

# OBITUARY

### ORVILLE LOUCKS

Orville Loucks, brother of Mrs. Joseph Gummo, of Bellefonte, died at his home in Altoona, Friday morning, January 3, 1941, after a brief illness. Born at Maytown, Lancaster county, April 7, 1879, he was the son of John and Anna (Miller) Loucks. Survivors include his wife, eight children and five brothers and sisters.

### WILBER P. JACKSON

Wilber P. Jackson, a well known Bellefonte citizen, died suddenly of a heart attack Sunday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock while he was at dinner at the home of G. P. Welshouse, 134 Frazier street, State College, where he was visiting during the day. He was born March 20, 1859, at Pottersville, Pa., and was the last of his immediate family. Members of the family include two sons, C. F. Jackson, Bellefonte business man; Thurman Jackson, of Vandergrift, and one daughter, Mrs. M. E. Cronemiller, of Bellefonte.

### ROY R. CRUST

Roy R. Crust, aged 55 years, 3 months, and 5 days, died at his home in Buffalo Run Valley at 7:15 o'clock Tuesday night, December 31, 1940. Death resulted from a heart condition from which he had suffered for some years. Mr. Crust was born on September 26, 1885, in Fillmore, a son of Reuben and Grenella Shoppe Crust. On July 15, 1908, he was united in marriage with Ruth Stine. In addition to his wife and father, he is survived by the following children: Mrs. Edna Mark, Boalsburg, and Guyer R. Crust, Mrs. Bettie Tressler, and Audrey Joan, all at home. These brothers, Walter, and Jay, all of Buffalo Run Valley, also survive. Funeral services were held Friday afternoon, with the Rev. R. A. Babcock officiating. Interment was made in Myers cemetery.

### HANSON S. RIEGEL

Hanson Sylvester Riegel died at his home at 318 West Nittany avenue, State College, at 10 o'clock Tuesday night, December 31, 1940. Death came as the result of a heart attack. Aged 84 years, 1 month and 24 days, Mr. Riegel was born November 7, 1856 in Harrisburg, a son of Henry and Bleda A. Pott. He married Alvina Frey on September 20, 1880. She preceded him in death on January 24, 1932. Two sons, Ross M. Riegel of Knoxville, Tenn., and James D. Riegel, of Chicago, and a daughter, Margaret E. Riegel, State College, survive, as well as 6 grandchildren. One brother, William A. Riegel, Harrisburg, also survives. Mr. Riegel was a member of the Pine Street Presbyterian church in Harrisburg. Funeral services were held at the Hawkins Funeral Home in Harrisburg Friday, with interment at Harrisburg.

### JOHN CALVIN MARKS

John Calvin Marks, a native of Centre county, died at his home in Juniata, Thursday morning, January 2, 1941. Born at Port Matilda, August 12, 1890, he was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Marks. Members of the family include his wife, Mrs. Amy (Kauffman) Marks; one daughter, Gertrude Marie Marks, at home, and five sons, Elvin, Clair and John Calvin Marks, Jr., both of Juniata; Ernest Eugene, of Altoona, R. D. 1; Albert Mearl, of Juniata, and William Paul Marks, at home. These brothers and sisters; Roy Marks, of State College; Thomas, of Tyrone; Charles, of Toledo, O.; Mrs. John Adams and Mrs. Cora Pink, both of Tyrone; Mrs. Roy Shade, of Toledo, O.; and Mrs. Anna Gunter and Mrs. Harry Bathurst, both of Chicago. Mr. Marks was a boiler maker in the Juniata shops and was a member of the Wesley Memorial church, the Men's Bible class and the Sunday school and P. R. R. relief.

### MRS. LUTHER K. DALE

Mrs. Julia Ann Dale, wife of Luther K. Dale, of Boalsburg, died at 4:25 o'clock Thursday morning, January 2, 1941, as the result of a heart ailment of several years duration. Aged 62 years, 10 months, and 5 days, Mrs. Dale was born March 27, 1878 in Spring township, this county. Her parents were William and Amanda Grove Houser. She was married on November 9, 1899. In addition to her husband, these children, Ralph H. Dale, of Bellefonte; Margaret E. Dale and Frederick E. Dale, of Boalsburg, and Mrs. George Rimmer, of Centre Hall, survive. One grandson, Jack Dale, and one

brother, Harry Houser, of Monaca, Pa., also survive. She was a member of the Boalsburg Lutheran church and an active member of the Church. Funeral services were held Friday afternoon, with the Rev. L. J. Kauffman officiating. Interment was made at Boalsburg.

