



Jesse Adler Looks at the NEWS

SECOND SECTION

The Centre Democrat

NEWS, FEATURES

Random Items

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1945

NUMBER 7

Osceola Man and Woman Seriously Injured When Porch Roof Collapses

Accident Occurs While Porch is Undergoing Repairs; Woman Injured Attempting to Aid Man

An unusual accident at Osceola Mills on Monday of last week resulted in a man and a woman being seriously injured.

Charles Evans, 63-year-old Osceola Mills resident, was seriously injured when the roof of a porch, which he was repairing, fell down on him.

Family members stated that Mr. Evans was in a critical condition. His injuries were described as a crushed chest, eight fractured ribs, and punctured lungs.

Dr. William Frank Beck, 79, of Altoona, prominent in the medical profession in coal mining and in charge of affairs, died Friday morning at the Mercy Hospital.

Dr. Beck was injured about 5:30 o'clock Wednesday evening as he slipped on ice and fell into the side of a car driven by Ivan Mowery.

Dr. William Franklin Beck was born in Centre county on January 18, 1886, a son of Isaac and Barbara (Rider) Beck.

After a course at Grove City College, Dr. Beck decided to enter the medical profession and entered Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.

He then spent two years in practice with Dr. J. M. Smith of Tyrone, then for a time he was located at Glen Campbell and at Phillipsburg.

Dr. Beck served for a period as a member of the staff of Pennsylvania Railroad surgeons, and he was the first police surgeon of Altoona.

He was one of the founders of the Mercy Hospital, serving for an extended period as a member of the board of directors, at his death being the only one of the original group.

Clearfield Woman Dies Tyrone Hospital Mrs. Maude Speck, 65, of Clearfield, died suddenly of a heart attack while a guest at the Logan Hotel, Tyrone, last Thursday night.

Mrs. Speck became ill while sitting on a chair in her room and a physician was called. However, she died before the arrival of the doctor.

Difficult Decision



Osceola Soldier Is Killed In Action

Sgt. Vincent Hughes, 34, of Osceola Mills, was killed in action in Belgium on January 21, according to a telegram received by his wife from the War Department.

Sergeant Hughes was married to the former Eleanor Love of Osceola Mills. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hughes of Osceola Mills.

He had been in service slightly more than a year, having been inducted on January 11, 1944. He trained at Camp Croft, S. C.

He is survived by five brothers, four of whom are in the service, and three sisters: Sergeant John, in the northwest Pacific; Corporal Robert, in Germany; Private William, who was seriously wounded on January 12 in Luxembourg and is now hospitalized in England; Pvt. Gerald, based at Lowry Field, Colo., and Martin, of Altoona.

The sisters are: Mrs. Lawrence Casey, of Osceola Mills; Mrs. Paul Marin, of Retort; and Marie, at home.

Memorial services were held on Lincoln's birthday, Monday, February 12, at the Immaculate Conception Catholic church in Osceola Mills, with the Rev. Louis Kelly officiating.

Former Osceola Mills Priest Dies

Father John S. Walsh, a former priest of the Immaculate Conception Catholic church, Osceola Mills, succumbed to a heart attack Wednesday morning, February 7, in the Spencer Hospital at Meadville. He was aged about 51 years.

After serving the Osceola Mills church about five years, Father Walsh went to Meadville to serve the parish there. He was succeeded by Father L. J. Kelly at the Osceola church.

Solemn requiem high mass was held in his memory Monday morning at St. Stephens Catholic church, Oil City. Burial was made at Oil City.

Bell Employees Benefit The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania announced that its regular employees on military leaves of absence will receive a rate of pay when they return to work which will be the same as if they had worked continuously with the company in the jobs they held when they went on leave.

