

Jury Decides Mill Hall Woman's Death Was Accidental

Member Salona Rifle Team Testifies Gun Went Off Prematurely

PHYSICIAN EXPLAINS NATURE OF INFECTION

A coroner's jury last week absolved anyone of blame in the death of Mrs. Sadie Martha Jeirles, 50, of Mill Hall, who died in the Lock Haven Hospital, Sunday, Oct. 31. She was shot Wednesday evening, Oct. 27, by a bullet fired during the rifle match between the Mill Hall and Salona P. O. S. of A. teams.

The jury's verdict read as follows: "We, the jury, find that Mrs. Sadie M. Jeirles came to her death by a bullet accidentally fired from a 22 rifle from the rear rooms of the P. O. S. of A. rooms in Mill Hall."

Members of the jury were Clyde M. Flack, Robert R. Lauth, S. M. Bickford, C. H. Bressler, D. L. Wilson and W. C. Bauman. The inquest, in charge of Coroner W. J. Shoemaker, was held in the P. O. S. of A. rooms in Mill Hall, in the rear of which the rifle teams shot their match. The P. O. S. of A. rooms from the rear overlook the rear of the Jeirles home about 240 feet away and slightly to the left.

The only people at the hearing were witnesses, chiefly members of the P. O. S. of A. The husband of the dead woman, Charles Jeirles, was not present, Coroner Shoemaker explaining that he had to work.

Ward Tate, of Salona, a member of the town's rifle team, admitted that his gun went off accidentally as he was closing the bolt. He said that he had no knowledge of where the 22 long rifle bullet went, but that he was always very careful to aim his gun at the target when he was ejecting the shells. The time of the shooting he fixed at between 8 and 8:30, although he said that he did not definitely know the time.

The fact that Mr. Tate's gun went off accidentally was corroborated by Don Miller, a member of the Mill Hall team firing at the same time as Tate. Miller said that

he did not actually see Tate's gun go off, but that he felt the Salona man's rifle going off. Their testimony was preceded by a long line of witnesses, including members of both Lodges testifying as to the time, the method and the ordinary accuracy of the shooters, doctors describing the wound and treatment of Mrs. Jeirles, and Sheriff Jacob B. Bryerton, who reported that after his investigation, he was certain that the shooting was an accident.

District Attorney Burrill L. Haag was present but took no part in the questioning. Dr. David W. Thomas testified on the cause of death and the treatment given Mrs. Jeirles in the Lock Haven Hospital. Step by step he traced the history of the case from the time Mrs. Jeirles was admitted early Wednesday evening until she died late Sunday night.

He first saw the woman Wednesday night, and found her in apparently good condition, with an absence of shock which is frequently found in gunshot wounds. He looked at the X-ray pictures Thursday morning, and Friday morning he removed the bullet.

At that time the woman appeared in good condition, and there seemed to be no complications. As time progressed, her temperature and pulse increased and she died Sunday night. A post mortem examination revealed that peritonitis had set in, probably, as Dr. Thomas said, by infection carried in by the bullet.

Dr. Thomas said, in reply to a question from the jury, that many people now in excellent health carry bullets in their bodies and that failure to remove the bullet immediately was not necessarily the cause of the death. He said that with the absence of shock it was reasonable to believe that there was no immediate danger in allowing the bullet to remain in the body. The doctor said that if infection from the bullet brought about the peritonitis, the infection was there as soon as the bullet entered the body, and that removal of the bullet immediately would not have removed the infection.

Dr. Thomas assured the jury that if the woman had appeared to be in immediate need of surgical aid, that she would have received it.

JUDGE RULES ON CONSTABLES PAY

Opinion Favors Officials Elected Prior to Enactment of Present Election Law

An opinion handed down recently by Judge Wallace Smith, of Clearfield, on the question of whether constables must serve in their official capacities at the primary and general elections without compensation, as provided by the 1937 election code, is a clear-cut official ruling that should be of considerable interest in Centre County, where the question has caused considerable comment.

In brief, the opinion was that constables elected prior to the present act must serve at the general elections and are entitled to the compensation formerly provided, \$5 a day. However, as to the primaries there is no duty compelling them to be at the polls then and neither are they entitled to any compensation for past services at primary elections.