### MRS. EDWIN M. MCGILL

Mrs. Edna M. McGill, 45, wife of Edwin M. McGill, and a native of Jacksonville, Centre county, died at the Lock Haven Hospital, Saturday morning, January 4, 1941, where she had been a patient for several days. Although born in Centre county, Mrs. McGill had lived the greater part of her life in Lock Haven. She was a member of the Methodist church. Surviving are her husband, one sister, Miss Jennie Leathers, of Lock Haven, and one brother, Ira Leathers, of Johnsonburg. Burial was made in Dunns town cemetery, Monday afternoon.

### MRS. ESTHER CONSER

Mrs. Esther Conser, a native of Bellefonte, died unexpectedly Friday morning, January 3, 1941, at the home of Miss Mabel Romig, in Lock Haven, where she had been employed only a few days as housekeeper. Mrs. Conser, who had been in good health, was stricken with a heart attack before arising and died within a few minutes. She had made her home for some time with Mrs. Esther Boyce in Flemington until taking her position at the Romig home. She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. R. C. Lutzer, of Ocean, N. Y.

### Historic Switch-back of Railroad

(Continued from Page 1)

bring down heavy coal trains several times a day, but few fatal accidents have occurred on the line.

### First Recorded Tragedy

The distance from Bellefonte to Snow Shoe over the highway is about 16 miles, while the railroad is five miles longer, owing to the switchbacks necessary to get up and down the mountain.

William Temple, before the Civil War, was one of the early conductors on the road and upon his return from service in the army became an engineer, and filled that position until near the end of the nineteenth century, when he was killed through one of the very few accidents which occurred on this road, at what was known as the Spring House trestle wreck. This was the same trestle built by Robert Lupton in 1857, and withstood the test of all those years of heavy coal trains passing over it.

### Judge Rhoads First Superintendent

Judge Daniel Rhoads, who moved from Philadelphia to the Snow Shoe region in 1853, and was a member of the extensive lumbering firm of Smith, Rhoads & Smith, at Pine Glen, was the first general superintendent of the road. Judge Rhoads was one of the most conservative and successful business men Centre county ever had. He eventually located at Bellefonte, and for many years carried on a coal and lumber business. In later years he served as one of the Associated Judges of Centre county, before it became a separate judicial district.

### A Veteran Railroad

The early history of the Snow Shoe Railroad and the recording of its many years of progress would be incomplete without referring to one of its most efficient conductors, Martin Reese, who looked after both the passenger and freight traffic passing over its lines. Mr. Reese, who has been dead for a number of years, began his career with the railroad when but a mere lad and spent his entire lifetime in trustworthy service to his employers.

### Road Sold to P. R. R.

On March 17, 1881, by sale, the Snow Shoe road passed into the hands of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, which has been successfully operating the same up to this time. There is, however, but a small fraction of the coal brought across the mountain to Bellefonte and the Bald Eagle Valley, as compared with what used to be the case. The reason for this is the extension of the Beech Creek and Fall Brook lines into the Snow Shoe and Clear-

field bituminous territory, thus affording a much easier grade to bring the black diamond commodity to eastern markets.

### ZION

(From last week) Hoping this New Year, 1941 will be the Happiest and most prosperous year for all our readers. Miss Virginia Irvine entertained her Sunday School class last Thursday evening in the church. The students have resumed their studies after a very enjoyable vacation.

Prof. and Mrs. Lewis Fawcett and children spent last weekend at their parental home at Brookville.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Emerick are the proud parents of a young son, born Dec. 22nd at the Centre County Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Clevenstone and children spent Friday evening at the Bernard Crust home at Fillmore.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Dale and daughters of State College, Mr. and Mrs. Austin Hoy of Bellefonte, spent Christmas day at the Cyrus Hoy home.

