

Echoes From the Past

Fifty Years Ago

A brakeman on a Bald Eagle Valley freight train met with an accident at Mill Hill last Friday night while coupling cars. Two of his fingers were crushed and had to be amputated.

On last Tuesday the home of Mr. John Wilson, an invalid, near Zion was broken into and some valuables were carried away. On that day Mr. Wilson was taken to the home of J. G. Royer to attend their butchering. During his absence the thieves broke into the house and opened a trunk from which they took a note of \$23, belonging to his son, Jacob.

Joseph Brothers have a fine display in their front store window. It represents a mountain scene, a well executed log cabin stands on the summit and a small stream rushes down through the narrow gorge and near the bottom its force is directed upon a water wheel which furnishes the motive power for a genuine old-fashioned up-and-down sawmill. The operator stands watching the operation of the mill.

Last week after we had gone to press, the news reached this place that the body of Mr. Samuel Kelley, of Pottery Mills, was found lying along the turnpike leading from Milroy to Pottery Mills by Mr. Bunnell. He had left Milroy the evening before for home. As there were no marks or injuries to be found on his body, it is supposed that he became ill, lay down and expired where he was found. He was aged about sixty-five years, leaves a wife, and daughter, Mrs. Thomas McCoy, of Unionville.

On Thursday of last week, at about noon, David Pravel, an employe of P. B. Crier's lumber camp, three miles east of Clintonville, was found dead in the woods. He was trailing logs this forenoon in company with other men of the camp. Harry Holmes worked near by him and when about dinner time he called to Pravel to go along to dinner. Pravel answered that he would be along shortly, and Holmes went to the house. Pravel did not come and Holmes went back to see what delayed him. He called but no answer came, and then he went to where he last saw the man and was horrified to find him lying on the ground, face downward and cold in death. He had a severe gash on the forehead and another along the side of his head. Mr. Pravel was subject to epileptic fits and it is supposed that he had another attack and fell forward and down the hill and his head struck against the rocks, which caused his death. A jury was empaneled and they rendered a verdict in accordance with the above facts. He was a young man of about 27 years of age, and leaves a wife and one child, who now reside at Washington Furnace. The funeral took place on Saturday and the remains were taken to Eagleville, the home of his parents, for burial. We are informed that

for some time and then left. The last seen of the mthey were on their way to Brush Valley. It is a pity the fellows were not arrested and punished for such conduct.

Last Friday afternoon the workmen employed in the extensive quarry near the "Glas Works, operated by the Collins Purance, had a narrow escape with their lives. About eighteen men were at work and had several mules and carts with them. The entire force was taking stone from under a ledge of rocks. The foreman of the quarry had occasion to go to the top of the quarry and noticed a seam opening as if the ledge might break away. He then crossed over and found a much larger seam which frightened him. He then hastened back to where he first saw the break and found that it had opened several inches wider and was at the point of giving away. He gave the alarm to the men beneath to run for their lives and a few seconds later the entire mass, tons upon tons of rocks fell to the bottom in a great heap where the men had been at work. Had the foreman not gone above at the time, the eighteen men would have been crushed to death, buried beneath several feet of rocks. It was a miraculous escape and it seems as though Providence spared their lives.

On Sunday afternoon the home of Mr. and Mrs. James A. McClain, Curtin Street, was made to mourn by the death of their son, Richard, a bright and interesting boy whose age was about 15 years. For some time the boy was afflicted by an affection of the kidneys which was the cause of his death. The interment took place on Wednesday in the Catholic cemetery.

Among the 225 teachers, who attended the annual Centre County Teachers' Institute were the following from Bellefonte: D. M. Lieb, D. O. Eiters, G. W. Johnston-Baugh, Lizzie Shortridge, Lizzie Bottorf, Bella Rankin, Kate Powers, Ella Levy, J. F. Harrison, Jr., Kate Hewes, Annie McCaffery, Carrie Weaver, Rose Fox, Jennie Strickland and Laura H. Wright.

After a lingering illness of over two years, the venerable G. S. Hoy, of Walker Twp., passed away on last Thursday afternoon. His illness was due to an affection of dropsy, which was the cause of his death. Mr. Hoy was about 66 years of age and was one of the most prominent citizens of that section. He leaves a wife and seven children, six daughters and one son, all of whom are married. The interment took place on Monday forenoon. The services were conducted by Rev. D. O. Shoemaker, his pastor.

