March and before possession of the farm was given. What is now the office was a rough tool room with dirt floor.

On June 1st, 1937 the first traded labor was started by homesteaders. This was at the entrance to the circle on the Section I road. Among those out that first day were Walker Lawson, Pete Stermock, Carl Landes and Joe Pietrosky.

About this stage in the development of things the small group of first homesteaders suggested the idea of building temporary houses in which they could live while building their main houses. This work was started in late June upon the arrival of the 1937 Volunteer Work Camp. Pietrosky's were the first, then came Lawson's, Stermock, Keeney, Landes (now Newell), Constable, and Opperman. Pietrosky's moved in around July 20th. They were the first.

These early families moved before water and electricity arrived. It fell to the lot of the "Pick-up" to carry water to these families in barrels and milk cans. Water got into the lines in September and electricity was turned on about January 10th, 1938.

One of the principle tasks of the 1937 Work Camp was digging and laying the Section I water line. In addition, however, they helped build the farm barn, the temporary houses and did some work on the farm.

THE FIRST WINTER.

In October of 1937 the mines began shutting down and many men became unemployed. Until that time our crews had been small. Oftentimes, Max Gonane and Harold McFadden (a '37 camper who stayed over) were the crew. In addition to the erection of more temporary houses we started laying stone on the Lawson, Sterneck, Glenn and Pietrosky homesteads.

The Penn-Craft Community Association was organized in October with Charles Opperman, chairman; and Rachel Lawson McFerrin, secretary. Levinus Painter and Walter Seeman organized a Boy Scout troop with the aid of a troop committee from the Association. The Mother's Club, first organized by women living at Orient, encouraged by Martha Landes, became an official part of the Association.

By the middle of December cold weather stopped stone laying and the balance of the winter was given over to building temporary houses, laying out Section II roads and water line. By June of 1938 Section II was being occupied and stone work on Section I houses was well under way. The form system of laying stone had been developed during the winter in an effort to decrease the cash labor cost and speed up production.

June, 1938 witnessed the coming of the second Volunteer Work Camp of college and working young people. This time, the group joined homesteaders in the quarry, on the coke ovens and on the stone laying crews. By late fall thirteen stone houses were under roof. This number would have been larger still, had it not been for the time out to build the factory building, commencing October 21, 1938. As quickly as the factory was completed in December, we turned our forces to the water line in the third and last section. Ed Baum and his family built on common land back of Section III. Henry and Eleanor Regnery started remodelling the old tenant house where Arrison's had lived. Others in Section III started building temporary houses and the Day's moved into their house on March 10th.

Again, the spring and summer saw concentration on main house stone work in Section II. The lay-off due to lack of contracts with mine operators in the spring of 1939 caused us to have large crews well up into May and much work was accomplished. The building of the factory foreman house in June and July caused some deviation from the schedule. The third work camp came to assist us and pitched into the various jobs to be done. In addition to the regular work we undertook the erection of an addition to the factory and a new corn crib and granary for the farm.

(Continued on second page of Knitting Mill News)

HOMESTEADERS

Section I.

Lot No.

- 1 Mr. & Mrs. Joel Arrison (Fredericktown, Pa.)
Children: Cloyd, Marie, Henrietta, Ellsworth
William
- 2 Mr. & Mrs. George Constable (Thornton, Pa.)
Children: Rosella, Pauline, Bernadine,
Albert, William, Leroy
- 3 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Opperman (Orient, Pa.)
Children: Margaret, Elaine, Gilbert
- 4 Mr. & Mrs. Walker Lawson (Orient, Pa.)
Children: Rachel, Jeanne, George,
Lowell, Ray, Jack
- 5 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Pietrosky (Orient, Pa.)
Children: Clara, Teresa, Lucy,
William, Raymond
- 6 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Vlosich (Isabella, Pa.)
Children: Marie, John, Pete, Daniel
- 7 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Penn (Herbert, Pa.)
Children: Lois, Joyce, Robert,
James, Herbert
- 8 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Nowell (Labelle, Pa.)
Children: Mary Ruth, Jerry
- 9 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Glenn (Allison, Pa.)
Children: Greta, Gwendolyn, Jean,
Theodore, Junior
- 10 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Cramer (Labelle, Pa.)
Children: Ruby, James, Thomas, Edward
- 11 Mr. & Mrs. William Keeney (Orient, Pa.)
Children: Betty, Eleanor, Fanny
Marian, William
- 12 Dr. & Mrs. Omer Cole (Fairchance, Pa.)
Children: Omer, Jr., Robert
- 13 Mr. & Mrs. Reed Booker (Allison, Pa.)
Children: Jean, Betty, Peggy Ann
Reed Jr., Harry, William
- 14 Mr. & Mrs. Willis DeBord (Brownsville, Pa.)
Children: Fayette, Marcella, Grace, Ruth,
Dorothy, Fred, Ralph, Howard, Russell
- 15 Mr. Thomas Brooks & Mother (Palmer, Pa.)
Children: Thomas, James, Kenneth, Glenn,
Herbert, David

HOMESTEADERS

Lot No.

- 16 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Stermcock (Republic, Pa.)
Children: Frank, Junior, Bootsie
- Section II.
- 17 Mr. & Mrs. Malachi Sanders (Allison, Pa.)
Children: Dolores, Esther, Rose, Mildred,
Maggie, Evelyn, Paul, Richard,
Mal. Jr., Jerry
- 18 Mr. & Mrs. Lester Swaney (LaBelle, Pa.)
Children: Lilly, Gertrude, Catherine, Carrie Ann,
Robert, Henry, Frank, Charles, Albert,
Edward, Ralph, Thomas
- 19 Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Artis (Hiller, Pa.)
Children: Leota, Lois Ruth
- 20 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Shaw (Brownsville, Pa.)
Children: Dolores, Marie, Dorothy, Alice,
Charlotte, Virginia, Joseph,
James, Edward
- 21 Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Satterwhite (Allison, Pa.)
Children: Dolores
- 22 Mr. & Mrs. John Carp (Palmer, Pa.)
Children: Joan, Jean, J. C.
- 23 Mr. & Mrs. Errol Peckham
Children: Kellogg, William
- 24 Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Dial (Isabella, Pa.)
Children: Joyce
- 25 Mr. & Mrs. John Stuchal (Hiller, Pa.)
Children: Dorothy, Dolores, Etta Ruth,
Carolyn, Audrey, Mildred, Lorraine
- 26 Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Dowling (Brownsville, Pa.)
Children: Buddy
- 27 Mr. & Mrs. Lynn Ashkettle (Fredericktown, Pa.)
Children: Pauline, Arthur, Connie
- 28 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Lewis (Palmer, Pa.)
Children: Dolores
- 29 Mr. & Mrs. Chester Stillwagon (Palmer, Pa.)
Children: Clara, Dolores, William,
James, Franklin, Robert
- 30 Mr. & Mrs. John Logston (Palmer, Pa.)
Children: Charlotte, Jerry, Harry
Thomas, Jack
- 31 Mr. & Mrs. George Illig (Palmer, Pa.)
Children: Ruth, Francis, Betty, Naomi,
Bernadine, Kenneth, George, William

HOMESTEADERS

Lot No.