The opinion followed a friendly suit brought by Constable Leslie Strunk, of Clearfield, against the commissioners and controller. Mr. Strunk's case involved only the primaries, for which he was claiming compensation because he served at the polls then. Judge Smith dismissed the suit in the light of his findings, but then gave an opinion in respect to the general elections.

Judge Smith's findings, it was stated in the opinion, were based on constitutional law as it applied to depriving an elected official of compensation and adding new duties to him during his term of office. Prior to the 1937 act, it was stated, the law did compel constables to attend general elections and provided that they receive \$5 for their services. However, there never was a law compelling them to attend the primaries. It was found then that constables who were elected to office prior to 1937 must attend the general election and be paid for the services, while they could not be added with the additional duties of attending the primaries, nor was there any provision for payment of what they were not compelled to do.

Constables who will be elected after the passing of the 1937 act will be compelled to attend both the primaries and general elections without compensation. The law is unconstitutional as it applies to constables elected before the act was passed, but is valid in respect to constables elected afterward.

MAKE REPORT ON WELFARE FUND

Officials Point to Necessity of Future Prompt Payment of Pledges

According to a report released yesterday by Horace J. Hartnett, chairman of the Bellefonte Community Welfare Fund, the twelve participating institutions have received to date a total of \$10,435.77 from the fund. This amount represents seven monthly payments to eleven of the institutions, and eight payments to the twelfth.

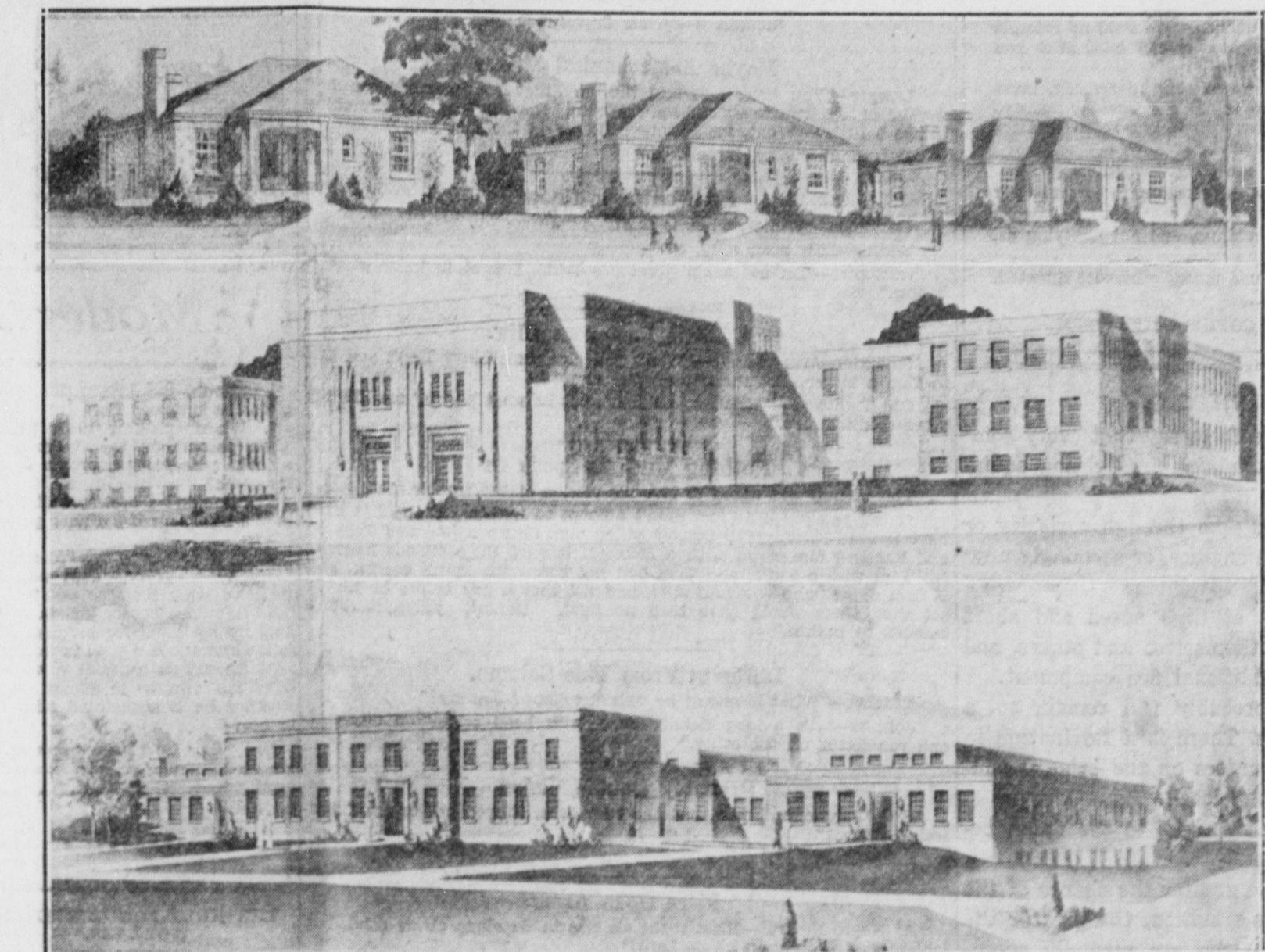
Officials are particularly anxious to maintain the present fair rate of pledge payments, so that none of the remaining five monthly allocations to the beneficiaries will have to be reduced or passed. They point out that 100 per cent payment of all pledges is doubly necessary this year owing to the fact that the 1937 drive fell about \$1,500 short of the quota, and that the budgets for the institutions have already been pared to the bone on that account.