J. Edgar Bosner, a young man about 21 years of age, a son of Charles Bosner of this place, was struck by a train while crossing the stone bridge at Johnstown, on Saturday evening. He was taken to the Cambria City Hospital where he lingered until Tuesday morning when he died. His father left for Johnstown as soon as he heard of the accident and reached the bedside of his son a few hours before he died. The young man was conscious most of the time and recognized the father. On Wednesday morning the body arrived in Bellefonte.

Last Friday the community of Jacksonville was thrown into considerable excitement by tramps. That evening three very suspicious looking vagrants came to the house of Emanuel Garbrick and entered without knocking. The occupants at the time were the five daughters who became alarmed. The tramps wanted to know where the man of the house was. The women rushed out and down to George Harter's for assistance. Mr. Harter was away from home, also. The tramps followed them down and wanted to know where the husband was. Mrs. Harter said he was about but they insisted that she should tell them where he was and would not leave the house. The women became alarmed and sent down for Mr. Meyers, their neighbor. He came up and ordered the three men to leave at once. They hesitated

20 YEARS AGO

Apples were selling at 8 cents a pound, or \$1.60 a bushel, in Bellefonte, Pa. Maryland, it was reported, unlimited quantities of apples could be purchased for 60 cents a bushel.

A motorcycle with side car attached was on the way to Bellefonte for the use of parcel post carriers. The new machine was expected to speed up delivery of parcel post material.

About midnight on Wednesday a \$3,500 fire ruined the new main building of the Titan Meat Company, Bellefonte, was having built on East Curtin Street. The cause of the blaze had not been established. Mr. Funk carried \$5000 insurance on the property.

The Fredericktown Hunting Club, which had been in camp in the Seven Mountains, passed through Bellefonte on the way home. They carried with them twelve and meat of four deer, and one member of the party had a fine deer head which he expected to have mounted.

Mr. Towers, who had been manager of the Bellefonte aviation field, for several weeks since the departure of H. O. Blakelee, had accepted a position with an airplane company in Nebraska, and departed for that State. The management was given to Maurice J. Kelly, who had been telegraph operator at the field for a year.

A dangerous potato disease known as European potato wart, was reported as being prevalent at Snow Shoe and Clarence. As a result, the area was placed under quarantine and the planting and growing of white potatoes there was prohibited by law except under special permission from the Secretary of Agriculture.

Mail planes were reported to be flying closely to the route assigned to them, instead of straying considerably far afield as they had been doing. Their prescribed course took them over Woodward, Aaronburg, Smolin and Minsing to Bellefonte, too far east and north to be observed in Centre Hall and communities west of that town.

The Rev. James P. Hughes, of the Bellefonte Academy, reached his 92nd birthday. He was in good health and was unusually active. On his birthday, on Sunday, he attended services in the Presbyterian church, and offered a special prayer. He also addressed the congregation, telling what a great help the church had been to him in giving young folks wholesome advice.

A valuable Holstein heifer owned by Bruce Ripka, of near Pottery Mills, was shot by deer hunters, as had been expected by its owner. The heifer some time previously had escaped from pasture, wandered into Poe Valley and ran wild in the Seven Mountains. It was believed the animal was shot in Soper valley and skinned, as its legs and head were found in that section.

Approximately \$2,000 damage resulted from a fire at the Alpha Delta Sigma fraternity house at State College. Discovered shortly after midnight by students, the blaze was believed to have been caused by a short circuit in the wiring system. The loss included the entire food supply, valued at \$400, all table linens, china and silverware. The damage was fully covered by insurance.

Constitutionality of the war-time prohibition act sustained in a decision given by the United States Supreme Court delivered a knockout blow to forces who were working for a "wet" Christmas and the moving of \$500,000 worth of distilled liquors. Ed. Note: the story from which this item was taken concludes with the statement: "I may be taken for granted that the day of hard stuff is gone forever."

Marriage licenses were issued to the following couples: Franklin K. Eisenhauer, Howard, and Carrie A. Pezer, Milroy; Henry Pietsch and Ruth K. Karstetter, both of State College; Boyd E. Smith and Florence D. Bartge, both of Spring Mills; Charles D. Smith, Spring Mills, and Erma D. Bierly, Logan Mills; Chester I. Fry, Warriors Mark; and Hazel A. Rider, Stormtown; Luther N. Mung, Pleasant Gap, and Grace M. Kern, State College.