- 32 Mr. & Mrs. Norman Scott (Footdale, Pa.)
Children: Pearl, Dorothy, Cecil,
Eugene, Donald
- 33 Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Broadwater (Alicia, Pa.)
Children: Betty, Margaret, Jennie, Elmer,
Ewing, Donald, Gerald, Ronald,
John, Earl
- Section III.
- 34 Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Fior (McClellandtown, Pa.)
Children: Sana, John, Pete, Americo
- 35 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Roberts (LaBelle, Pa.)
Children: Joseph, Dorothy, Marion
- 36 Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Billiani (McClellandtown, Pa.)
Children: Gloria, Eugene
- 37 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Stetar (Grindstone, Pa.)
Children: Anna, Helen, Veronica,
Lucille, Joseph, Anthony
- 38 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Riffle (Republic, Pa.)
Children: Wilber, Stanley,
Harold, Chester
- 39 Mr. & Mrs. Steve Oshnack (West Brownsville, Pa.)
Children: Delores, William
- 40 Mr. & Mrs. David W. Day
Children: Lowell, Walter
- 41 Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Swalla (Brownsville, Pa.)
Children: Anthony
- 42 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Satterwhite (Allison, Pa.)
Children: I. B., Ruth, Saddle,
John, Phillip, Thomas
- 43 Mr. & Mrs. James Bell (Clarksville, Pa.)
Children: Loretta, Jimmy, Thomas
- 44 Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Finley (Republic, Pa.)
Children: Pearl, Jean, Leo
- 45 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kromer (Brier Hill, Pa.)
Children: Lenard
- 46 Mr. & Mrs. William Glark (Allison, Pa.)
Children: Theadore, Marie, Robert
- 47 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Stetar (Brier Hill, Pa.)
Children: Loraine

HOMESTEADERS

- 48 Mr & Mrs. John Alexander (Fredericktown, Pa.)
Children: Jane, Gloria, Sammy
- 49 Mr. & Mrs. Charles DeBord (Newtown, Pa.)
Children: Estel, George
- 50 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Klosky (Grindstone, Pa.)
Children: Edward, William, Jack

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

- Mr. & Mrs. Eduard Baum (The carpenter)
Children: William, Earnest & Dorothy,
Walter, Catherine, Grace,
Verna
- Mr. & Mrs. Henry Regnery (Manager at the Redstone
Knitting Mill)
- Mr. & Mrs. John Heitman (Factory Foreman at the
Redstone Knitting Mill)
- Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Sinclair (Community Center
Attendants)

SPECIAL MENTION:

Max Gonano, the stone mason
(a non-resident)

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

As in every Democratic organization, there is some means provided for the representation of the people. The United States Government has its Congress, Pennsylvania has its State Assembly and Penn-Craft has its Community Association. This body was organized for this purpose. Here is where all problems are brought to be talked over and cleared up. Ideas are given by the homesteaders and considered. If they are reasonable...something is done about them! It was here that someone suggested building the temporary houses in order to be on hand for work and be able to get more time in. It was also someone's suggestion that a Sunday school be started.

At the beginning, meetings were held every Sunday afternoon with Mr. Day presiding. Then such things as determining what to name the new community, reading over the lease agreements or choosing the lots. In the fall, it was decided to turn the meeting over to the homesteaders. On Sunday, September 19, 1937 it was decided to elect a chairman, vice-chairman and secretary. Mr. Opperman was elected as the first chairman; Mr. Stermock, vice-chairman; and Rachel Lawson, secretary.

The next important event in the course of these weekly meetings was on October 3rd, when it was decided to hold the meetings on Wednesday nights instead of Sunday afternoons. It has remained thus except for the fact that they have decided to hold bi-weekly meetings instead of weekly meetings.

On December 22, 1937 new officers were elected. Mr. Opperman remained as chairman and Mr. Stermock vice-chairman with Betty Keeney as secretary! Betty served until August 31, 1938 and was replaced by William Stillwagon.

The next election was held December 22, 1938. New officers for the year of 1939 were: John Carp, chairman; Joseph Shaw, Sr., vice-chairman; and William Keeney, Jr., secretary. In all elections thus far, the nominations had been from the floor but it has been decided to adopt a new policy for the 1940 election. Nominees will be drawn up by a nominating committee and approved or added to at a homestead meeting and then voted on. There has been no other important changes in the rules and regulations of the Community Association. There is a committee appointed to draw up some by-laws but this committee has not reported yet.

The Community Association is the parent body of all community life and activities. There emanates from it the following organizations: The Work Committee, The Boy Scout Troop Committee, The Girl's Club Committee, The Mother's Club, The Young People's Advisory Committee, The Community Life Committee, The Religious Activities Committee, the Newspaper Committee, The Factory Committee and the Community Center Committee.

The Work Committee recommends change of policy and rates per unit of work in the credit hour program of construction.

The Community Life Committee is envisaged as the body designed to supervise and encourage the other group efforts and to initiate activities of a community wide nature like the annual Teacher's Reception, the fall Fair, etc.

The Community Center Committee is the body appointed to operate and care for the Community Center building. They are also looked to as the disciplinary agency for handling misdemeanors committed against or in the Community Center property.

MOTHER'S CLUB

The Mother's Club was first organized at Orient, Penna., in 1936 by Martha Landes. The purpose of the club was to get better acquainted with our neighbors and to help them in any way we could. Only four ladies attended that first meeting...Mrs. Pietrosky, Mrs. Helper, Mrs. Lawson, and Mrs. Landes. They spent the evening chatting and sewing and making plans for the Club. The second meeting showed quite an increase in number and officers were elected.. Mrs. Martha Landes being the first chairman, Mrs. Ada Lawson, vice-chairman and Mrs. Catherine Keeney-secretary. The membership in the club grew from week to week until it became a problem to accommodate so many women in the homes. By this time women from a neighboring town of Cardale, became interested and joined the club. When several families moved to Penn-Craft late in the summer of 1937 they found it difficult getting transportation back to Orient to attend meetings and plans were made to form two clubs.

In June of 1938, a group of women met at the home of Mrs. Illig for the purpose of organizing a club, which was called "The Penn-Craft Mother's Club." Mrs. Ashkettle was elected president, Mrs. Logston-secretary and Mrs. Penn treasurer. The club was to act as an auxiliary to the Homestead Association group and give aid to any worthy enterprise in which help was needed.

During the Work Camp of the summer, a Nursery School was started. It was found that Gladys Goddard was available to continue the nursery school work if the mothers were willing to contribute their help. With the aid of the club and the generosity of the Day family, we were able to keep Miss Goddard. The work was carried on for some time and was quite a success.

There was some discussion of a Health Clinic for babies, with a unanimous decision in its favor. A committee was appointed including Mrs. Day, Mrs. Keeney, Mrs. Peckham and Mrs. Lawson.

Combining the splendid work of this committee and the cooperation of all concerned, this clinic has grown to be one of the outstanding features of the club. Mrs. Regnery was later added to the committee. The clinic now has regular monthly meetings and is open to our outside neighbors as well as the Penn-Craft mothers.

Winter evenings were spent making a quilt, which was later sold to a member of the Club.

Several meetings were of an educational nature and helpful discussions were given by Mrs. Glenn, Mrs. Day and Mrs. Artis.

Levinus Painter spent an evening with the group discussing worthwhile pictures and their relation in the home. It was both helpful and interesting.

Several clothing exchange sales were held during the year with the benefits going to the Babies Health Clinic. Sandwiches and coffee were served the crowd at the factory dedication and a neat sum was realized. This service the Club donated and the proceeds were turned over to the Young People for a community building, some time in the future. Meals were served to several different groups who visited Penn-Craft, proceeds going to the Club treasury.

At Christmas time names were exchanged for Penn-Craft Sisters. A small remembrance not to exceed twenty-five cents in cost was to be sent on birthday and wedding anniversary dates.

MOTHER'S CLUB

On the whole the year proved to be a pleasant and profitable one to all members of the Club. At the first meeting in June 1939 new officers were elected.

The new officers for the year were: Mrs. Lewis, president; Mrs. Cole, secretary and Mrs. Penn, treasurer. There were thirty members on the roll call list at this time. At the first meeting after the election of officers a sick committee was appointed: Mrs. Opperman, Section 1; Mrs. Lewis, Section 2; and Mrs. Riffle, Section 3.

Each member was asked to write a letter about their experience while getting settled in Penn-Craft and it would be combined into one letter and sent to Doris Raymond, Women Group Organizer, Mammoth, England. Mrs. Dial was to take care of this correspondence.

Campers were arriving by this time and meetings had to be held in the homes. Mrs. Dowling, Mrs. Cole and Mrs. Oshnack formed an entertainment committee for a joint picnic with the campers. One of the outstanding events of the day was the baseball game between the Mother's Club and the girls from the camp. (The mothers lost.)

Rabbi Eugene Sacks of Philadelphia attended one of the meetings held at Mrs. Opperman's and gave a talk on "Mothers and our Young People." The camp girls Wennea Barger and Joan Payne had the nursery school going again and reported on their progress. Miss Anderson, of Uniontown, one of our meeting guest gave a talk on furnishing and decorating our new homes. She also had pictures of the work of 4H girls in making curtains, bed spreads and chair covers.

