

# The Fulton County News.

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## RECORD OF DEATHS.

### Short Sketches of the Lives of Persons Who Have Recently Passed Away.

#### WILLIAM H. DOWNES.

Wm. H. Downes died at his home near Franklin Mills, this county, Tuesday evening, July 25, 1916 after a long illness from paralysis.

Mr. Downes was born in McConnellsburg April 29, 1837, thus making his age 79 yrs. 2 months and 26 days. He was the son of George and Elizabeth McDonald Downes and his boyhood days were spent in and around McConnellsburg.

After his father's death, which occurred when he was about four teen years old, he was taken in to the home of Wm. Hoke with whom he learned the tanner's trade, which vocation he followed for a livelihood until he was stricken down more than 24 years ago.

He was a Civil War veteran having served in Co. G., 28th Pa Vol.

He was a member of Chosen Friend Lodge I. O. O. F. of Cumberland, Md.

Mr. Downes was twice married his first wife was Miss Nancy Ambrose, who died a few months after their marriage. His second wife was Miss Elizabeth Chisholm, who together with five children survive him; children are: Ella, wife of J. D. Ranck, of Cumberland, Md.; Newton T. of Mill Creek, W. Va.; Reed M. D. of Hancock, Md.; George C. who resides near the home place and Miss Devona at home, with her parents.

Also two sisters and one brother are living, Mrs. Mary Ray, of Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Kathryn Davis, of Indiana, and Warren Downes, of Wheeling, W. Va.

Funeral services were conducted at the Presbyterian church at Warfordsburg, Friday morning, July 28th, at 11 o'clock and were conducted by the pastor, Rev. Dr. Webster, of Hancock, Md., and the Warfordsburg Lodge I. O. O. F. Burial was in the cemetery connected with the church.

#### MRS. RUTH SPRAWL.

From the Everett Press

A widely loved resident of Everett, Mrs. Ruth Sprawl, died at the Nason hospital, at Roaring Spring, July 20th, after a lingering illness of many months' duration. She was born in Fulton county, November 29, 1856, and was the daughter of Thomas L. and Elizabeth Ensley Salkeld. Her early years were spent in Washington, D. C. Returning to the home of her nativity she was joined in matrimony to Mr. Frank Sprawl, December 25th, 1889. At the time of her death she was a member of the Barn dollar M. E. church. She was an earnest christian woman who lived her life for others. In her quiet, humble, unostentatious, tender way she did not care to have her charity known and always belittled her sacrifice. Funeral services were held Saturday morning from the Lutheran church, Breezewood, conducted by the Rev. J. R. Dalling, assisted by Rev. Frum, of the M. E. church of that place. Left to mourn her loss are the bereaved husband and two brothers, Thomas L. Salkeld, of Pittsburgh, and J. C. Salkeld, of Breezewood.

#### MRS. EVE ANN MATHIAS.

Mrs. Eve Ann Mathias, widow of David Mathias, died at the home of her daughter Annie, Mrs. E. C. Wright, Monte Vista, Colorado, July 26, 1916, aged 86 years, 6 months and 18 days, of a complication of diseases incident to advancing years. Her remains, accompanied by her sons Abram and Albert, were brought to her old home at Burnt Cabins and laid to rest in the family lot in the cemetery at that place on Monday of this week.

She is survived by three sons and two daughters, namely, Abraham D., Albert C., Edward, An-

## Received Sad News.

Word reached this place two or three days ago that John Bishop, who is on the Texas border with his regiment, was seriously ill with blood poison which started in one of his feet, and some time last week the whole limb became affected, including the hip. His companion, J. G. Alexander, of Franklin county, who enlisted and went with him, wrote to Mrs. Alexander, advising that she find John's parents and notify them of his condition. She did so, and John's father, W. M. Bishop, of Big Cove Tannery, at once came to the News office to get exact data concerning his son's address in order to get word to him or to the officers of the Company and Regiment to get John home on furlough if he was able to travel. Fulton county has three sons at the front, and their friends will be shocked and saddened to hear of John's misfortune.

