

# OBITUARY

### CHARLES C. WILLOW

Charles C. Willow, 69, died at his home in Lock Haven Wednesday morning after a short illness. He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. Geo. W. Stevenson. Mr. Willow was born in Mackeyville. He spent much of his life in the employ of the Kistler Leather company, living for a number of years in Johnsonburg. Funeral services were conducted Friday at 2 p. m. by the Rev. Homer W. Healey, of the Evangelical Church of which Mr. Willow had long been a member. Burial was made in the Dunstown cemetery.

### SIMON R. KING

Simon R. King, son of the late Jesse and Sarah Diehl King, formerly Aaronsburg residents, died at his home in Wilkes-Barre on December 23. Cause of death was a stroke. The King family formerly lived in State College where Mr. King was steward at the Nittany Lion Inn for some time. His wife, Laura Hazlett King, and four daughters, all of Wilkes-Barre, survive with two brothers, John King, of Wilkes-Barre and Thomas King of Michigan.

### AY WELLER

Ay Weller, of Altoona, native of Juniata, died at 4:30 o'clock Thursday morning, January 1, 1942, in the Altoona hospital after an illness with a complication of diseases. Mr. Weller had not been well for some time and had been in a patient in the hospital for ten days. He was a son of Robert L. and Alice May Weller and was born in Juniata on May 3, 1913, making his age at time of death, 28 years, 7 months and 28 days. Surviving are his parents, living in Altoona, and three brothers and sisters: Mrs. Fred Havlic, Lewistown; Mrs. Edward Donley, Chester; John and William Weller, both of Juniata; Raymond, Betty, Mrs. Paul Feathers, Mrs. Charles Goon, all of Altoona. Mr. Weller was a member of the P. O. E. Lodge in Altoona. Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon in the Julian Methodist church, with the Rev. W. H. Rissmiller officiating. Interment was made in the Julian cemetery.

### MRS. CLARA WITMER

Mrs. Helen Hillard Witmer, of Lancaster, daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. A. Winn Witmer, Buffalo Run Valley, died suddenly Tuesday, December 30, 1941, in a Lancaster hospital after a short illness. Mrs. Witmer, wife of Clair Witmer, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Winn Witmer, was well known in Buffalo Run Valley through visits to her husband's parental home. Surviving are her husband; her father, living in Lancaster, and three children, Betty, Clair Jr. and Kermit all at home. There are also several surviving brothers and sisters. Interment was made in Lancaster.

### MRS. ROBERT A. KERSTETTER

Mrs. Emma L. Kerstetter, wife of Robert A. Kerstetter, died at her home at 124 North Gill Street, State College, at 3:50 o'clock Tuesday afternoon of last week, December 30, 1941, of complications after a several years' illness. Mrs. Kerstetter was a daughter of John P. and Jemima Garbriek Ishler and was born in Marion township on May 25, 1862, making her age at time of death 79 years, 7 months and 5 days. On January 17, 1907, she was united in marriage with Robert A. Kerstetter, who survives with a son, Clarence; a grandchild, and three brothers and sisters: Lewis, Jacksonville, Harry, Bellefonte R. D.; Mrs. W. R. Gantz, State College; John G. Lancaster, and Mrs. Miriam Brouse, of Coatesville. She was a member of the Grace Lutheran church, State College. Funeral services were held Friday afternoon in the Grace Lutheran church, State College, with the Rev. J. F. Harkins officiating. Interment was made in the Shiloh cemetery.

### MRS. ANNIE E. GROVE

Mrs. Annie E. Grove of Lemont, who all the late William Grove, died at 3 o'clock Friday morning, January 2, 1942, at the home of her son Willis A. Grove on Reynolds avenue, Bellefonte, where she had made her home for the past year. Mrs. Grove suffered a fracture of the left leg in a fall at the Grove home in October. Death was attributed to a complication of diseases. She was a daughter of George and Rebecca Fye Zettler and was born in this county on June 11, 1861, making her age at time of death 80 years, 6 months and 21 days. Her husband, William Grove, passed away in June, 1937. Prior to making their home in Bellefonte, Mr. and Mrs. Grove had resided in Lemont. Surviving are these children: Willis A. Grove, Bellefonte; Harry, of Norrisstown, and Oran of Collegeville. Other survivors include four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Mrs. Grove was an active member of the Lemont Evangelical church. Funeral services were held on Monday morning at the Grove home, followed by services at the Lemont Evangelical church, with Rev. W. K. Hoerman of Centre Hall and Rev. H. J. Jacobs, of Bellefonte officiating. Interment was made in Shiloh cemetery.