The coal miners at Snow Shoe and Clarence returned to work after a decision of union leaders to end off the strike for the time being and to follow President Wilson's plan, which called for a tentative 14 per cent increase in wages. The proposal also called for an improvement of working conditions. The plants in Centre County which were handicapped because of a lack of coal and inability to secure any had obtained new supplies, and the matter was considered settled for the time.

Miss Marie Doll had purchased the Harper home on East Bishop Street, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Left Olsen, Miss Doll's parents, and Mrs. William Doll, who moved into the property on April 1.

Mrs. C. D. Mitterling, of Centre Hall, was a patient in a Baltimore, Md., hospital, where she had undergone an operation for the removal of a goitre. She was reported to be convalescing nicely at that institution.

Frank Shugert, who for the past two years had been employed at Hyde City, suffered a stroke of paralysis and was in the Chestnut Hospital in critical condition. His entire left side was reported to be paralyzed.

The Grand View Poultry Farm conducted by A. E. Kerlin and son at Centre Hall, had installed electric lights in the chicken coops as an experiment to increase egg production. The lights were turned on automatically by a device attached to an alarm clock.

Some people argue from sincere conviction and others like to hear themselves talk.

Over The County News

J. T. Smith, Spring Mills, hunting near Hyner late last Tuesday afternoon, severely lacerated his left eye while going through some thick underbrush. Mr. Smith was treated in Reshovo and rejoined his party.

Ardel Klinefelter was discharged from the Centre County hospital last week, having recovered from injuries received when he fell from the running board of a car at Centre Hall a short time ago. Klinefelter was making an adjustment to the motor at the time of the accident.

The town of Pleasant Gap is to be congratulated on its building enterprise. In all sections of the town building is in progress. Rev. homes are evidence of healthy growth in any community. Now all that the town needs to further its progress is to incorporate into a borough instead of being known as

the south precinct of Spring township.

Chicken-pox, bordering on the epidemic stage, is prevalent in Centre Hall, and health officer John H. Puff has quarantined seventeen homes in the borough within the past two weeks. The children affected are primarily those in the primary grade of the public school. Miss Helen White, teacher. The attendance in this school as a result of the disease has been cut approximately fifty percent.

Frank M. Fisher, of Centre Hall, lost his pocketbook, containing an amount of money, identification card, auto driver's card, and a loss of the pocketbook occurred Saturday while on his way to Millheim. A purchase of gasoline caused him to lay his pocketbook on the seat beside him, and a few minutes later, in leaving his car

to investigate some little car trouble, the pocketbook was undoubtedly swept onto the road. The loss was noticed a half-hour later, and returning to the scene, no sign of the pocketbook was to be had. Mr. Fisher is hoping that the cards and "Oregon Trail" half-dollar, at least, may be returned to him by the finder.

Several groups of interested visitors from Coburn, Sugar Valley, Rebersburg and Livonia have been attending the revival services at Madisonburg Evangelical Church, where the evangelist and singer, Rev. Heilmann A. Housel, of Dayton, Ohio, has been conducting the meetings.

The \$5,111 allotted for WPA projects in Port Matilda has been given Presidential approval. Sponsored by the Port Matilda borough council, the project calls for improving borough streets throughout Port Matilda. This includes excavating, grading, draining, surfacing, laying base, constructing shoulders and performing incidental and appurtenant work. The property is publicly owned.

(Continued on Last Page)

RUNVILLE

The C. E. Society charge Runville was held at the U. B. church Sunday evening. All four churches were well represented and shared a part in the services which were enjoyed by all present. These rallies, to be held in each church, will be announced later.

Bald Eagle Grange will meet Friday evening, Dec. 15th, will confer the 1st and 2nd degrees.

Mr. and Mrs. John Furl were chosen representatives of Bald Eagle Grange to the annual session of the Pennsylvania State Grange to be held at Chambersburg, Pa. Dec. 12-14th.

Mrs. Cleveland Packer is on the sick list at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Hancock of Phillipsburg, Pa. were here Sunday visiting relatives.

Partners do not receive a fair share of the national income and therefore they cannot purchase their share of the manufactured products of the nation.

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