Nevin Potter a student at Harrisburg Business College spent his Christmas vacation with his mother and grandfather, Mrs. Vesta Potter, and B. F. Lutz.

Ned Corman a student at Penn State spent his Christmas vacation at his parental home. C. C. Shuey, Miss Jean Shaffer of Williamsport, spent the Christmas holidays with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Samsel, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Samsel of Pleasant Gap, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Grove of Bellefonte spent Christmas with Roy Grove and family.

Joel S. Royer spent Christmas at the John Rishel home at Centre Hall.

Sorry to note Philip Stover's children are on the sick list.

The Alvin Shamp family moved from the Kline Neff farm to Lamar.

### HOLTS HOLLOW

Religious services will be held at the Apostolic church next Sunday, Jan. 12 at which time C. C. Shuey will be ordained to the ministry. Visiting ministers will be present and the Pine Grove Men's Chorus will sing, every one welcome.

Mr. and Mrs. Clair Burd of Salona, called at the Edith Burd home on Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Leathers attended the funeral of Cameron Bathurst at Mt. Eagle on Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sweitzer of Bellefonte, John and Jon Rhoads of Centre City, visited home folks on Wednesday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Orvis Watson and family and Mrs. John Watson were visitors at the Lee Johnson home, also at the Charles Lucas home on Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Burd and Mrs. Edith Burd were recent callers at the Milford Burd home at Pleasant Gap.

Miss Poorman and two children of Dry Top, called on Mrs. Burd, also at the Charles Poorman home. Mrs. John Kelly and family spent Wednesday at the Orvis Watson home.

Mr. and Mrs. William Howell of Runville called on relatives at this place on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Wesley and daughter, Mrs. Lee Johnson, and daughter, visited relatives at Milesburg and Pleasant Gap, recently.

Mrs. Roy Sheesley and children spent Sunday with home folks and attended church.

Mr. and Mrs. Malvin Lucas and family of Fairview, Mr. and Mrs. John Watson, Orvis, Nevins and Donald Watson spent Sunday evening with relatives at Howard.

Helen Brown spent the weekend with home folks at Axe Mann.

### Chain of Tragic Events Follows Woman Death

(Continued from page one)

ken right leg. State motor police at Lewistown said that Murray was driving east on route 22 at 1 p. m. and crashed head on into a westbound auto operated by Edward R. Rhoads, 20, of McVeytown. He and a passenger, Thelma Rhodes, 39, also of McVeytown, suffered cuts and bruises. Police said they cited Murray for driving on the left side of the highway. Front ends of both cars were damaged to the total extent of \$500.

### RANDOM NOTES

(Continued from Page 1)

SCENES: Walter Cohen gingerly pulling at the business end of a pipe that Santa Claus might have brought him. . . Newsman Jack Yeager wearing a new hat with the bow on the right side. . . Clyde Stewart's perennially sparkling car splashed up to the windows with rich mud.

### Bank Lists Dividend

A dividend of 4 per cent on capital stock of the Jersey Shore State Bank was voted Monday in a meeting of directors. Officials report the bank has had a steady growth since its organization and that the dividend is a reflection of the progress being made.

### Miraculous Escape

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Berger and a friend of Bloomsburg, escaped serious injury although their car plunged over an embankment and crashed 75 feet down a hillside, overturning three times.

### Accident Victim Recovering

Paul Wheeler, Flemington youth, who was seriously injured in a hunting accident near the close of the deer season in December, is reported to be getting along nicely at the Lock Haven Hospital.

### Howard Man in Hospital

Arthur B. Beck, of Howard, R. D. was admitted to the Lock Haven Hospital last week for surgical treatment.

## CENTRE COUNTY'S ORE MINES

(By Harry Williams, Bellefonte)

### Gatesburg Bank

This mine is located about three miles east of Bellefonte, on an elevation of about three hundred feet above the town. It lies midway between the Hamilton and Taylor banks, of which it really forms an important part.

The tract contained about five acres of land and was first opened up about 1830 by the Valentines, but later was operated by the Curtins, and they were the last to operate it. Only about one-half acre or so had been distributed.