### SAMUEL CLAYTON BOOB

Samuel Clayton Boob, World War veteran, died at his home near Howard at 5:45 o'clock on Thursday morning, January 1, 1942, after a four years' illness with a complication of diseases. Mr. Boob was a son of Samuel and Sadie Heppner and was born in Union, Pa., on January 31, 1888, making his age at time of death, 53 years and 11 months. In 1922 he was united in marriage with Mary Weaver, who survives with these children: Marie, Carl, Walter, Martha, Elsie and Frank, all at home. Surviving brothers are William, of Union, Pa.; David, of Mackeyville. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at the Neff & Sons funeral parlor in Howard, with the Rev. Ralph Davies, of Beech Creek, officiating. Interment was made in the Curtin cemetery. Mr. Boob enlisted in the U. S. Army on June 17, 1917, at Lock Haven, and was in overseas service from May 19, 1918 to May 9, 1919, when he received an honorable discharge. Since the war Mr. Boob had been farming in the Howard area. He was a member of the Bellefonte Post Veterans of Foreign Wars.

### World of Religion

(Continued from page two)  
stream of the continent. Iceland was Catholic throughout the Middle Ages and later shared in Luther's Reformation. Lutheranism is now the State religion.

Plans are under way for the merging of eight America-wide interdenominational Protestant bodies into one organization which will probably be known as "The Council of Churches of Christ in North America." The merger would include the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America and groups especially engaged in home and foreign missionary work and in religious education; the International Council of Religious Education, the Home Missions Council of North America, the Foreign Missions Council of North America, the National Council of Church Women, the Missionary Education Movement, the Council of Church Boards of Education, and the Association of Council Secretaries. All of the functions of these bodies would be carried on by the larger group—probably as departments. The proposal is now being considered by the several bodies involved. The executives having favored the merger.

The Rev. Thomas Tiplady, famed as a poet as well as a chaplain in the first World War, has written a number of hymns before and since the destruction by bombs of Lambeth Mission, London, of which he was superintendent. His "Prayer in Time of War" has this verse:  
"Preserve our hearts from hateful thought;  
In malice may no deed be wrought,  
May justice hold the balance true  
In all we think or speak or do;  
The Years of peace may we foresee,  
And seek a victory blest by Thee."

The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States published recently the first official revision of the New Testament for Catholics since Dr. Challoner's revision of the Rheims-Douai version in 1750. The Church has launched a program to put a copy into every American Catholic home.

American churches are urged to express their ideals of Christian brotherhood in "deeds" as well as in "creeds" in these days of national trial. Dr. George S. Haynes, of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ, makes this plea for all minority and underprivileged groups. "Our pronouncements must now be supported by our practices," he says. "Where attacks are made upon Jews or the sinister spirit of anti-Semitism appears, we must protest in the name of Christ and his church. Where Negroes are excluded from sharing in the defense of our country, we Christians must act in the name of justice. Where any racial minority within our borders is exploited or barred from equal opportunity, we Christians must take a stand for the sake of our faith. We must, furthermore, create a genuine

fellowship that will prevent the development of such injustices toward any group."

## A Soldier's Diary

How the war came to a soldier of the Armored Force and his barracks-mates at Fort Knox, Ky., is vividly depicted in the following story by Pvt. Harry Volk, former newspaper man in New York and Cleveland. Volk is now in the 6th Infantry (Armored) Battalion of the 1st Armored Division and has just returned from 98 days of war-like maneuvers, in Louisiana and the Carolinas.

(Diary of a Soldier)  
Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941.

I wish Adolf Hitler and his Japanese and Fascist henchmen could have seen what took place in my barracks when word of the Japanese attack on the United States interrupted the bull sessions and card games and roused tired, maneuver-weary soldiers from their bunks. It would have given Hitler and his cohorts pause.

I wish millions of Europeans and Chinese enslaved by the Axis could have seen what happened. They would now know that their hope of freedom will be fulfilled. I wish every American who has the tiniest doubt that ultimate and overwhelming victory will fall to the United States and her allies could have seen my barracks today. They would no longer doubt.