Unredeemed pledges in coming months, they reported, will mean serious losses to the various organizations which depend upon the Welfare Fund for their upkeep.

Even of the Organizations have received their allocations up to and including November. By a special arrangement, the Bellefonte Community Athletic Association has been paid up to and including December. The fund treasurer reported yesterday that there are nearly enough funds on hand to meet the December payments even though most families payments, but asked that special efforts be made to maintain pledge have extra expenses during the Christmas Holiday season.

The 1937 Welfare Fund will pay out the last of April, 1938, when the new fund will begin. Following are

General State Authority Starts \$1,600,000 Program at Torrance State Hospital



The General State Authority's \$65,000,000 Institutional Construction Program directly benefits the entire State of Pennsylvania. At Torrance, in Westmoreland County, 8 new buildings will soon provide long standing needs for adequate accommodations as a part of

Table listing total payments made to participating institutions during the seven-month period, including November. Y. M. C. A. \$3,500.00, Centre County Hospital 2,916.52, Girl Scouts 641.62, Logan Fire Company 204.12, Lindsley Fire Company 343.75, Pleasant Gap Fire Co. 343.57, Salvation Army 145.81, Crippled Children 233.31, Associated Charities 221.62, Community Athletic Assn (8 mo.) 1,393.28, Total \$10,435.77

W. C. T. U. MEETS AT HALF MOON

Speaker Declares Local Option Referendum Had Proven Educational Vehicle

Quite a large and representative group from the many local units of the Women's Christian Temperance Union over the county met on Thursday, November 4, for their semi-annual institute at Half Moon. The morning devotion led by Rev. D. A. Sowers was of deep spiritual interest to all. Mrs. Fred Henry, of Philipsburg, County President and Mrs. Sydney Stauffer, of Howard, who is vice president and also institute director for the county, presided over the meeting.

Reports from several departments showed much special work is being planned. Mrs. Bernice Broyles in commenting on Christian Citizenship said the local option referendum had proven an "educational vehicle." The group was surprised to learn that Mrs. Broyles had just recently resigned as managing editor of the Bulletin, the State W. C. T. U. paper. It is generally believed that her action was taken to enable her to enter a larger field of service and responsibility where she will gain new laurels to add to those she has so ably won.

Mrs. Harriet Atkins reported that a new State director, Mrs. Alvin Sherbine, had been appointed for Alcohol Education. Mrs. Effie Baumgardner, on publicity stated, the power of the press and radio, is inestimable. Recent news, she said, has gone out regarding the baneful influence of Marihuana. It causes crime and insanity and its use is spreading to an alarming extent in our country.

The noon devotion was conducted by Mrs. Nannie Williams and Mrs. Ida Wilmer. After lunch and a social hour an executive meeting was called to consider matters of pressing importance. Mrs. F. D. Gardner, County Treasurer, will be absent for some time and Mrs. D. A. Sower, of Port Matilda, will fill her place. Local treasurers are instructed to send money to Mrs. Sower at Port Matilda.

Mrs. Sower led the afternoon devotions and discussions were continued. Mrs. Broyles spoke of the increasing sales of alcoholic beverages, habit addicts and the persistence of those who favor such results.