## Barton--Hann.

Mr. Guy Elton Barton, and Miss Anna Grace Hann were united in marriage August 1, 1916, at the M. E. parsonage in Cumberland, Md., by Rev. Dawson.

The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hann, of Saluvia. She is well known in the county as one of its most successful school teachers. Two or three years ago, her father bought the store at Saluvia and Miss Grace was appointed postmistress. She enters upon the duties of her new life with the best wishes of a host of sincere friends.

The groom is a son of O. A. Barton, near Akersville, and is an industrious young farmer of ability. Mr. and Mrs. Barton have not determined where their future home shall be. Both have interests at their respective homes which require their attention for a short time at least.

## The Water Is Pure.

It seems that there was doubt in the minds of some concerning the purity of the water from the old well near the top of the mountain at Tuscarora Heights. We have been informed that three recent analyses of the water have been made by State authorities, and the water pronounced unusually free from impurities that would be detrimental to health.

Mrs. Harvey Richards and two sons, of Mercersburg, were guests last week in the home of her sister, Mrs. Oscar Truax, of Ayr township.

nie, wife of E. C. Wright, and Mattie, wife of Isaac Waters—all living in the same neighborhood in Colorado, and all present at their mother's bedside when death came.

## J. E. JOHNSON.

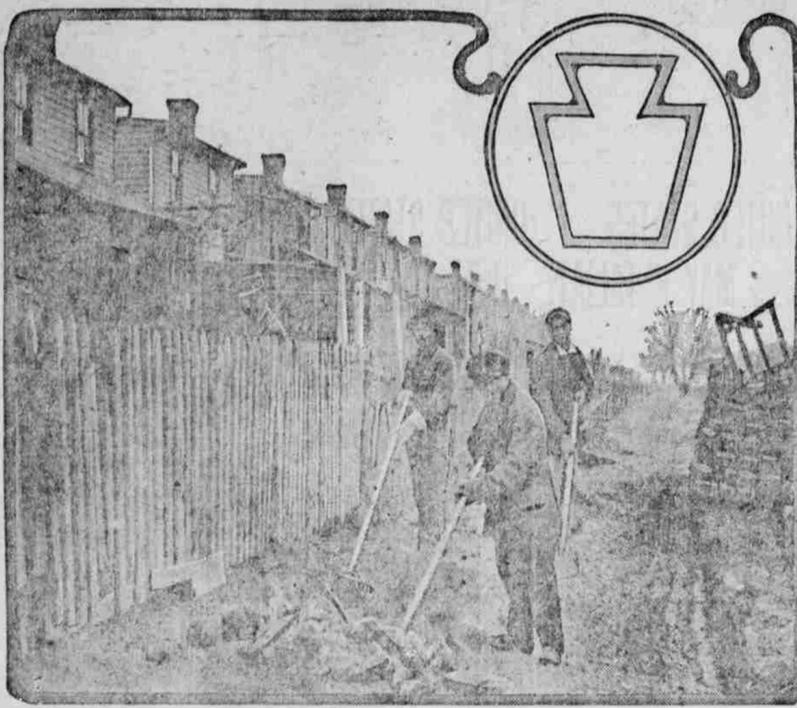
John Eric Johnson died in Boston, Allegheny county, Pa., July 19, 1916, aged 82 years 6 months and 7 days. The remains were interred in the Everett Cemetery July 22nd.

Mr. Johnson was born in Sweden and came to this country about the year 1868 and settled at Emmaville, this county. He worked until he earned money to send to Sweden for his wife and children. From this county he went to the far west. He then went to Everett where he purchased property and for many years he had been a highly respected citizen of that place.