### From the Conquered Nations

From France, the great Percheron and French coach horses, Merino sheep, the great Pyrene dogs; of poultry, a fine, frisky and beautiful dog used by the "Berlin Eye"; Of poultry, none; of warfare, much, as we are finding out; of education, what? Time will tell. From Italy, the Leghorns (greatly improved by English and American breeders). From Japan (the Japanese beetle).

### What took place in my barracks

at Fort Knox, Ky., typical, I am sure, of the reaction of the men in tens of thousands of barracks and tent cities in the United States.

Ten seconds after the import of the Japanese attack on the United States hit the heart and brain of every man in my barracks, you could see them, watching their faces, shove every personal ambition, every hope, every dream and hardship to faintly to the bottom of their mental footlocker "for the duration."

### Little was said at first

but you could feel the inner resolve of the men, each one silently deciding that the little job he was now doing in the army was the most important job in his lifetime.

### Each soldier realized what was going on

in the minds of the others, sensed the quick victory in each love of country over self. I felt proud of his unit and glad he was soldiering with them.

In less than ten minutes I took for a Japanese airman to release a bomb over Pearl Harbor, the two score riflemen in my barracks, some herebefore given to cursing their fate, gripping about the army and caring little for anything but a discharge, were formed by Japanese bombs into the best soldiers in the world.

### The transformation from selective to a soldier was not outwardly spectacular

As I listened and watched, it all seemed like a scene in a poorly-written war drama.

I was on my bunk on the second floor of the barracks, reading the Sunday paper and listening without hearing to a radio grinding away six bunks down the line.

Three days ago, my regiment had returned to the fort after three months of maneuvers. We were weary on edge, sick of the army and doing drudge.

Pay day is tomorrow. Only a handful straggled to scrape together enough clean clothing, military or civilian, and a few dollars for a trip to Louisville.

### Some 30 men were in the barracks

gambling for pennies, sleeping or bolting on the bunks, sorting dirty clothing and writing letters.

Several had gone to the day room to play pool and listen to the large radio there, where they could find a date program because of the greater range of stations.

Everything was drab and dull. The only subject of conversation was the fact that about 20 men over 28 in the company were to be discharged tomorrow. Selectees were speculating how soon after their year was up they would be discharged. Decisions were being made whether Christmas or New Year furloughs would be the best to take.

I don't remember what the program was on the only radio going in the barracks, but one of us was listening to upstairs.

The announcer broke in to say he had an important news flash. I kept reading the Sunday paper, speculating whether the flash would be from Moscow, Berlin, London, Vichy or Washington.

Then the announcer told of the attack on Pearl Harbor. I was larn-har-jawed.

I went downstairs and told the men the report. They looked at me queerly. I had never indulged in spreading "airline rumors" and the men didn't know whether I, too, had succumbed to that form of amusement or was telling the truth.

I sensed their bewilderment. I said quietly: "It's not a latrine rumor. It just came over the radio. It means war with Japan."

"You continued to look at me without speaking. Just then Private Johnny Keene, who used to publish a movie magazine in Hollywood, came into the barracks from the day room. "The Japs just hit Pearl Harbor. They're bombing our naval vessels there now. It just came over the radio."

The men hurried upstairs to the \$0.50 radio, its case cracked, to which I had been listening. More flashes came pouring in, confirming Keene and myself. The faces of the men registered bewilderment, deliberation and then sternness, all in the flicker of an eyelash.

Then we began to talk about the war, that it had finally arrived. "The men said they had been expecting it but 'not so soon.' " "I thought I'd get out for a few months before I'd be called back. "There'll be no getting out now. I don't want to get out."

### RECENT WEDDINGS

#### Bodle-Hindman

Miss Margie Jane Hindman, daughter of Mrs. Bertha Hindman of State College, became the bride of H. Bernard Bodle of State College in a ceremony performed December 22 at the First Methodist church of York by Rev. Elvin C. Myers. Attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Carl Silver of York. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bodle are graduates of State College high school and attended Penn State College. Mr. Bodle is employed by the Elsenhart Dairy Company of York. The couple will reside at 105 W. Jackson street, York.

#### Condo-Rupert

A pretty wedding took place Saturday evening, December 27, at the First Church of Christ, Blanchard, when Miss Dorothy Rupert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rupert, of Beech Creek, became the bride of Walter James Condo, son of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Condo, of Howard. The Rev. M. S. Rogers performed the ceremony in the presence of relatives and friends. The couple were attended by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McCloskey, of Beech Creek. They will live with the bridegroom's parents.