Old Hunters Discuss Means of Determining 'Points' On Deer's Horn

Henry W. Shoemaker's Ever-Popular Column Open Forum For Opinions on 'What Constitutes Point on Horn'

By HENRY W. SHOEMAKER In Altoona Tribune

A Centre county deer hunter writes as follows: "I have read in the book, 'Pennsylvania Deer and Their Horns,' the statement that Sam Strohecker's stag, killed on the Big Run of Beech Creek, the finest head ever taken in Pennsylvania, that it is the finest, most symmetrical, and possibly the largest set of antlers ever taken in Gov. Martin's sporting commonwealth.

Two Tyrone Men Hurt in Accidents Car and Truck Upset on Icy Curve at Entrance to Town

Two Tyrone men were admitted to Altoona hospital within an hour of each other Friday afternoon after their car and truck went into skids and turned over at the curve at the entrance to Tyrone on Washington Avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets, and Friday night at 10:40 o'clock, a third car turned over after skidding at the same spot, but when it was righted an army captain, his wife and 14-month-old daughter, continued to the officer's home in Clearfield, the three having suffered no injuries in the shakeup.

The injured included: Richard Dunkle, Tyrone, R. D. 3, head injured.

Albert McKissick, Tyrone, possible arm, leg and hip fractures, body bruises and shock.

McKissick was driving a Junista Packing company truck. As he rounded the curve, the truck skidded, and then went into a spin as it descended the hill and upset. He was pinned in the cab and passenger ejected.

Dunkle, who was admitted to the hospital at 12:35 p. m., is employed by the Tyrone Pulp and Paper mill. Captain John Boyd, Santa Barbara, Calif., who was en route to Clearfield with his wife, Grace, and their 14-month-old daughter, Constance, from Texas, went into a spin and skidded, slid down the hill and turned over into a snow bank, wheels in the air.

When the car was righted, it was found that the officer and his family were rather shaken up but that there were no injuries. The car was not damaged and the group continued on to Clearfield.

Mother Sees Son Killed By Auto

Four-Year-Old Boy Fatally Injured as He Rolls Under Car

Tom Soyke, four-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Soyke, of Greenwood, was fatally injured about 5:40 p. m. last Wednesday, three-quarters of a mile from the Greenwood intersection on Route 220, and died a few minutes later in the Altoona Hospital.

Mrs. Soyke, the boy's mother, looking through the windshield of her car as she was preparing to alight at the Greenwood stop, saw her son fall to bring his sled under control and roll to the highway to be struck by a car driven by a soldier-neighbor home on furlough.

Fic. Carl D. Morgan, Jr., R. D. 3, Greenwood, who lives near the Soyke home, was also homeward bound and was passing the bus when it rolled off a snow bank and crashed into the left rear fender of his car.

Three men were sentenced at a special session of court Wednesday at Lock Haven. Alvin Barnard, charged with causing a disturbance at the ration board office, was given a year in the county jail.

Charles W. Sheasley, Berch Creek, was sentenced to an indeterminate term at White Hall for contributing to the delinquency of minors by buying alcoholic beverages for them. Kenneth Dolan, charged with non-support, was ordered to pay his wife \$30 a month.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Old-Age and Survivors Insurance

This is the third in a series of questions and answers regarding actual inquiries received in the field office of the Social Security Board concerning social security matters.

Question: I am sick and not able to work. I am 63 years old. Can I get monthly insurance payments now?

Answer: No. The first requirement for eligibility under the old-age and survivors insurance provisions of the Social Security Act is age 65. There are no provisions at the present time for sick or disability payments under the act.

Question: I am 65 years old. I expect to retire soon. Must I have a birth certificate to get my monthly insurance payments?

Answer: No. If you have either a birth or baptismal certificate, take it with you to the Social Security office when you file your claim. However, if you have neither of these documents, you may submit other evidence to prove your date of birth. The Social Security Board representative will discuss this matter with you when you call at his office.

Question: I own my home. Do I have to sign it over when I apply for monthly insurance payments?