## ISAIAH LAYTON.

Isaiah Layton, whose death we mentioned briefly last week died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. David Jay, seven miles east of Everett, on Thursday night, July 20, 1916, aged 87 years. Funeral was held on the following Sunday, interment being made at the Memorial Christian church six miles east of Everett. He is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Hattie Daniels and Mrs. David Jay, of Bedford county, and Mrs. E. B. Cornelius, of Hancock,

## ONE TOWN'S BACK YARD



A certain city in Eastern Pennsylvania, located on the main line of the Pennsylvania railroad suddenly awakened to the fact that not only every visitor practically entered through its back yard but that hundreds of thousands of travelers every year were gaining an unfavorable impression of their city because all that they could see of it from the car window was slovenly and illkept.

This point of view was brought about by Commissioner of Health, Samuel G. Dixon, who gave orders through the Bureau of Housing that certain neglected sanitary and housing conditions should be improved.

When the matter was pointed out in the above fashion the local authorities, the business men and the civic organizations co-operated to bring about an improvement. The alleys and poor residential districts were thoroughly cleaned and arrangements were made for the regular collection of rubbish. Prizes were offered for the most attractive working men's gardens.

Through this co-operation and stimulation of general interest and civic pride, what was a most unpromising area bids fair to become attractive. This town's back yard has been made presentable and may now serve as an example to other communities.

## Snakes Bite Ladies.

One day last week, while Mrs. Emory Thomas, wife of our county Superintendent, was in her garden, a snake bit her on one finger. Blood flowed freely from the wound, but she suffered no pain to speak of. A slight numbness was all the ill effect. The reptile was killed. It was one of the non-poisonous species.

Last Friday, while Mrs. John Rasp, of Ayr township, was in the field bringing home the cows a rattlesnake bit her on the left foot just above the heel. Inflammation and swelling at once set in, and Dr. Mosser was hastily summoned. He rendered what aid there was, and it is hoped she will not suffer permanent ill effects. This is the second time Mrs. Rasp has been bitten by a rattler on the same foot.

Doctors and others report more snake bites for the summer of 1916 than have been known for a long time. Some peculiar atmospheric conditions seem to bring the reptile from their hiding places out into the open where human beings come in contact with them. One day last week Bert Doyle, a railroad hand, killed two rattlers on the east side of Cove mountain, and on the same day, surveyor John Taylor killed two below the old tollgate not far from where Mr. Doyle killed his. Many others have been seen and killed. Mr. Taylor wears two thicknesses of leggings, having been struck twice this summer by poisonous snakes. Twenty-two rattlers have been killed this far by State Road and sawmill workmen on Sideling Hill. William Bair, of Green Hill, was horrified one morning last week to find that two big black rattlers had shared his cabin on the mountain during the night. Billy sleeps at Green Hill now.

## Killed A Pheasant.

When Scott Palmer was in town last Friday, he said that some one had recently run over and killed a pheasant within sight of the store and Post office at Sipes Mills. For a long time this summer, the pheasant had been seen almost daily taking a dust bath in the road near the store. The bird was never disturbed and in this way lost its life through too much confidence in its human friends, but it is not thought that the beautiful bird was killed purposely.

## A Soldier's Funeral.

Dear Editor:—On July 30, 1916, I witnessed something that I have not seen, or taken an active part in for fifty-odd years. I attended the funeral of John Aukerman, a soldier who was killed while on picket duty on Santo Domingo Island, on the 27th day of June 1916, and conveyed to the home of his father in Mt Union Pa. He was a son of Curtis Aukerman who married Jennie Gracely, a daughter of Thomas Gracely (deed). The funeral was a sad one. A stout man apparently, lying in his beautiful casket, in full uniform, who gave his life of 24 years for his country and flag. His body was escorted from Mt Union, to Taylor township by upwards of 30 soldiers in uniform, and some 20 Boy Scouts from the same place. There were also present about 12 or 15 Old Vets of the "Sixties". All took an active part in laying his remains to rest at 1:30 p. m. in Center M. E. cemetery. I was told that the minister and undertaker was also from Mt Union. All the honors that could be possible were bestowed. The pulpit was a mass of flowers and flags with the same display at the grave. There were representatives of old Vets of the G. A. R. The soldiers of the present day, Boy Scouts, and I. O. O. F. Parties who are pretty good judges of crowds of people estimated the attendance of the funeral at five hundred or more people. They gave him a military burial by firing a salute of 14 guns three times across his grave while the fife and drum corps beat a dirge, with five flags waived to and fro at half mast. No doubt there were many persons saw there something that they never saw before, or ever will see again, and which I do sincerely hope I may never see again, a real dead soldier in full uniform lying in his casket. All men may learn from that noble Patriot what a soldier may have to come to in defence of his country and flag.