#### Mills-Hurley

Miss Gladys Hurley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hurley of Altoona, became the bride of Harry Mills, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mills, of East Pike street, Bellefonte, at a wedding solemnized Christmas morning at 11 o'clock in the home of the bride's parents with the Rev. Crozier, pastor of St. Bernabas church, officiating. The couple was attended by Bud Primus of Harrisburg and Miss Esther Jones of Hollidaysburg. The bride is a graduate of Altoona high school and of the Hammond Beauty School. The bridegroom attended Lincoln university and is employed at Tighton Mills.

#### Eyer-Eastep

On Saturday, December 27, Miss Frances Eastep, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Eastep of Williamsburg, and Charles Eyer, of Pennsylvania Furnace, were united in marriage in the Williamsburg Evangelical church. The ceremony was solemnized at 3 p. m. by the bride's pastor. Bridesmaids were the Misses Marjorie Leonard and Dorothy Eastep, while the maid of honor was Mary Eastep. The bride's brother, Clair Eastep, served as best man, and ushers were Junior Hillard, Calvin Eastep and Chester Eastep. Approximately 80 guests attended the ceremony. Mrs. Eyer is home economics teacher in the Warriors Mark high school. Mr. Eyer, son of Harry Eyer, of Pennsylvania Furnace, a graduate of the Warriors Mark high school and the Lock Haven State Teachers' College, is a teacher in the Warriors Mark high school. After the wedding a reception was held at the bride's parental home. Mr. and Mrs. Eyer are now at home in their newly furnished apartment at Warriors Mark.

### Random Items

#### AULD LANG SYNE

This corner sheds a real tear of regret on the retirement of Thomas B. Beaver, William J. Emerick and Henry A. Broeckerhoff from Bellefonte Borough Council. All in all the three men did a good job of a task which is fraught with no credit and no gain of remuneration. The three were among the leaders on Council, and they helped to bring about many improvements in the borough government. But what this corner will regret to lose most, perhaps, is three stalwart Councilmen who demonstrated on various occasions that they could take a snide paragraph in the public prints and then without demanding that the press be barred from Council meetings.

#### REFRIGERATOR TRAYS

If a piece of wax paper is inserted under the trays in the refrigerator, they will come out much more easily.

#### PERFUME FOR THE ROOM

Fill a bowl or vase about half-full of warm water, add a few drops of violet water or violet perfume, and it will give a fragrant scent to the room.

#### UNPLEASANT MEDICINE

When difficulty is experienced in taking a dose of medicine, try placing a bit of alum in the mouth for a moment before taking the medicine, and it will usually overcome any unpleasantness.

#### PREVENT DISCOLORING

When fruits for salads or desserts are prepared in advance of serving, they may be prevented from discoloring if sprinkled generously with lemon juice. The lemon juice accents the flavor too.

#### THE SAUCEPAN

Never scrape a saucepan with a knife. This tends to make the pan burn quickly the next time it is used, to say nothing of injuring the knife.

#### CANVAS SHOWER CURTAIN

Keep the canvas shower curtain fresh looking by frequent washing. Scrub with a stiff brush and laundry soap. Soap well and put into the boiler with plenty of soda and a handful of borax. Boil for a half-hour. Rinse well and hang without wringing, in the direct sunlight until it is beautifully white.

#### SCRATCHED SILVERWARE

Scratches on silver can be removed as follows: Purchase a small quantity of putty powder, put it in a saucer and add just enough olive oil to make a paste. Rub the paste on the silver with a soft flannel cloth, then polish with a chamois and the scratches will disappear.

#### MORE CREAM

Heat the milk until lukewarm, then chill it, and it will bring more cream to the surface.

#### CASTOR OIL SUBSTITUTE

Prune juice is a good substitute for castor oil. Soak the prunes overnight. Squeeze them in the water in which they have been soaked, and when they are tender, pierce them with a fork to let out the juice. Do not work.

### Notes On 'Rag Valley'

Recollections of an almost forgotten section of the county known as "Rag Valley" brought to mind by Mrs. L. Isabel Rowles in an article recently published in this paper, struck a responsive chord in the memory of George Gobble, of Mt. Clemens, Mich., who recalls much of interest on the subject. Mr. Gobble, a constant reader of the Centre Democrat, was born at Snyder, town 70 years ago and up until middle age had resided there on a farm. Having been one of the farmers who drove cattle through Hecla Gap, Mr. Gobble has a rich fund of experience to relate of the reputed lost "Rag Valley."