The excavation consisted of a roughly rectangular shaft about thirty feet deep. The wash at this mine showed about the general average of such mines, which was of 1:5. The surface ore here was of a very good quality as it extended north east to the Taylor bank.

The Gatesburg and Taylor mines were separated by about 800 feet. The ore at this mine runs to a limestone ridge and it was here the best ore was found. It was cut off by this ridge. The ridge has been tested further west on Curtin's property, but it showed very little ore as it was about all flint and sand.

The ore was taken out by an incline plane from the washer to the bottom of the bank. Clay and limestone banks were scattered all through the bank. A shaft 20 feet deep was dug at the bottom of the pit which took care of all the surface water. A small pump was stationed here to pump out all the water. The ore was of a fine grain and pipe ore. It was mined for about 90 cents a ton. The Elmira Iron Company, of New York, were large consumers of this ore, sometimes taking from 1000 to 1500 tons per month over and above what was reserved for the company who operated the mine.

The plant consisted of a double washer, each shaft being 20 feet long. The shafts were of wood and octagonal shape and were armed with iron spikes or blades and turned out an average of about 35 to 40 tons of ore a day which was ten hours. No ore mine worked less than ten hours a day. There were two water wells, each 25 feet deep, and they were only five feet apart, with a standing column of 38 feet of water. The water capacity of these two wells was about 2000 barrels a day. A 35-horse power steam engine furnished all the power. No rigs were ever used at this mine.

The Taylor Bank This bank was located north east of the Gatesburg bank. The ore was about the same as other banks mentioned in this section. A wash of 1:5. The ore was hauled out of the cut by mules along a railway around the hill to the washer located there to secure good drainage into the stream in Curtin's Gap. At this bank the ore was of a good surface ore and not laying very deep. Some dark clay was mixed with the ore but very little flint. The main body of ore at this mine was on the south side of the cut. Some drifts were put down to 12 feet from the bottom of the mine and all in good wash ore. The tram road had a grade of about 4 feet to the 100 feet which would enable the cars to return to the mine empty by gravity. Two good wells, 244 feet and 251 feet deep, with a 75 foot water column furnished the water. A 40 horse power engine took care of all motive power.

Nigh Bank This mine was also owned by the Valentines, and contained about 31 acres, and is situated about 3 miles east of Bellefonte in Spring Township.

This tract was made historically famous as the scene of the sinking of the first artesian well in this county by Mr. Robert Valentine, which happened in 1820. It led to a renewed life and vigor in mining throughout the whole county. Before this time all ore mined in the county which had to be washed was transported to some far away stream of water and there washed, or had to be taken to the furnaces unwashed or more often run over a screen, which seemed to be very common in the early days of ore mining. Many of these old screening floors can be seen today as you travel around these old ore mines. Some of these screening floors had been put through an ore washer and produced quite a large amount of ore. This bank had been worked some years before the ore washer was built. To take the material to a stream would have been quite a job, for it was located midway between Logan's Branch and Little Fishing Creek.

From its position in a hollow it was difficult to drain without pumping, therefore it had to be worked from the public road (now the road leading to the Aviation field) at the washer in a series of trenches so as to make it possible to drain. At first all the ore was carted out of the cut but later on an incline plane was built. In some parts of the mine there was very tough red clay which made a lot of ball after it was dumped into the washer. Here limestone cropped up again and made it a little inconvenient to work.

All these mines had been worked in similar fashion, and all seemed to have quite a lot of limestone boulders and ridges to contend with, from which to extract their ore. In the majority of these banks where the land was low the company would always have one or more low cuts in which to drain the surface water. The north side of the bank next to the old Love home showed a very good body of ore, while in the south side there was much more limestone. There were some test holes put down from 30 to 50 feet deep and all showed good ore from top to bottom. Only about five or six acres had been mined over at the Nigh Bank. The average wash was 1:5. This ore was used at the Valentine furnace at Bellefonte—and the furnace records show that a ton of pig metal could be made out of two and one half tons of ore.