M. D. MATHIAS.

One day latter part of last week, a bumble bee stung George Comer, of Ayr township, on one of his arms. In a short time rash and hives broke out all over his body and he became very sick and stiff. Very much alarmed he called Dr. Mosser who relieved his suffering.

## Must Pay Two Cents.

Everybody knows that a sealed letter with a one cent stamp on it may be dropped into a home office and it will be handed to the party asking for it at that same office, and if the letter has to be sent to another office, a two cent stamp must be affixed. But all do not know that a two cent stamp is necessary if the letter is to be delivered by a mail carrier to the farm gate. Let us illustrate. Mr. Trout, north of town, gets his mail at McConnellsburg, and a letter carrying a one cent stamp, dropped in at this office, will be handed to the one asking at the office for his mail. But if the Knobsville mail carrier is expected to deliver the letter to Mr. Trout's box at the farm gate, the sender must put a two cent stamp on it, or the letter will remain in the office until Mr. Trout or his agent calls for it. The law applies to all post offices in the United States.

## Court News.

An adjourned session of Court was held July 29th at 10 a. m., with President Judge Donald P. McPherson, and his associates, Wm. B. Stigers and Wm. Mellott on the bench. This special session was held to hear testimony in the John and George Magsam estate regarding the amount of damage that might be due them by the taking over of the right of way for the McConnellsburg and Fort Loudon Railroad Company. The question of sufficiency of bond had been raised. So bonds to the amount of \$700 were given and accepted.

A Supoena in divorce was awarded in the case of Minnie Denisar, vs Daniel S. Denisar.

## Business Changed Hands.

Last Friday, W. H. Greathead sold the stock, fixtures and good will of "Ye Smoke Shop" pool room and news stand to B. F. Shimer who took immediate possession of all but the periodical department which was turned over to him on August 1st. Mr. Greathead has not announced what his future business will be. We wish Mr. Shimer success.

Mrs. Martha Kennedy and Mrs. (Dr) Shartel, of Greencastle, were recent guests of Miss Olive Pittman.

## Annual Report, Fulton County.

DR. NATHAN C. SCHAEFFER,  
Supt. of Public Instruction,  
Harrisburg, Penna.

SIR:—  
The following is my annual report of the condition of the schools of Fulton County for the year ending Monday, July 3, 1916.

### BUILDINGS.

We have only eighty-four school rooms in our twelve school districts. A few of these being graded schools, we have seventy-seven school buildings.

Many of our one room buildings are old and in poor condition, but our school-boards are loath to spend much money on them as consolidation is much discussed in some districts.

The districts of Thompson and Todd have each constructed one new up-to-date building during the school year. These buildings are very attractive and reflect credit upon the boards of those districts.

Bethel district divided the Warfordsburg school and established in its stead a graded school. This was a much needed improvement, as the school numbered before division sixty-seven pupils. The board deserves much credit for this progressive step.

I had anticipated that Dublin district would do the same with the Burnt Cabins school which also numbers more than sixty pupils. I am informed by the secretary of the Dublin school board that a petition of the patrons of the Burnt Cabins school for its division and the establishment of a graded school in its place is now before said board of directors.

Belfast district has decided to construct a new school building at Maple Grove to have ready for use at the opening of the coming school term.

During the school year, Taylor district added several large porches to their school buildings, and gave both porches and buildings a coat of paint. This added much to the attractiveness of the buildings thus improved. This district also is building a modern, up-to-date, one-room house at Hustontown.