Mr. Gobble writes: "I have just finished reading the more than interesting article written by Mrs. Rowles, describing Rag Valley and beg of you the privilege of a further description of that now lonely spot."

"But I just want to mention that I witnessed one of Mrs. Rowles' grandfather's performances in the little school house (now torn down) at Snyder town; and watched him with popovers put "Punch and Judy" through their program of arguments, and what not, as though their voices issued from their own vocal organs. It was awe-inspiring to all of us kids of just-school age. Peter Haumtz's name was remembered by all the schools throughout the county where he presented the exhibition with the assistance of his lovely daughters.

"And now for a little added history of Rag Valley for the benefit of the Alpine Club, and perhaps to revive the memories of the few surviving boyhood associates of long ago.

"First, there are three entrances to Rag Valley. The one on the west end enters the gap in the mountains where the village of Hecla is now located. During the latter years of the 80's and early 90's, Henry Yocum, a bachelor (I believe) just past middle age, erected a comfortable cabin on a comparatively open spot in the valley near a clear spring of ice-cold water and near an old coal hearth.

"Where in previous years charcoal had been prepared for use in the making of iron, which was called open-hearth iron in those days, one of the furnaces was located just south of the village of Lamar in Clinton county. Farmers, whose pastures were somewhat limited during the grazing season, drove their young cattle up through the gap and assembled them at Yocum's headquarters, where they were identified by their owners and counted. They were marked with aluminum tags fastened in their ears with the owner's name and address as a further means of identification.

"They were then liberated from the huge corral and allowed to wander will through the valley and mountainsides to graze on the rich grasses and growing bushes. Salt was provided by Mr. Yocum in the vicinity of his camp where the cattle would gather at intervals in different bunches, at which time their condition was noted. Each day the attached one or more bells to the neck of one or more of the critters by which they could be located at a distance while grazing. It seems I can still hear the different tones of the scores of bells scattered over a large area. Mr. Yocum received a certain sum per head for caring for the cattle, and each day he controlled the many hundreds across over which the cattle roamed.

"The second entrance to the valley was as Mrs. Rowles described it, except as I remember it during the early 90's, by a road leading from the main highway through Nittany Valley. Henry Bartholomew, Fred Best's father and family, George Swartz, Elias Markle and I believe the Lee family, at the very entrance to Lee's Gap as it was called.

"A road up through the Gap led to the Truckenmiller farm to the right, which they occupied for many years, or until after the parents died and the family grew up, when some of them migrated to the far west. The farm was finally abandoned.

"From the east side of the Gap the land had never been improved or inhabited to my knowledge. It was a paradise for hunters in quest of deer, bear, raccoon, wild turkeys, foxes, etc. In the late fall one could hear the baying of the hounds at night along the mountainsides, trailing the elusive 'coon and fox.

"The third entrance to Rag Valley was a road leading off the turnpike from the old 'Justation House' through the narrow and Crawford's Gap over Nittany Mountain to Madisonburg.

"Here the valley widened out to permit the operating of what at that time was considered extensive lumbering. During the late 70's the Gulswite Bros. operated a saw-mill in the heart of the valley on a tract of timber they acquired (I presume) from the Washington Furnace Company after they closed their works at Lamar. Then Elias Markle operated a mill over a period of years, followed by Raup & Sons, the last to operate over a period of years. They not only manufactured lumber for the market but did custom sawing for farmers who hauling their logs to the mill from adjoining tracts they had secured

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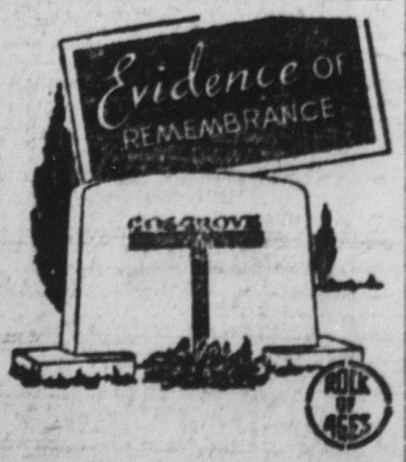
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