A new baby clinic committee was appointed; Mrs. Dowling, chairman; Mrs. Regnery; Mrs. Cole and Mrs. Satterwhite. A new program committee was also appointed: Mrs. Swaney, Mrs. Artis, and Mrs. Dial.

In August an exhibit was held at the Community Center and we displayed the quilt we had made. Clothing exchange sales were held quite frequently. Our September sale brought \$14.56.

In October plans were made for starting the Nursery School. Mrs. Smith Coldren of Brownsville was to be the teacher. This would include children from 2 to 6 years of age. The school was to start on October 30th and to run for a trial period. Mrs. Riffle, Mrs. Regnery, Mrs. Dial and Mrs. Cole made up the nursery school committee.

On November 1st Miss Anderson and a group of twenty women from Uniontown and vicinity visited Penn-Craft on a sight-seeing tour and visited the factory and several homes. They visited Mrs. Oshnack's and Mrs. Cole's temporary houses and the Lawson main house. Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Day, Mrs. Dowling, Mrs. Riffle, Mrs. Oshnack and Mrs. Sinclair showed them around Penn-Craft and then went with them to Dawson and to the Arensberg home, down by the Arensberg ferry, where beautiful old furniture was marveled at. The furniture was quite antique and had been remodeled and painted by Mrs. Arensberg who had a lovely home.

Later in November the Club served lunch to the teachers of the Citizenship School who were visiting at Penn-Craft. At this time a committee was authorized to buy dishes and silver, service for 24, for the use of the club in serving groups to earn money for the treasury.

In response to an invitation from the Mother's Club early in the spring of 1939, Margaret Linton, Executive Secretary of the Pennsylvania Birth Control

MOTHER'S CLUB

Federation, came to meet with fifteen Penn-Craft mothers. At that meeting Mrs. Shaw, Mrs. Keeney, Mrs. Illig, Mrs. Glenn and Mrs. Day volunteered to act on a committee to set up a Maternal Health Center at Penn-Craft. They found that several local doctors and social workers would be happy to cooperate. On the evening of June 27th, Margaret Linton returned to meet with the committee and four local doctors, who had agreed to constitute a medical advisory committee. They were: Dr. C. H. LaClair, Chairman; and Dr. R. E. Sangston, both of Uniontown; Dr. Harold L. Wilt, secretary; and Dr. H. S. Rieter, both of Brownsville. They chose Dr. Harley E. Henry, of Brownsville, as the clinic doctor. Dr. Emilia Caprini and Mrs. Exline came from the Pittsburgh Center. They gave an interesting and instructive account of their work and graciously offered to assist Dr. Henry at the first clinic session. They gave us some sample supplies. The state organization donated twenty-five dollars as a backlog.

The Center opened on Tuesday evening, August 8th. Charlotte Kleiss, Camp Nurse, acted as doctors assistant. At the second meeting Mrs. Mary Wilt observed and since that time she has acted as clinic nurse.

At the fourth meeting we admitted women outside Penn-Craft charging them a higher fee than the 50¢ charge to the Penn-Craft women. (Fifty-cents to two dollars according to family income and number of children.) Meetings are held the second Tuesday night of every month. A total of twenty-four women have been to the clinic thus far. Our present balance in the treasury is \$9.00. Like the baby clinic it is open to those outside Penn-Craft who need help but cannot pay the fee required to see a doctor in his office. Miss Phoebe Stewart, Red Cross nurse, has told several such women of our clinic.

In addition to those already mentioned we mothers, as a group, wish to express our sincere appreciation of the help given us by:

Pricilla Moore, 1938 camp nurse, who helped lay the ground work for our Baby Clinic; Helen Zoretic, State Nurse, who assisted Dr. Opperman in the Baby Clinic until Miss Hillen took her place; Dr. Opperman, for his continued interest and work; and all of the campers and interested friends who have so generously donated used clothing to our clothing exchange sales, which have been the sole support of the Baby Clinic. While each clinic session costs two dollars plus incidental supplies, support has been so generous that the clinic fund has a balance of \$64.17.

Without the help of the girls of the last two camps the nursery school could not have started as soon or as effectively as it did; and without the efficient work of Gladys Goddard it could not have been carried on until of Christmas of last year. It could not have been opened all fall of this year had not Mrs. Coldren, of Brownsville, offered to give her time, with a return of only five dollars per week to cover transportation and incidental expenses. Excepting the small fee of twenty-five cents to fifty cents paid by some families this year and the little the club has given for milk, the nursery school has been entirely supported by gifts from interested friends. Josephine Johnson, 1938 camper, started the fund by a gift of \$30.00 for equipment. Others have given generous amounts until our treasury has a balance of \$1.90 current fund, and \$66.84, permanent fund.

We appreciate, also, the generosity of all those who have helped us build up a library by giving us both new and old books. We wish to thank particularly the camper who gave us such a large consignment of up-to-date books; the anonymous donor of our song books; and Jeanette Hartman for her gift of the Good Housekeeping magazine, the records of and directions for playing folk games, and the materials given the girls clubs.

With such support both material and spiritual, we hope to do many things working together which none of us could do alone. We feel that Penn-Craft must concern itself with the needs of the larger community if it is to be able to meet its own in any adequate fashion. Since we cannot live to ourselves we must cooperate for the good of all.

BOY SCOUTS

Among one of the first activities started at Penn-Craft was the Boy Scout Troop organized by Levinus Painter. Several of the boys who were members of the organization at other towns before moving to Penn-Craft had been attending Scout meetings at Republic which was the nearest town having a Scout troop. It soon became apparent as the approaching winter came that it would be very unsatisfactory walking to Republic to attend meetings. The thing to do was to start a troop at Penn-Craft. Levinus Painter, who had spent several months organizing a troop at Brier Hill, agreed to help the boys get started. After some time was spent in holding meetings and selecting capable men for the troop committee and scoutmaster the registration was completed and the troop was registered with the Fayette County Council on December 15, 1937 with Walter Seeman as scoutmaster and Albert Constable and Levinus Painter the assistants. The troop consisted of eight boys. Meetings were held every week and the boys were taken on overnight hikes and a three-day camping trip. The membership increased and at the end of the year registrations had increased to eighteen boys. Unfortunately, at this time, it was necessary for Walter Seeman to resign as scoutmaster and it became necessary to look for another scoutmaster. Mr. Painter, who is planning on leaving Penn-Craft and going up to State College, agrees to fill the vacancy until a scoutmaster can be secured. James Bell, a new homesteader at this time, and had been connected with scouting for the past ten years and was at the time scoutmaster at Clarksville was contacted by Robert Penn and Walker Lawson, two members of the Sponsoring Troop Committee and requested to assume scoutmastership of the troop when he moved to Penn-Craft. Mr. Bell accepted the position and became the official scoutmaster April 6th, 1939. In the meantime Mr. Painter was called to State College and the troop was having trouble keeping the meetings going. After Mr. Bell's arrival a reorganization was planned and an Investiture Ceremony was staged by troop 13 of the Brownsville Boy Scouts on June 19th and the scout troop was started off again, carrying on with regular meetings, hikes, etc. A weeks camping trip was planned and very successfully carried out with the help of Matt. Wasko, recreational director, and Frederick Richardson of Essex, Mass., who were in charge of the camp due to the inability of the scoutmaster to attend. Approximately twenty-five tests were passed at camp and everyone had a fine time.

In the fall of 1939 the Boy Scouts participated in the Community Farm Products Show and held a patrol contest.

The troop was represented at the Court of Honour at Brownsville when Jim Stillwagon and J. C. Carp went up for second class rank. It is hoped to make a better showing at the next Court of Honour which will be held in Brownsville some time in January.

The latest assignment of the troop is to assume the responsibility of obtaining and placing the Christmas lights around the Community Center which will be the Community good turn performed by the troop.

Registration is due at the end of the year and it is expected that next year will be even more successful than the two previous years now that the troop has taken a firm basis and are planning big things among themselves.

COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

The Penn-Craft Cooperative Association was started under the name of the Penn-Craft Co-op Store in July of 1937. The name was later changed to The Penn-Craft Cooperative Association as the word Association must appear in the name according to Pennsylvania State law if later we desire to incorporate. The store was started by a young man in the first Work Camp of college boys and girls that was carried out at Penn-Craft. This young man, Art Landes, had experience in a Consumer's Cooperative Store. He donated his time as a service of the camp to Penn-Craft. The Project office donated space so the store was run at first without an expense account. Art Landes arranged with the Work Camp to do its buying on a four per cent margin. During the Camp he accumulated a fund of \$40.00 which made the capital with which to continue the store after the camp was over.

No homesteaders were living on the project at the beginning of the 1937 Work Camp, but by the end of the Camp six families had moved into temporary residences. It seemed important to keep the little store running to serve these families and others to move in later. Accordingly one of the members of the staff took over the management and cared for it until the Work Camp of 1938. Soon after the 1937 Camp a meeting was held for those interested in the continuance of the store. The principles of the Rochdale Cooperative Movement were discussed. It was decided to carry on the store in accordance with those principles and a committee was appointed to draw up by-laws and call another meeting for organization. This was done and the store was continued according to those principles. During the winter of 1938 and 1939 an educational campaign was carried on for five weeks. The homesteaders were divided into four groups each with a leader and one leader from outside the community assembled a group. These leaders met each week for four weeks and studied lessons which they in turn passed on to their respective groups each week. At the end of the period all the groups met at the community center where Dr. Anthony Lehner, Educational Director of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, gave a lecture on the Cooperative Movement.

When the Work Camp came in the late summer of 1938, a young man from the 1937 camp, William Thom, returned to donate a year of service to Penn-Craft. He began to take over the management of the store at that time and with the help of another young man, Michael Franke Ruta, also a member of the 1937 Camp, the management was carried on till May 1939.

In February 1939, a son of one of the Homesteaders, William Stillwagon, was sent by the Executive Committee of the store, to New York City for a three months training course in Cooperative Store management. Since his return in May of 1939 he has been the manager of the store on salary. Also, the store has been paying rental for its space since May 1938.

At present there are sixteen fully paid up members of the store and ten partially paid memberships. The latter are without voting power till a five dollar membership is fully paid. This membership may be paid from patronage dividends after an initial fee of twenty-five cents is paid by an intended member. Patronage dividends are distributed to members every six months in proportion to the amount of the purchases at the store made by each one.

The progress of the store as indicated by the gross sales each month since it began is as follows:

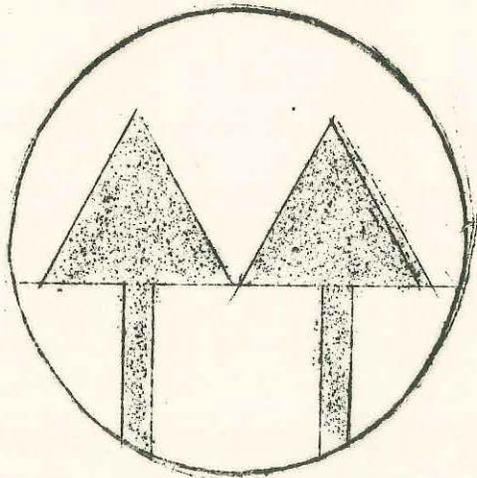
July	<u>1937</u> 89.01	Jan.	<u>1938</u> 268.67	Jan.	<u>1939</u> 468.38
Aug.	43.40	Feb.	258.26	Feb.	517.66
Sept.	82.19	Mar.	268.09	Mar.	660.25
Oct.	319.58	Apr.	365.61	Apr.	729.99
Nov.	230.19	May	531.39	May	1172.69
Dec.	219.73	June	771.59	June	1028.70
		July	1139.21	July	1336.52
		Aug.	824.49	Aug.	1128.78
		Sept.	677.38	Sept.	777.09
		Oct.	350.64	Oct.	688.17
		Nov.	566.86		
		Dec.	495.80		

The officers for 1939 are as follows:

Errol D. Peckham, Ch.
 Ada Lawson, Vice-ch.
 Ralph Artis, Sec'y.
 Eleanor Regnery, Treas.

Educational Committee:
 Eleanor Regnery, Ch.
 Willis DeBord
 Lynn Ashkettle
 Joseph Pietrosky

David W. Day, Advisory Manager
 William Stillwagon, Manager



THREE WORK CAMPS

It was a sunny day late in June, 1937, that the first group of Work Campers found their way to Penn-Craft. Some of them found the project with difficulty. It was listed as "near Republic". How should they get from Republic to the project? They asked buss drivers, ticket agents and fellow hitch-hikers. Finally they all found the valley that was to become Penn-Craft. There were forty of them and they had come from twenty-eight different colleges and from four foreign countries. "Eaf" Hernandez came all the way from Mexico- via Cornell. (This past summer "Eaf" joined in an A. F. S. C. Work Camp held in Mexico.) Stanley and Marie Hamilton came from eastern Ohio to direct this first camp.

The Work camp came to help put in the water system in Section I and to assist in building temporary houses. Some of the students were crammed full of "book larnin'", most of them wanted to supplement the "academic" with knowledge of how to use a shovel and pick and how to drive a straight rail. A few had grown up on farms, were working their way through college, and could join with the members of Section I in teaching these skills to those for whom it was first experience. Some of them learned for the first time that there is a skill in using a hammer and in avoiding hitting the wrong nail.

All forty in that first camp came with the same hope with which subsequent camps have come - the hope that they could be of some service to the community in exchange for the opportunity to learn about the new community pattern being worked out at Penn-Craft. They wanted to know what we are striving for and whether this new community pattern was something which could be developed in other sections of the coal industry where mines are being worked out. They were eager to know whether Penn-Craft could develop enough cash income from new industries so that it, taken together with what can be raised in the gardens, and what could be saved through cooperative buying, could provide a comfortable living and security for the future. The fact that this is not an easy thing to accomplish makes the progress at Penn-Craft even more significant.

When the 1937 Work Camp arrived the following June they found the project further along. House walls were going up in Section I and temporary houses in Section II. Now the campers could help with some of the more complicated parts of house construction. Building stone was coming from the quarry and the coke ovens. Karl Olson, the red-headed intellectual from Yale, after having worked all summer in getting stones from the coke ovens, was heard to remark, "I had always thought stone was the coldest and most impersonal thing imaginable. Now I know after trying to split so many of them, that each stone has its distinct individuality."

This was the summer that "Marsa and Missus" Yarrow were introduced to the responsibilities of work camp directorship. It was the summer that "Beebee" Behler and Josephine Johnson helped organize the nursery school, and that Jo painted the immortal mural depicting the life of the Pots family (cast-iron branch). The campers became so interested in Penn-Craft that Gladys Goddard, Bill Carmock, Mike Franko Ruta and Bill Thom stayed on for part of the winter.

This past June the Yarrows returned - this time with a new flock. The work in the quarry, on house construction, on the granary and tool shed, and on the factory addition are all fresh in the memories of all of those at Penn-Craft who will read the Year Book. Also easily remembered are such things as the square dances, the misjudged christening of Solma (the White truck), and the dinner auction by Cner Cole, followed by Bill Keeney's and Bill Peckham's star performances in Zona Gale's play, "The Neighbors".

THREE WORK CAMPS AT PENN-CRAFT - con't.

Three work camps have come to Penn-Craft. From letters and from conversations we know that all who have participated have been much impressed with the pattern of community life being worked out. They have caught a glimpse of a cooperative way of life which, if it could be extended in other areas where the mines are being worked out, holds promise of bringing a greater measure of economic security. They have gone back to their colleges and communities with a new understanding of the coal industry and of the changes taking place. They have acquired new skills in carpentry, in masonry, and in farming. If Europe continues to deal death and destruction a few of them may have an opportunity to use their skills in helping rebuild some of the areas that are being devastated there. In the meantime many of them are carrying what they have learned into other communities in this country. Thus is the chain of Penn-Craft's influence set up.

They are grateful for the way in which Penn-Craft has stirred their imaginations. It is our hope and theirs that they have contributed as much to Penn-Craft as they have received in return.