### SCHOLARSHIP.

The greatest source of weakness in the profession of teaching is superficiality of knowledge in the branches to be taught. I do not believe in the dictum that some teachers teach more than they know. In fact, no teacher teaches quite as much as he knows. It is, therefore, obvious that any one who has only a smattering of a subject cannot teach that subject well. For this reason I have been most careful in my examination to select from those persons examined a sufficient number to fill the schools having the best qualifications to teach so far as scholarship is concerned.

The only means we have in the county for preparing young persons for the profession of teaching is the McConnellsburg High School and the Summer Normal. We have previously been getting some excellent teachers from our High School, but the course has been so changed in the last three years as to make it almost impossible for the graduates of the High School to pass a teachers' provisional certificate examination. The schools of the county are beginning to feel this loss.

### EXAMINATIONS.

On June 28th, an examination was given to the students of the Needmore Summer Normal. On June 29th and 30th, an examination was given to the students of the McConnellsburg Summer Normal.

The number examined at these two places was fifty-nine, of whom fifty successfully passed the examination.

At our County Institute, last December, we adopted in our course on professional reading, School Discipline, by William Chandler Bagley. This text was not only to be read but to be

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## DIRTY BREAD.

Little Talks on Health and Hygiene by  
Samuel G. Dixon, M. D., LL. D.,  
Commissioner of Health.

Even should the process of making and baking of bread be sanitary, the loaves are often far from being clean when they do reach the consumer. It is frequently loaded into containers for the delivery wagon by hands that have just swept the stable, curried and harnessed the horse.

Enroute the driver may divide his time between the dexterous dandling of the dirty reins or the smoking of a pipe or cigarette. The contents of his wagon he delivers from house to house and from shop to shop with his hands besmeared with dirt from the stable, horse, harness and mud or dust from the road.

If he cannot carry enough bread in his germ laden hands he takes a loaf under each arm. The bread that is delivered to the corner grocer may pass through two or three sets of hands before it reaches the children's mouths.

If a servant were to stick a finger in a dish that was being served you would vehemently protest but tentimes the carelessness in the handling of your family's bread supply is passed without thought. If you have any doubt as to the accuracy of the observations noted above, make some of your own and imagine the danger of the transmission of disease.

No other food is more subject to contamination from handling than the "staff of life."

## Alfalfa.

We have received a few requests for information concerning alfalfa. It is getting a little late in the season to sow alfalfa this year. While the latter part of August, just after a shower, is the time to sow, there is not time to prepare the seedbed properly. The ground must be ploughed and harrowed, then after grass and weeds have started, they must be killed by harrowing and this must be done several times until very little more will come up. If this is not done, the alfalfa will surely be smothered out by weeds and grass. If you have a patch of ground that has been well cultivated this summer, say a potato patch, and if it has been limed, you might try alfalfa on it. Unless the seed is inoculated, you may have to try the same piece of ground two or three times before it 'catches'. The reason for this is that each time seed is sown, a little alfalfa will grow. Then in a year or two, enough alfalfa bacteria will have been created in the soil to enable a full crop to lay hold on that particular piece of ground. Always try the second and third time on the first piece of ground, if the first sowing failed. But the first sowing should not fail if weeds and grass have been killed, lime used, and the seed inoculated. Have the seedbed well settled, and do not loosen it up very much at the time of sowing.

## Badly Injured Elbow.

Last Friday, while a hand wagon was being brought down Cove mountain, Duffield Sipes got on the wagon which was loaded with wood. In some manner the wagon upset, and in falling, Duffield struck his elbow on the hard surface of the pike and bruised his elbow so badly that it was thought some of the bones were fractured. He went to the Chambersburg hospital and had the X-rays turned on, but a careful examination revealed no broken bones. The injury was very painful. Mr. Sipes lives near the tollgate at the east end of McConnellsburg.

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Clouser, near Big Cove Tannery, were interested spectators while we were at press last week.