BOY KILLED AT OSCEOLA MILLS

Victim Was Riding Bicycle When Struck by Passing Ramey Motorist

Death claimed its 35th highway victim of the year in the Phillipsburg section last Thursday at 5 p. m. when Robert Jean Cartwright, 13, of Osceola Mills, R. D. 1, was instantly killed as the bicycle he was riding collided with an automobile on route No. 53 almost midway between Houtdale and Osceola Mills. Phillipsburg sub-station State Motor police, who investigated the accident, said the boy's bicycle and an automobile driven by Louis F. Boron, of Ramey, collided. The boy received a fracture of the skull over the right eye and a fractured left leg.

Mr. Boron stated he was traveling toward Houtdale, returning from hunting and the boy was riding his bicycle on the wrong side of the highway. He said the boy attempted to cut across the highway when the collision occurred.

The right front part of the car struck the bicycle, crushing it and throwing Cartwright across the hood and to the ground. Dr. R. L. Williams, Clearfield county coroner, who arrived at the scene within a short time, said that death occurred instantly. Cartwright left his home, which is along the highway, only five minutes before the accident. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. William Cartwright and was born August 4, 1924. He was next to the oldest of six children.

Funeral services were held Sunday with burial in the Brisben cemetery.

Workman Falls Into Pit

Plunging 15 feet into a concrete pit, Charles Aikley was injured in an accident at the plant of the American Car and Foundry Company at Milton. Aikley was working at the edge of the pit, used in riveting tank cars, when, losing his balance, he fell. About a foot of water in the pit broke the fall. He is now a patient at the Geisinger Hospital, Danville.

The world can get peace, probably, by giving Japan, Italy and Germany whatever it is they want. There are people who like to tease other persons. They enjoy it.

THREE HURT IN CRASH NEAR OSCEOLA MILLS

Three persons were injured and an automobile reduced to junk following a collision Saturday night on route 53 near Osceola Mills.

Both the drivers were included among the injured, one, Ellsworth L. Weed of Clearfield, sustaining lacerations of the hands and face. A passenger in his car, Elizabeth Pollock of Osceola, suffered a severe laceration of the forehead.

The other driver, Arthur Beech of Osceola, received a fractured nose and lacerations of the face. The Weed machine was totally demolished.

Boy Has Skull Fractured

Jimmy Kane, young son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Kane, of Lock Haven, sustained painful injuries when he was struck by a car driven by Rembrandt P. Welch. He was admitted to the Lock Haven Hospital suffering from a fractured skull and contusions of the leg, but his condition is reported as not being serious.

A game of ball in the street was one of the contributory factors in the boy being struck. Mr. Welch drove down the street and in swerving his car to avoid some of the players he struck Jimmy. The boy was taken by the driver, first to a physician's office, and then to the hospital.

Doesn't Want to Vote

Max Edelbute, Utahville, Clearfield county, resident, has asked the county registration board to remove his name from the voters' lists, saying, "Politics has gotten so rotten, too corrupt for an honorable man to meddle with. I favor a dictator in preference to our present day democracy."

What has become of the ancient paragraphs who penned jokes about turkeys at this season of the year?

FARMER MAY KILL DOE ON OWN LAND AT NO ADDED FEE

The State Game Commission, according to Gov. George H. Earle's request, has given permission to farmers to shoot antlerless deer on their own lands without a \$2 permit during the scheduled open deer season, November 25-27. This proposition was originally made by Samuel Custer, Williamsport member of the commission.

The game code allows landowners the right to kill deer destroying property on their grounds open to public hunting, and since these farmers are not required to obtain regular hunting licenses, the commission found Mr. Earle's request "reasonable and fair." Commission President Nicholas J. Biddle said, "Farmers privileged to shoot deer without permits on their own lands are asked to report kills for statistical purposes."

Salona Woman Injured in Fall

Mrs. Rebecca Miller, 76, of Salona, is a patient at the Lock Haven Hospital where she is being treated for a dislocated right shoulder and bruises. She was injured in a fall down some steps at her home at Salona.

Remembers Church in Will

In a will in which she asked that there be no "fussing" at her funeral, Mrs. Charlotte E. Kreisher, who died recently at Milton, left to Trinity Lutheran church, \$1,000 and to the Ladies' Aid Society and the Missionary Society of the church, \$100 each. The bulk of the estate was left to relatives.

'KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES' - A Very Good Reason



(By Uncle Ezra)

Well, sir, this 'ere election we jest had, has got a lot of the fellers around here plain baffaloed. They jest can't figger out why the Democratic candidate for judge got so many more votes than that Republican feller.

Well, by cracky, we bet we could tell 'em if they'd ask 's. Heh! Heh!

We ain't no nend at figgerin' out 't but the peck groundin' is a gonto do about the weather next Febuary, but we'll bet a good-sized cocky we can explain this 'ere votin' business.

Seem' as nobody is a goin' to call on us to speak, we're goin' to take the bull by the horns, as old Uncle Lem used to say, and bust right into the conversation.

You see, in the first place, they's a lot more Republicans than Democrats in Centre county, which accordin' to how everybody figgered should uv elected a Republican judge. But let me tell you fellers what happened.

They's quite a parcel uv them Republicans is pretty sore at the other party, so they sez to themselves, sez they, "Darn them Democrats, they won't get my vote; I'm so mad I'll jest cross 'em all out with an 'X,' and by gum, they did.

They put a big 'X' after their name to eliminate 'em, and figgered they was gittin' even with 'em.

'Bout the same thing happened when London was runnin', only they was a lot more Republicans then.

And that reminds me that I saw the last resemblance to that Presidential election fade away tother day, when a downtown Bellefonte merchant feller tore down the London picture hangin' on his wall and put Santa Claus in its place.

Well, sir, here we are, at Thank-givin' and Christmas approachin' jest beyond the waterin' trough.

A lot of folks has asked us if that wuz Indian summer that jest passed. We sez it was. We ain't so well posted on this here Indian summer season, but during our lifetime we've always calculated on it coming around in October or November.

You see, taint no use to figger on a set date. When you get a spell uv nice weather in late October or in November, jest call it Indian summer and let it go at that.

We hope ev'ry inquirin' customer will read this, as it will save a lot of wear and tear on our vocal organs.

It strikes me as kinda funny when I run into fellers who's always preachin' what they don't practice.

For instance, tother day I saw one of 'em drivin' down Howard street lickety-split through a stop sign, and darned if he didn't make a U-turn at the intersection. What 'peared funny to me was a big sign on the back license plate which read, "I will drive safely."

We couldn't help thinkin', "when yu startin', mister?"

Well, sir, it beats all git-out how many fellers ain't makin' much money these days since bootleggin' wuz outlawed.

One of the gents was a tellin' me tother day how prices has changed since 1924. For instance, he sez that sugar, lye, ether and horseinment is much cheaper now since they is less demand for them.

And, by cracky, he showed me some of his stock quotations in Centre county that year.

Sugar Valley Brand: Quaranteed oblivion for four days after drinkin'. 70 cents a snort. Varies with the sugar market.

Beechwood Best: \$6.75 a gallon if you came after it. \$16.50 delivered to your door if you trusted it that near the house.

Near Elert: Not far from it--\$3.00 a quart at the old fair grounds in jars. \$4.00 in Bellefonte in jars. \$3.75 refunded on jars.

Bald Eagle Blue: 40 cents a small 60 cents a large. 80 cents a swallow. No price was set after a swallow, because no one ever got any farther.

Rush Township Tops: 75 cents a pint. Price raised or levered according to road conditions.

Yes, sirls, them wuz the days uv moonshine and noses.

Capture Rare Snowy Owl. A snowy owl, a Canadian bird seldom seen in Pennsylvania, was captured in a trap at the Martenas chicken farm, near Bloomsburg. The trap had been set following the killing of several chickens. The bird became quite tame while kept by Mr. Martenas before the arrival at the farm of a game warden, who took it to Harrisburg. The bite of the owl is not severe, but the claws are an inch and a half long, and so strong that they will pierce a hole through the sole of a shoe. The claws are used in killing the bird's prey.

Two Birds With One Stone. Columbia county has a modern version of the man who killed two birds with one stone. Merle Boyer, Berwick resident, who is employed along Knob Mountain on the Eisenhower highway, planned to go hunting after his day's work was finished, and took his gun along with him when he started out in the morning. On his way to work he found two ring-necked pheasants locked in combat, and was able to kill both with one shot.

Dog Bites Lock Haven Man. A gash an inch long was torn in the left leg of Gerard Petrucci, of Lock Haven, when he was attacked by a dog as he was walking on a sidewalk in that place.