1937

Stanley & Marie Hamilton, Shadyside, Ohio (Directors)
Barton VanVliet, Charlotte, Vermont
William Thom, 172 Prospect Ave., Princeton, N. J.
Gordon Donald, 16 Campbell St., Princeton, N. J.
William Oberlin, 46 Summit St., Mansfield, Ohio
Florence Carpenter, 212 E. 28th St., Indianapolis, Indiana
Arthur Landes, Delta Cooperative Farm, Rochdale, Miss.
Louis A. Wiesner, 37 Hawthorne St., Cambridge, Mass.
Margaret Lamont, Douglas "C", New Brunswick, N. J.
Herbert Loring, 1 Cliff St., Norwich, Vermont
Julia Allen, Dean of Women, Berea College, Berea, Kentucky
David S. Burgess, 140 Mather Ave., Wyncote, Pa.
John Carl Baiz,, 151 N. Main St., Wilkes Barre, Pa.
George J. Dienes, % Com. Glaser, 37 Hawthorne St., Cambridge, Mass.
Obnstock Glaser, 37 Hawthorne St., Cambridge, Mass.
Dorothy Gaskill Mason, 20 W. Baltimore Ave., Media, Pa.
Efraim I. Hernandez, 1327 Amsterdam Ave., N. Y. City, N. Y.
Virginia Herring, 26 Vincent St., West Hartford, Conn.
Warner Janney, Lincoln, Virginia
Dorothy K. Knapp, State Institute, Farmingdale, N. Y.
David M. Kurtz, Route 1, Holly, Michigan
Patrick Loyd, Friends House, Kennet Square, Pa.
Richard Mattox, 120 Elm St., Cambridge, Mass.
Nat Mills, Theta Xi House, Amherst, Mass.
Emily Morgan, 517 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor, Michigan
Carrell Morris, 348 Dennison St., Highland Park, N. Y.
Mary Emma Painter, Delaware, Ohio
David W. Rose, 11 Kings Beach Road, Lynn, Mass.
Donald Rogier, West Liberty State Teachers' College, West Liberty, Pa.
Karl V. Schultz, 246 Lawn Ave., Bluffton, Ohio
Myrna Siegendorf, 79 Market St., Passiac, N. J.
Rose E. Smith, 34-32 93rd St., Jackson Heights, L. I.
Sarah Sally Spock, 67 Edgehill Road, New Haven, Conn.
Homer Trueblood, 741 S. Bright St., Whittier California
Curtis B. Watson, 773 College Ave., Haverford, Pa.
Bernard Weissman, Lawyers' Club, U. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Gordon Graves, Mathematical Dept., Perdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.
Boris DeVadetzky, 20 Rue Nonsuer La Prosse, Paris, France
Kathleen Gregory, 12 Poolfield Ave., New Castle, Staffs, Entland
Martin Ludlam, Tyne Lodge, Grange Loan, Edinburgh, Scotland
Harold McFadden, Cadez, Ohio
Nick Solomon, New York City, N. Y.

1938

Ralph W. Amerson, 231 Illinois St., Vallejo, California
Barbara E. Allee, 5537 University Ave., Chicago, Illinois
Erva Barger, 1125 Buchanan St., N.W., Washington, D. C.
Bernice A. Buehler, 905 Tuscarawas Ave., Dover, Ohio
William Carmock, 94 Worneth Hall Rd., Oldham, England
James W. Clement, 705 South Busey, Urbana, Illinois
Norman Darrow, 296 E. 31st, Patterson, N. J.
Angus Dun, Jr., 2 St. John's Rd., Cambridge, Mass.
William J. Faulkner, 919, 18th Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Kenneth A. Fowler, 52 Donaldson Rd., Buffalo, N. Y.
Michael Franke Ruta, 160 Clairemont Ave., New York City., N. Y.
Gladys Goddard, Salvation Army Day Nursery, 94 Cherry St., N. Y City, N. Y.
Arthur Gregory, 42 Mountain Ave., Maplewood, N. J.
Jeanette Hartman, Wilmington, Ohio
Henry S. Harvey, 10 Spenner Road, Chestnut Hill, Mass.
Edwin C. Hayes, 505 N. 24th St., Lincoln, Nebraska
Raymond Ingersoll, 380 Clinton Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Josephine Johnson, Box 380, R. D. #5, Webster Groves, Mo.
Evan Lawn, 8 Bancroft Place, Radburn, Fair Lawn, N. J.
Elwood F. Lephart, Greenville, Ohio
Priscilla N. Moore, R. D. #2, Moorestown, N. J.
Karl D. Olson, The Fair, Valley City, N. Dakota
Sheila H. Ordman, 157 E. 72 St., New York City, N. Y.
Katherine M. Ruble, % H. S. Dawson, R. #4, Morgantown, W. Va.
Ross Sanderson, Jr., 104 E. Depew Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.
Elisabeth Shoepferle, Hobart Ave., Short Hills, N. J.
John Shonk, R. R. #4, Rochester, Indiana
Elinor Simonson, 411 E. 50th St., New York City, N. Y.
Ruth J. Switzer, 918 N. Cayuga St. Ithaca, N. Y.
Mary Ann Taber, 429 S. Aiken, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Carl B. Taylor, 219 W. Gibson, St., Canandaigua, N. Y.
William Thom, 3rd, 138 Prospect Ave., Princeton, N. J.
Theo Von Laue, 12 S. Edwards Hall, Princeton, N. J.
Zehlendorf, Albertinenstr 17, Berlin, Germany
Norman Williams, Jr., Woodstock, Vermont
Robert W. Wissler, 716 National Road West, Richmond, Indiana
Bertha Yackel, 6188 McPherson, St. Louis, Mo.
The C. H. Yarrows, Hadden, Conn. (Directors)
Richard D. Cole, 46 Guion Place, New Rochelle, N. Y.

Frank L. Babbott, Campbell Rd., Bernardsville, N. J.
 Selma G. Badgley, Wappingers Falls, N. Y.
 Wenona Barger, 1125 Buchanan St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
 Robbins W. Barstow, Jr., 165 Elizabeth St., Hartford, Conn.
 Edgar D. Bell, Jr., Clearvue Ave., Ingomar, Pa.
 Howard F. Boardman, 91 Lincoln, St., Meriden, Conn.
 Margarete Botkowski, Landtstrasse 98/6 Wien 3, Germany
 Estelle H. Burton, 502 Radcliffe St., Bristol, Pa.
 Edmund D. Christopherson, 1259 Ethel Ave., Lakewood, Ohio
 Jane Cook, Waynesville, Ohio
 Robert L. Dewees, Sweetwater Farm, Glen Mills, Pa.
 William P. Ellis, 216 E. Third St., Media, Pa.
 Jonathan Evans, Ambury, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Margaret Helmholtz, 604 Ninth Ave., S.W., Rochester, Minn.
 B. Roger Holden, L'original, Ont., Canada
 Mildred Hubbard, Arawana, Middletown, Conn.
 Margaret Jones, 319 E. 2nd. St., Moscow, Idaho
 Kenneth Karcher, Jr., 14 Fairlawn Ave., Albany, N. Y.
 Charlotte A. Kleiss, % Otto F. Albrecht, 463 W. Ellet St., Mt. Airy,
 Rose T. Leone, 1918 Moore St., Phila., Pa. / Phila., Pa.
 Elizabeth Merril, 70 Prospect Park W., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Esther Marcuson, 6355 Waldron St., Pittsburgh, Pa.
 Jane L. Moore, 1868 Columbia Rd., N.W., Washington D. C.
 Paul W. Morgan, 103 W. Irving St., Creston, Iowa
 Fritz Nova, Haverford College, Haverford, Pa.
 Pierre Oppliger, Ecole "Les Rayons", Gland (Vaud) Switzerland
 Guy H. Orcutt, 2724 Van Alstyne Blvd., Wyandotte, Michigan
 Theodore S. Page, 2424 Lincoln St., Evanston, Illinois
 Joan Payne, 75 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville, N. Y.
 Sidney H. Phillips, 111 Valley Road, Montclair, N. J.
 George Ritter, 234 Post Ave., Lyndhurst, N. J.
 Alice F. Stark, 477 W. 143rd. St., New York City, N. Y.
 Mary Alice Stutts, 52 Wyckoff Ave., Manasquan, N. J.
 David E. Swift, 338 Yale Station, New Haven, Conn.
 Stephen Theirmann, 3205 N. Marietta Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
 Wolfgang J. Thron, % Dr. Hermann Weyl, 270 Mercer St., Princeton, N.J.
 Homer Tielke, 180 Buckingham Rd., Rocky River, Ohio
 Joseph F. Wang, 13 Centro Terrace, Jessfield Rd., Shanghai, China
 Henry W. Warren, II, Noah Hall, Oberlin, Ohio
 Maple St., Holden, Mass.
 Bernice Wise, B. 1, Box 31, Proctor, Arkansas
 Richard Woodman, 24 St. Mark's Court, Abercorn Place, London, N.W. 8
 England
 Michael & Margaret Yarrow, Haddan, Conn.
 S. Howell Zeigler, 601 Margareta Ave., Coronado, California
 Oliver Kerner, 315 New York Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Oscar A. Oeser, The University, St. Andrews, Scotland
 % Natalie Starr, West Rd., Litchfield, Conn.