Answer: An individual must first be eligible for monthly insurance payments. If he meets these requirements, and files a claim, his entitlement is established regardless of property owned, money in savings, or stocks and bonds.

Question: I am an employee and am moving my business out of this state. Should I apply for a new Employee Identification Number for my business?

Answer: Yes. You should file for a new identification number whenever you move your business from one Internal Revenue District to another.

Question: I have moved. I am an employee and have a social security account number. Should I report my new address to the Social Security Board?

Answer: No. It is not necessary to notify the Social Security Board if you have moved, unless you are receiving monthly insurance payments under the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Provisions of the Social Security Act. In that case, notify both your local post office and the Social Security Board.

To Instruct at First Meeting of Class



Royal M. Gerhardt, assistant dean of the Penn State School of Engineering and professor of architectural engineering, will be one of the four specialists in charge of the class in "Building or Buying a Home," which will hold its first meeting at 7:30 Monday evening, February 19, at the Bellefonte High School. The class is sponsored by the Bellefonte Chamber of Commerce.

Professor Gerhardt will discuss selection of the proper site for a home, including restrictions that may be in force and the problems connected with title and deed to land.

Bellefonte From 1815 to 1925

By J. THOMAS MITCHELL, Esq. These were the really formative days of Bellefonte's future.

During these years a stone building appeared on Academy Hill. In what year it was erected it is impossible to decide definitely. Tradition has it that Joseph B. Shugert was supposed to have been the designer of the new building in 1819. It was certainly in existence when Alfred Armstrong was its head in 1824. Although the property had been dedicated to the school on the original plan, it was in 1823 when a deed was made by James Harris to the Trustees of the Academy. Presumably the building was in existence at that time. The fact that a town of 400 people had an academy, in the days when education for the masses was little thought about, is sufficient to indicate the importance of the project.

In this period four church congregations were in existence. One from Philadelphia, by way of the "Rattle Snake Trail," over what was known as a portion of the Philadelphia & Erie Turnpike, and one from Williamsport, by way of "Great Island," (later the site of Lock Haven) came down Bald Eagle Valley through Milesburg to Bellefonte. From Milesburg both of these routes came over the hill at the north end of what is now Allegheny street, turned westward north of the Beaver residence, then southward over the hill near the present line of North Spring street to cut across the present school lot and the northern end of the present Episcopal church lot at Allegheny street. The third was a reorganized route to replace our first stage line from Sunbury through Penn's Valley and around the end of Nittany Mountain.

For a good many years, in fact ever since Col. James Potter founded Catholic church has no records relative to this lot. Near the end of this period an Episcopal sect was established here, but no church was built for several years thereafter.

Two new hotels were built in this decade. One was the "Fountain Inn." The road was literally a trail and infested by bands of highway robbers. One of these bands, known as the "Lewis & Connelly Gang," attacked a valuable shipment of a Bellefonte merchant. Sheriff's offices from both Centre and Mifflin counties under command of William Alexander of Bellefonte finally captured these bandits. With this capture cleared of human obstructions at least a new turnpike was begun from Bellefonte to Lewistown over Nittany Mountain to Centre Hall and through Potter's Mills and Milroy to Brown's Mills. For many years this was the best route to the Juniata territory.

In the plot of our town the western part of the present Union Cemetery had been set aside for burial purposes by the proprietors. However, the first plot used as a burial ground was the lot on which Daniel Rhoads built his home which was later the property of Samuel Shaleros. In 1821 the dedicated cemetery was formally opened and the bodies on the Rhoads lot moved to it. This has been our principal cemetery ever since that time.

It has always been the claim of Bellefonte that its citizenship distinguished it from the other towns of Central Pennsylvania. Recently a research worker, interested in the career of Andrew Gregg, after reading through the mass of his correspondence in the Library of Congress, came here to inquire why so many men, apparently important in the Commonwealth, lived in this little community during the first quarter of the 19th century. The