At the plant there was a double washer 25 feet long and washed from 35 to 40 tons a day. Two wells supplied the water for the ore washer, one being 180 feet and the other 200 feet deep. A fifty horse power engine with a 15-inch cylinder and a 2 foot stroke furnished the power for all work.

Steam was furnished by two 50 horse power boilers. The majority of the employees at practically all of these mines lived in and about Bellefonte. Some of the old ore miners reported that they had worked at nearly all the mines in this district as well as the Scotia mines. It was a custom in those days never to be out of work. The men would walk from one mine to the other no matter how far it was.

There were other tracks of land leased by the Valentines on which they had the ore rights but for some unknown reason they never mined. The Ann Patton tract west of Nigh Bank which contained about 400 acres lies midway between Nigh Bank and the old Logan mines of Curtin's. This was underlaid with Curtin's ore. Some trial pits were put down on this tract and quite a large amount of pipe ore was found. The deepest and best ore was south of Dr. Hays' house, although a limestone ridge cut off the ore to the South.

### Logan Bank (Curtin Bros.)

Lying about 2 miles south of Bellefonte, this mine was opened up on the east side of Logan Branch, a bed of pipe ore from two to ten feet thick being found to a depth of 120 feet in numerous places.

At this bank it was quite difficult to keep the workings clear of water, although it had played an important part in furnishing ore to its owners. The wash ore extended back over the hill for quite a distance.

Shafts had been sunk on this tract in numerous places from 6 to 20 feet deep, until the hillside had the appearance of an open graveyard.

Most of the ore on this tract had been taken out by underground workings, and some drifts ran back into the hill for about 100 yards.

North and south of this line a great deal of surface ore had been dug by contractors and sent to Curtin's furnace. There were quite a few shafts on the Irvin property which supplied quite a lot of ore, as stated before, water was the great hindrance of digging any deeper.

### Lindsay Coats' Tract (Valentine & Co.)

Passing to the west side of Logan Branch we find another tract that had produced quite a great deal of ore. This tract ran west, for over a mile. Here we find a little better grade of ore than any in Nittany Valley. Developments show that a drift was run into the hill south west from the creek level. Ore was run from this drift on small cars right to the mouth of old Logan furnace, which stood until 1843 on Logan Branch, just

at the base of the hill and near the old Hicks cement works. The Valentines claimed that they came upon a bed of pipe ore 6 feet thick and running back into the hill for quite a distance. Here they came upon a hard flinty bed of limestone and had to do some sloping. Slopes in some places were carried nearly to the surface. A shaft was sunk on top of the hill and they came onto excellent surface ore which was followed down to the old drift.

This tract contained about 215 acres. Some tests had been made on the north side which showed mixed ore and clay. A few other trial pits were put down but as usual water drove them out. One shaft was put down very deep and pipes from four to five feet long were removed.

(This concludes the Nittany Valley group. The Jacksonville valley group will appear in a future issue.)

## RECENT WEDDINGS

Laird—Fink.

Miss Evelyn Virginia Fink, daughter of Mrs. Helen Fink, of Port Matilda, became the bride of Albert H. Laird, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Laird, also of Port Matilda, at a ceremony performed on Christmas day by Justice of the Peace Joseph R. Woodring, of Port Matilda. Attendants on the young couple were Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Milton, of Port Matilda. Mr. and Mrs. Laird have gone to housekeeping near Port Matilda.

Gummo—Beightol

A quiet wedding was performed Christmas morning at 6 o'clock at the Evangelical parsonage in Howard when Miss Anna Grace Beightol, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Beightol, and Ronald Gummo, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bond Gummo, Bellefonte, were united in marriage by the Rev. L. E. Kline. They were attended by Miss Lorraine Kline and Homer Yearick. Mrs. Gummo, who wore navy blue with brown accessories, is a graduate of the Howard High School. Mr. Gummo attended the Walker township high school and is employed at the plumbing trade in Bellefonte. They expect to go to housekeeping here in the near future.