COMMUNITY LIFE

In November 1938 it was proposed in the Homestead Association Meeting that a committee be appointed to be concerned with the development of the social, religious, educational and recreational life of our community. This committee would discuss plans and problems arising within existing groups should such groups desire the help of the committee.

The committee was appointed - Mrs. Artis, Mrs. Dial, Mrs. Peckham, Mr. Day, Mr. Glenn and the president of the Homestead Association, Mr. Carp. It is called the Community Life Committee.

It has sponsored two meetings of the Community with the teachers of our Central Grade School. The first was a reception to the teachers and the second was a Sunday afternoon tea for them and members of the Interpretation Committee.

It gave encouragement to an effort of the educational committee of the Penn-Craft Cooperative Store in a course of studies on the Cooperative plan and also to a four week Agricultural Course.

At the suggestion of our committee the Association appointed a committee of three to serve three months as hostesses to the adult night gatherings. The Association also accepted our recommendation that two members of each family, above the age of sixteen, should have the right to vote at any or all Association meetings. The family to select the two voters. They also appointed a committee to draw up by-laws. And a community building fund was opened with Mr. Peckham as treasurer.

We gave direction to the Christmas program and treat for 1938 and encouraged the Young People in a Sunrise prayer meeting on Easter morning, and cooperated with them in a Roller Skating Party.

With others, we helped to entertain a group of visiting friends from Philadelphia in the month of June.

During camp Mr. and Mrs. Yarrow met with us and we, with other groups helped them arrange a celebration on the Fourth of July at Penn-Craft. We were assisted by Mr. Mat Wasco, a recreational director from the W. P. A., whom we sponsored for a summer program.

We are also sponsoring a librarian, Mr. George Haney, and a choral director, Mr. Miller, from the W. P. A.

We were interested in the exhibit directed by the 4H Club and have given thought and discussion to the matter of its becoming an annual affair. We gave direction to a meeting held at the Center, before the Primary Election, where candidates from both political parties came in person to solicit our votes.

The Community Life Committee has met regularly once a month and minutes of the meetings are on file.

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

In starting the Penn-Craft Community the American Friends Service Committee had no thought of setting up a local religious body in competition with neighboring churches. In fact, care has been taken to encourage homesteaders to be loyal to those churches where they already hold membership. Therefore no religious meetings for the community were planned at first. After several families began living on the project, some of whom had no cars in which to travel to church, there arose a desire for some kind of religious activity at the community center. This desire was discussed at the homesteaders meeting in the late autumn of 1937, and a committee was appointed at that meeting to make a survey and report. They recommended that on every other Sunday evening religious exercises be carried on at the center, that these exercises be divided into three groups--a story hour for the children in the afternoon, and a discussion group for the young people and a religious forum for the adults in the evening. Later the story hour for the children was changed to meet in the evening. All three groups met for a devotional period before the group meetings and assembled afterward to sing hymns.

In the fall of 1938, these groups requested the meeting be held every Sunday evening, which was done and continued until the autumn of 1939. By that time a concern arose among the homesteaders to establish a fully organized Sunday School to meet every Sunday morning at the center. This was done and the Sunday evening services were dropped. The hour of the school was set from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. so as to give time for members to go to the preaching services of the nearby churches.

A few weeks after the Sunday School was started, two sisters from the Catholic Church started a catechetical class on Saturday afternoons for the children of the Roman Catholic families.

Care is taken to carry on all religious activities in keeping with the principle published at the start of Penn-Craft.....that the project would be carried on without distinction on the basis of race, creed or color.

REDSTONE KNITTING MILL

The sole purpose of the knitting mill, and the reason it was started, was to provide employment. When Penn-Craft was first talked about, it was clear that some source of employment would have to be established if the community was to have a sound basis, but no one had any idea of what form this would take. Penn-Craft was established to be a community where each family would have enough land to permit them to raise most of their own food, but the land was thought of only as a supplemental source of income. Coal mining, which for many years has been the chief source of employment and income in this section, is now a declining industry, so that other opportunities for employment and income must be found.

The factory also has a purpose beyond Penn-Craft. When an industry was first talked about, it was thought that if some industry new to this part of the country could be established at Penn-Craft and made a going concern, that it might encourage others to start new industries in this section. This project was started to do something constructive and permanent about the problem of unemployment, and one way of doing this is to show that other things besides soft coal can be produced in this area.

It was decided to establish a knitting mill at Penn-Craft only after many other types of industry had been investigated. The sort of industry which can be established here is limited, of course, by many factors.

Before considering the problem of production, the selling problem has to be considered; we had to find out, first of all, if we should have a good chance to sell what we wanted to make for as much as it would cost us. Since we wanted to provide as many jobs as possible, we had to find an industry requiring a considerable amount of labor, and since capital was limited, it had to be an industry which didn't demand too much capital. The skills necessary to make whatever we decided on had to be of such a nature that people here could learn them reasonably quickly, and we had to decide on an industry for which our location several miles from a railroad is not too great an obstacle. It sometimes seemed that there couldn't be an industry filling all these requirements, but after investigating many different types of industry, it was finally decided that a sweater factory filled as many requirements as any industry we could think of, and offered reasonable chances of becoming a self-supporting business venture.

Although some thought had been given to the problem of what industry could be established on the project even before the community was started, a systematic study of this side of the community was not begun until January, 1938. In about the following June the knitting industry was looked into as offering possibilities, and during the next six months marketing possibilities, production costs, capital requirements, types of machinery, and similar aspects of the problem were studied. The decision to establish a sweater factory was made in about August, the building was started in October, the arrangements for buying machinery were then made, a foreman was found and hired, and the machinery was finally shipped out Dec. 15, 1938. The foreman immediately began setting up machines, and early in January was ready to begin to train help. Our first sizeable shipments were made in July, when we began to get into real production. During the previous six months the machines had been set up and gotten into running condition, help was trained, patterns were worked out, and a market was found. During our first season we shipped out about 2,500 dozen sweaters, some of them as far as California, which is not a bad showing, considering that less than a year ago only one of the people who made these sweaters had had any experience with work of this sort.

The factory is operated under the charter of Friends Service, Inc., which is a non-profit corporation. The capital for it was provided by people whose only motive was to help start a new industry in this area. No interest is paid on capital, and those who provided it are entitled neither to profits, nor to any claim to its return. As a contribution to the factory, the homesteaders agreed to provide the labor necessary to erect the building. The building was finished in less than three months from the time it was started.

We have now finished our first season, and have made samples for the spring season. During the last few weeks of October 1939, when a few more than forty people were working in the factory, we were making and selling over 200 dozen sweaters a week. Because of speculative buying resulting from the outbreak of war, the fall season ended earlier than it usually does, but we hope soon to get enough orders for spring to begin full operations again. There are still many difficult problems to be solved before the factory can be considered successful, but we have at least shown that good sweaters can be made here, and that a market can be found for them.

HISTORY OF PENN-CRAFT - (Cont.)

The following will give a picture of what has been accomplished so far here at Penn-Craft by the crews from the period of June 1937 to December 1939.

Number of homesteaders selected - 50
Number of temporary houses constructed - 47
Number of homesteaders living in temporary houses - 44
Number of brooder houses constructed - 35
Number of lots with water connection - 50
Amount of roads constructed - 50%
Number of Main Houses being worked on - 28
Number of Main Houses under roof - 23
Number of homesteaders living in Main Houses - 3
Total loads of stone hauled to project - 1471
Total loads of sand crushed at project - 560
Total Man Hours worked to date - 82,587 hours
Erected 1 Frame House for Factory Foreman.

PENN-CRAFT PRODUCTS, INC.



Penn-Craft Products, Inc. is a small group of boys with a desire to learn about business through practical means. It is organized and managed the same as any large organization. Its beginning dates back to the evening when Mr. Day invited George Lawson and Kenneth Illig to accompany him to a meeting of the Brownsville Rotary Club where Mr. J. Blair Easter, Executive Director of the Junior Achievement Group in Pittsburgh, was the main speaker. Mr. Easter's idea of a Junior Achievement organization seemed to be the very thing for the boys here at Penn-Craft and arrangements were made for Mr. Easter to meet with the boys here at the project office.

After the first meeting on July 13, 1939 and everything seemed favorable for the group, a meeting was called for July 17th and seven boys met and filled out their application for a charter. They decided to call their organization "The Penn-Craft Products Company." For their sponsors they asked and were successful in getting the Brownsville Rotary, the Republic Rotary and the American Friends Service Committee. On September 5th Mr. Blair Easter presented the boys with their charter and the organization became a reality. The momentous day had come and they were now ready to tangle with the bears and wolves of Wall Street.

The seven boys each bought a share of stock in the Company and became the Board of Directors. By-laws were drafted up by the Junior Achievement group but are subject to change by a "two-thirds vote of the stockholders at any meeting of the stockholders where such amendments have been set forth at length in the notice of the meeting." Another fundamental law is the principle of allowing one vote only to each stockholder no matter what proportion of the stock he might hold.

After the stockholders meeting the Board of Directors met and held an election of officers. The results of the election was: George Lawson, president; John Vlosich, vice-president; William Keeney, Jr., secretary; and Kenneth Illig, treasurer. The remaining stockholders are Albert Constable, Wilber Riffle and Peter Vlosich.

The problem now at hand is the type of article they are to make and the possibility of having something ready for market by the Christmas season. Mr. Walker, instructor in wood-working at Redstone High School, has consented to aid the boys in making some wooden toys or something similar which will be practical for a starter although the ultimate aim of the company is to produce hand looms for which there is a large market and no company engaged at present in their production.

Can and will this organization of young boys between the ages of 16 and 21 become of importance enough to merit its existence under their own management and supervision? It has been done before but time and time alone will tell if this task with its numerous obstacles can be overcome.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S COUNCIL

At a Young People's Saturday night social party in October 1938 a "Young People's Council" was formed to represent the group in all of their activities and plan things of interest for the group. The Council consisted of: Rose Constable, William Pietrosky, Joseph Shaw, Jr., Marie Arrison, George Lawson, Clara Marie Stillwagon and Marcella DeBord. As time went on new members were added and old members resigned. Some of the new members were William Cammock, Ruth Illig, William and Eleanor Keeney.

While the Council was in charge, Round and Square dancing was started. They sponsored two skating parties of which the proceeds went toward tuning and repairing the piano at the Community Center. Singing groups also sprung up under the direction of Mrs. Peckham and Mrs. Millen, but this soon faded out as most of the group weren't interested enough to keep it going. Due to lack of music for dancing the Saturday night affairs also began to fade and the Council was discontinued.

In August 1939 a new Young People's Council was formed by the vote of the young people. The new Council members were: Rose Constable-chairman, William Keeney, Jr., John Vlosich, Kenneth Illig, Leota Artis, William Pietrosky, George Lawson. The chairman was appointed by the member receiving the most votes.

The group started out to raise a fund for music and \$13.69 was raised by holding a box social as a farewell for the 1939 Campers. Some of the Young People have joined the Foreign Friendship Correspondent League in England through this Council.

GIRL'S CLUB

By the time the summer camp of 1937 had gone there were several families boasting "almost-grown" daughters living at Penn-Craft. Feeling the need for a closer fellowship the girls met with Mrs. Day around a camp fire at the Center. Several possible projects were suggested for the club but group singing and sewing were decided upon for the winter. As one girl expressed her feeling, "We have a chance to make nice homes. We want to know how to fix them up." Another said, "We want to fix ourselves up, too. We want to be as nice as our homes." Clara Pietrosky, Betty and Eleanor Keeney and Henrietta Arrison were still in school, but, Rachel and Jean Lawson and Marie Arrison were at home, Rachel unable to return to college, Jean working in the homestead office and Marie at the Community Center. Marie was elected chairman of the group with Jean as secretary. Meetings were held regularly every Friday evening all winter, sometimes at the Community Center and sometimes in the homes.

In October the newly formed Homestead Association reorganized the group by appointing Mrs. Arrison, Mrs. Pietrosky and Mrs. Keeney as sponsoring committee and Mrs. Day as group advisor. In January the girls brought the sewing they had worked on throughout the early fall and winter months and displayed them before the mothers. These were articles of clothing, including several dresses, making a commendable display, both in quantity and quality of workmanship. Mrs. Opperman and Mrs. Peckham judged the work and awarded prize ribbons. The girls also gave a short program of readings, dialogues and songs. For Mother's Day, the girls gave a mothers and daughters banquet at the Community Center. In March Fayetta, Marcella and Gladys DeBord, Betty and Jean Booker, and Rose Constable had joined the group and were regular attendants. During vacations, Mary Emma Painter met with the group and once Mrs. Day's sister, Miss Frances Peacock, spoke to the girls concerning her work in a school for the negroes. A few of the girls held a series of discussions on marriage, using the Good Housekeeping articles. Miss Anderson and Mr. Carter, from the County Agent's office in Uniontown, met with the girls sometime during the spring and summer and supervised flower and garden projects.

During the summer the responsibility for leadership of club work was largely taken by the camp. Then more emphasis was placed on outdoor group activities, games and singing. By that time enough girls had been added as new families moved in, to divide the club into older and younger groups. In the fall, Gladys Goddard assumed leadership until she left at Christmas time. To the existing activities were added a class in posture and authentic dancing for the younger girls and knitting for all. In January 1938, a new committee was appointed: Mrs. Dial, Chairman; Mrs. Lawson and Marie Arrison, leaders for the older girls, now called the "Willing Workers"; and Mrs. Illig and Mrs. Opperman, leaders for the Junior girls. Officers for the Willing Workers were: Ruth Illig, president; Clara Pietrosky, vice-president; and Fayetta DeBord, secretary. This time the new project was a club quilt which was started but not completed until the fall of 1939. Again there was a Mothers and Daughters banquet and a spring round-up. The older girls held discussions of their problems and chief interests. The younger girls were planning their rooms in their new houses and making some articles of furniture out of simple inexpensive materials at hand. A very impressive display was given of these accomplishments at the close of the camp.

In the fall of 1939, the Willing Workers decided to disband in favor of the Young People's Council and other activities. Mrs. Dowling and Mrs. Shaw have acted as leaders for the younger group. The Junior Girls finished their quilt and sold it for three dollars. They sold homemade candy and made two dollars. Now they are making arm-chair pin cushions and sewing box combination novelties for sale. Their hope is to build up a sufficient amount in the treasury to allow for plans for a summer camping trip. Club membership now includes twenty-two girls. Meetings are held twice a month with sewing at the first meeting and a party at the second. New officers will assume office in January.

PENN-CRAFT "PAPER"

At a meeting of the Penn-Craft Association the subject of a Penn-Craft Newspaper arose. After some discussion by the group of homesteaders, and a vote on the question, it was decided almost unanimously to print a paper. A committee was appointed to work out plans, to begin printing the paper. This committee consisted of Lynn Ashkettle, John Logston, Mary Carp, and Joseph Shaw. The committee met and appointed a production staff consisting of Jean Lawson Sinclair, editor in chief; Arthur Ashkettle, typest; Joseph Shaw, sport reporter and Clara Pietrosky reporting Community Activities. The first papers were only a two page production, and have been growing steadily, being published twice a month.

At this time some members of the production staff were unable to continue work on the paper and it was decided by the committee to appoint a general manager. James Bell was appointed to this place and has added several features added were the advertising of various business est. in the community. A new editorial staff has been appointed and the paper is growing under their direction.