## END PERIOD HONOR ROLL PUPILS LISTED

Following is the Bellefonte High School honor roll for the second reporting period:

Senior:—Boys: Hubert Alexander, Allen Hewitt, Earl Musser, James Thompson, Richard Valentine, and Gordon Vars. Girls: Gummel Blajme, Charlotte Gordon, Mary Grace Hartsock, Georganna Holly, Phyllis Jordan, Caroline Kuehik, Patricia Kelley, Dorothy Kline, Barbara McDowell, Jeanette McGinley, Annabelle Meese, and Mary O'Hara.

Junior:—Girls: Lucille Bradley, Alice Brugger, Virginia Clarke, Betty Estep, Eleanor Forsburg, Suzanne Hartwick, Eleanor Musser, Rose Marie Neis, and Elizabeth Proskovich.

Sophomore:—Boys: Melvin Connelly, Frederick Daggett, Arthur Dale, William Scott, and Robert Wimer. Girls: Evelyn Foreman, Mary Gherity, Amy McCoy, Sara Risan, and Mary Swartz.

Freshman:—Boys: David Dean, Thomas DeHaa, Charles Knisely, and James Saxton. Girls: Shirley Davidson, Betty Fogle, Jean Johnson, Bernice Pootman, Edna Quick, Ellen Quigley, Edith Rusan, Jean Rogers, Beverly Rote, Ethel Stere, Mary Thomas, Louise Torsell, Jane Wagner, and Marjorie Wehr.

An asterisk after a name indicates that that person has been on the honor roll for two consecutive reporting periods.

## Mill to Reopen

The community of Austin, faces the new year with high hopes, confident that the end of a nearly 10-year depression is in sight, since announcement is made that the town's one industry is expected to resume operations in a short time. The Austin Paper Co., strengthened by a \$300,000 R. F. C. loan will operate the once million dollar industry known for 40 years as the Boylston Paper Co., which has been in receivership since 1933. Back Wages of \$32,000 will be paid.

## Dr. Mervine to Wed

The engagement of Miss Frances Miles, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Oscar M. Miles, of Milton, and Dr. T. Burrill Mervine, son of Dr. Graydon D. Mervine, of Lock Haven, has been announced. Dr. Mervine was graduated from the Pennsylvania State College in 1936 and from Jefferson Medical School, Philadelphia, in 1940. He is at present serving his internship at Jefferson Hospital. No date has been set for the wedding.

## Unusual Accident

Bumped in the face when he stood up in an effort to retrieve one of the balloons released as a carnival feature, Robert Johnson, of Bloomsburg, suffered a fracture of the jaw bone under the right eye.

## D. A. R. Holds First Meeting in New Year

The January meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution was held in the Presbyterian Chapel at Bellefonte on Thursday evening, January 2, 1941.

The Regent, Mrs. Charles F. Mensch, presided. The salute to the flag was given, a verse of "America the Beautiful" sung, and prayer offered by Mrs. John G. Love, the State Chaplain.

Mrs. M. Ward Fleming gave an account of the dinner at Green Gables with the Sons of the Revolution and Mrs. Lyon told of an interesting meeting she had attended at Summit, N. J.

Mrs. Mensch referred to Franklin's birthday having been the 17th of January, and Mrs. F. P. Weaver read an extract from the President General's article in the National Historical magazine on Franklin who contributed more toward the successful outcome of the war for American Independence than any other man save Washington.

Miss Barbara McDowell, on her violin, and Miss Gummel Blajme, on the piano, rendered delightful music.

This was followed by a talk by Mrs. C. S. Anderson, of State College, on a three months' trip she and her husband had taken through different countries of South America. Illustrated by beautiful pictures thrown on a screen.

Delicious refreshments were then served, furnished by the Nancy Osborn Missionary Society of the church.

The hostesses were Miss Olive B. Mitchell, Miss Margaret A. Stewart, Miss Helen Harper, Miss Roxanna Mingle and Miss Ethel Dale.

## Poor Memory

When he drove into a garage, James Corden, 17, of Kansas City, left his arm hanging outside the car door as he watched closely to keep from denting the fenders. The car went through safely, but the arm didn't. He told the doctor who set the broken arm, "I just forgot to pull it in."

## FREE! Blatchford's Amateur Hour Show

1:30 P. M. EVERY SUNDAY Broadcast From W. F. B. G.

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