The Newspaper Committee and editorial staff meets the first Monday in the month for a business meeting, financial reports and general discussion of the paper for its improvement and betterment.

The paper now consists of eight and nine pages and is called "The Penn-Craft."

PERSONALITIES

David W. Day - The manager of Penn-Craft. Intellectual, religious, active, dependable, patient, cooperative. Member of the work committee, sponsor of the Junior Achievement group of boys, Senior Manager of the Co-op Store.

Errol Peckham - Our Friends Service representative. Active and cooperative. People like the interesting way he has of telling of Penn-Craft and its aims. Member of the Cooperative Association and sells Farm Bureau insurance in his spare time. His main duty at Penn-Craft was the investigation and selection of homesteaders.

Clive Day - One of our most noteworthy and sociable aspirants. Willing, dependable and cooperative. On the committees for the Maternal Health Clinic, and Baby Clinic and a member of the Mother's Club.

Mary Peckham - Another of our sociable aspirants. Active in all groups and among the young people and does much toward their group and social life. An able pianist and teaches others in her leisure time. A member of the Cooperative Association, Mother's Club and Community Life Committee.

Max Gonano - Our jovial stone mason who has a lot of patience. Hard worker and dislikes loafing on the job. Has supervised some fine stone work. A resident of Brownsville.

John Carp - Present chairman of the Community Association. One of our fellow humorists who angles in his spare time. Member of the Work Committee.

Eleanor Regnery - Another of our sociable members. Active, dependable, cheerful and energetic. Can easily make friends. Belongs to the Mother's Club and is treasurer of the Cooperative Association.

Jean Lawson Sinclair - Mr. Day's attractive, loyal, honest, efficient and trustworthy secretary. Member of the newspaper staff and treasurer. Was recently married to Thomas Sinclair of Hiller.

James Bell - English by speech but American by spirit. Active, religious, and a loyal Boy Scout leader. Member of the religious committee, newspaper staff and the cooperative association.

Ruth Artis - Another of our prominent social workers. Active, cooperative, and was formerly a home missionary here in the coal fields of Fayette County. Is still active in missionary work and is a member of the religious committee, community life committee and cooperative association.

Joel Arrison - Our genial farmer. A smiling diligent worker. Was a baseball player in his younger years. One of the few talented checker players of the neighborhood.

Edward Baum - Our cheerful carpenter who labors so diligently through thick and thin. Was employed at the Westmoreland Homestead before coming here. Can't see why so many mistakes are made in the making of window and door frames for the houses. Loves his pipe above all earthly things.

Henry Regnery - Our persevering factory manager. Of German descent. Cheerful, willing and cooperative. Has a library and loves to read. A member of the Factory Committee.

Walker Lawson - One of the pioneers of the settlement. Very industrious and a jack-of-all-trades. Likes baseball and mushball. A master of the art of checker playing. A member of the Work Committee.

Frank Glenn - Another pioneer of the settlement of the opposite race. An electrician who is cheerful, active and dependable. Loves all sports, especially boxing.

William Stillwagon - Son of a homesteader and is now Junior Manager of the Co-op Store. Former figure-caller of the Saturday night square dances. Loves baseball and football. Rides around on a motorcycle.

Mrs. Dowling - Joins in all activities heartily. Sponsor of the Junior Girl's Club and a member of the Mother's club.

Michael Klosky - Our capable artist of the Community Newspaper. Silent but active. Also an artist at the art of stone laying. (His chimney confirms this fact.)

John Heitman - Our persistent factory foreman who hails from New York. Industrious, dependable and capable. An able mechanic.

Omer Cole - One of the late comers to the settlement. Humorous, cheerful and an able worker. Loves baseball and was umpire in his younger years. One of the sponsors of the Junior Council. Is living on the abandoned Seeman estate.

HOW PENN-CRAFT GOT IT'S NAME!

On Sunday p. m., May 25th, the early members of the Community gathered for a meeting at the Community Center. One of the items of business had to do with naming the community. The following were some of the names suggested for what is now Penn-Craft: Friendsdale, Pine Hill, Penn-Craft, Stoneville, Penn-Croft, Luzerne Gardens and Penn-Farms.

The first name to strike the peoples fancy was Luzerne Gardens. After a week or two under this name there seemed to be much dissatisfaction as it became evident that the name did not apply or describe the community. By a unanimous vote the name "Penn-Craft" was selected at the next meeting of homesteaders. Friends Service considered it very appropriate as the "Penn" could refer to the state of Pennsylvania and "Craft" was the name of the former owner of the farm, also, the "Craft" could signify any sort of industry or handicraft that would be started in the Community. In June 1937, "Penn-Craft" was adopted as the official name.

HIGHLIGHTS

INTERESTING DATES IN THE HISTORY OF PENN-CRAFT

First announcement made of the starting of Penn-Craft - February 24, 1937

First day of crew work - June 1, 1937

First temporary houses started - on Lot #5, June 15, 1937 by Joseph Pietrosky.

First homesteaders to move onto the Project to the various sections:

Section I. Joseph Pietrosky, Lot No. 5, July 29, 1937

Section II. Lynn Ashkettle, Lot No. 27, April 17, 1938

Section III. David Day, Lot No. 40, March 10, 1939

First Main House basement excavated - Walker Lawson, Lot No. 4, August 1937
Frank Glenn, Lot No. 9, August 1937

First homesteader to move into Stone House:

Peter Stermock, Lot 16, November 9, 1939

Walker Lawson, Lot 4, December 2, 1939

First marriage - Rachel Lawson to Chas. McFerrin, December 25, 1937

First birth - Mary Ruth Newell, born to Mr. & Mrs. Charles Newell,
June 6, 1938

Mrs. Roosevelt's visit to Penn-Craft

Mr. Day announced to the older people of Penn-Craft several days before hand that on November 29, 1937, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Mrs. Doris Duke Cromwell would visit Penn-Craft about noon of that day and the Mother's Club and the girls of the community were to prepare a lunch for the party. They were cautioned about telling the children for fear of the news leaking out and having a crowd of people here on that day. It was to be a quiet visit with no publicity. On the morning of the very day, the children were told and of course not a child went to school. Everyone wanted to see Mrs. Roosevelt. The morning paper also got the news that morning and by noon there was quite a crowd of people, reporters and photographers.

The party had been at Arthurdale, W. Va., visiting the government homestead project there, guided by Clarence E. Pickett of the American Friends Service Committee. The purpose of their trip was to visit and see conditions in the coal mining towns. They visited the homes being built in Section I, a home at Orient, the coke ovens at Thompson and watched the men working at the ovens and stone quarry and on crew work laying stone. The crews worked until noon and then everyone came to the Community Center building to shake hands and talk with the visitors. It was a day to be remembered by everyone.

A few days later, Mrs. Roosevelt wrote about Penn-Craft in her column, "My Day."

EDITORIAL STAFF

James Bell - General Manager
Marie Arrison,
Rose Constable - Typist
Jean Sinclair - Treasurer
John Vlosich - Specials
Wm. Keeney, Jr. - Community News
Michael Klosky - Artist
David Day - Construction News

SPONSORING COMMITTEE

David Day John Logston Mary Carp
Lynn Ashkettle Steve Oshnack

We sincerely appreciate the cooperation shown by all in the publishing of our first "Penn-Craft Year Book" and wish to thank the following persons for their contributions to it.

Levinus Painter - Penn-Craft Pioneers
David W. Day - History of Penn-Craft
Errol Peckham - Religious Activities, and
Cooperative Association.
Elmore Jackson - Work Camp News
Mary Peckham - Community Life
Wm. Keeney, Jr. - Homestead Association &
Junior Achievement
Henry Regnery - Redstone Knitting Mill (factory)
Ada Lawson, Laura Ashkettle, &
Nellie Cole, Mrs. Day - Mother's Club
James Bell - Boy Scouts
Rose Constable - Young People's Council
Lynn Ashkettle - The Penn-Craft
Mrs. Dowling - Junior Girls Club
John Vlosich - Personalities
Jean Sinclair - Highlights, Printing & Publishing
Year Book
Michael Klosky - Cover page
Mrs. Olive Day - Girls Club