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GRAVE ROBBERS IN MEYERSDALE

FLEEING GHOULS SHOT AT.

Great Consternation Caused—
Much Sympathy Expressed.

That grave robbers have struck Meyersdale there seems no doubt, ghouls have been at work and have brought consternation to many. Who knows if the remains of those who were laid to rest by loving hands and tear dimmed eyes, are still in the grave? It is to be hoped that they are, but from recent disclosures there is no absolute certainty of this.

On Monday a week ago two men came to Mr. Kocher, the Superintendent of the Union cemetery, while engaged in work showed an interest in cemetery work, in the beautiful monuments and incidentally asked if H. J. Wilmoth was not buried in the cemetery and where, if he was.

On Wednesday evening of the same week Mr. Stewart, colored, working for E. E. Klingaman, at the livery stable, while going to the moving picture show at the Bijou, was accosted by two strangers and asked if he had any work for that night. One man said he would give him \$5.00 and the second man said, yes we'll give you \$10.00. Stewart said he would have to go to the stable first. These strangers told Stewart that they had a friend who died of small pox and wanted to exhume his body before morning. In addition to the ten dollars they offered Stewart, assured him that they would furnish all the whiskey that he might want. Stewart reported all this to S. B. Philson and W. T. Hohlitzell. These men had Superintendent Kocher, Harding and another man go to the cemetery and investigate matters.

These three men went to the cemetery at 10 p. m. by different routes, all leading to the Wilmoth grave. Superintendent Kocher, was the first to reach the grave of H. J. Wilmoth and noticed two men within a few feet of the grave. Kocher shot three times at the fleeing ghouls and with the last shot one man fell, whether he was hit by the bullet or stumbled by a mistep is not known.

The next morning Fred Wilmoth and Kocher went to the grave and made an examination, and found a fuse one and one-half foot long with a cap on one end, a half pint of whisky, rags, paper etc., and foot prints on the grave. Five test holes had been made with a rod 5-8 inches in thickness down to the vault by the grave robbers.

On Friday morning an electric wire had been strung to the grave so that a light is burning all night and since then a concrete casing has been made over the vault and with this latter precaution it will require a night's work with dynamite before the body can be reached.

What is the purpose of this act? Is it in the interest of science or is it for a ransom. It is admitted that the case of Mr. Wilmoth baffled the skill of the best medical efforts, and one theory is that some medical school is back of this. Another theory is that body snatchers are around, trying to get a large ransom for the return of the body.

A few days ago a stranger called at the Purity ice cream office and inquired for Fred Wilmoth. When told that he was not around he urged the clerk not to tell Mr. Wilmoth that some one had been around inquiring for him.

A few days later an elderly man called at the Wilmoth-home for work—also a stranger. He was given a meal and appeared very talkative. He spoke of Mr. Wilmoth's death, and apparently knew the time of his death and many other matters of which a stranger would be entirely ignorant and in no way interested.

All these matters are causing much uneasiness in the Wilmoth home and are eliciting much sympathy for Mrs. Wilmoth and family.

CALIFORNIA VISITORS.

Mrs. W. B. Scott and daughters Misses Myrtle and Effie of Santa Barbara, California, who had been visiting at the home of the former's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Emory George, of High street, left last evening for Somerset and the north of the county where they will spend ten days, after which they will return to Meyersdale and later they will visit relatives and friends at Bedford, before they return home.

STABBING AT SALISBURY.

Bert Pile, aged 34, of Coal Run, slashed Lawrence Fallen, aged 25, of West Salisbury, with a knife, in a row at Salisbury, Saturday night. Fallen was attended by Dr. P. L. Swank and is reported in a serious condition from a deep wound in the region of the heart.

Lawrence Fallen and Fred Deal quarreled after the adjournment of a tent show given at Salisbury by Robinson Bros., Saturday night, and Pile, who had also attended the show, took a hand in the affray. It is alleged that he plunged a knife into Fallen's breast, about an inch above the heart, and quickly disappeared. Fallen walked about three hundred yards from the show grounds when he placed his hand on his breast and discovered that he was bleeding freely. Before he had gone many more yards he was so weak from loss of blood that he laid down in a lot in the rear of Meager's store, where he was found by John Lichliter, who heard him groaning. Lichliter summoned assistance and carried the wounded man to Dr. Swank's office.

Fruit Growing as a Business

An ambitious man in one of our leading fruit growing districts has written to Prof. H. A. Surface, Harrisburg, for information about starting in the business of fruit production. The reply of Professor Surface is conservative, and contains suggestions that may serve other persons from worry and from loss. It was as follows:

"I am glad to give you such information as is possible in brief correspondence, concerning your plan of buying a small tract and planting an apple orchard. In the first place, I do not recommend it to the one who does not know the subject of horticulture. It would pay far better for a person to spend years with some successful horticulturist, and then start his own fruit growing enterprise than to begin it by himself personally and make the serious mistakes that may prove harmful in the end. In the second place, the tract should not be nine miles from the railroad. No person is justified in going into the fruit business very far from the railroad unless he has a first class State road over which to draw the fruit.

"The direction and slope of the land and amount of elevation are not very important, if you have sufficient local elevation for good air drainage and good water drainage. The ridge belt which you describe would be good for fruit, while the part along the stream is liable to be unfavorable and result in the fruit being killed by spring frosts. Sandy soil is alright but it must be fed by growing the legume crops and other inexpensive and effective kinds. Chestnut timber indicates good fruit soil, as does also walnut.

"If you want an apple orchard, then I advise planting apple trees rather than peach trees. Even for fillers you can plant young-bearing varieties that will commence to bear as young as peach. It will pay you well to look around and see what adjoining orchardists are doing. If the surrounding orchards have trees that have been properly cared for, and still contain trees that are dwarfed and small it is an indication that the soil is not good for an orchard, and it will not be profitable to undertake it there.

"The list of the insects and plant diseases that you must meet is a subject for special study, and too extensive to go into a letter. You can get plenty of literature on this subject. We have published bulletins from the Division of Zoology, Department of Agriculture, covering this subject completely. They are free of charge on writing to us for them at Harrisburg.

"We do not make examination of land to give advice concerning their adaptability to fruit growing. This is not in the line of our work. Our office takes up the subject of pest suppression, and tells what to do to produce better fruits with special regard to suppressing pests. On the whole, I strongly advise you to learn horticulture before commencing to be a horticulturist, just as I would advise any person to learn any business before investing any money in it. You can no doubt find an engagement with some successful grower and serve a year's apprenticeship with him, just as a person in any other business, should serve a year or more of apprenticeship before going alone.

Miss Annie S. Helsel and Earle Landers both of Holsopple, were married at Holsopple by Rev. A. A. Davidson.

SCHOOL GIRLS SHOW SPECIMENS.

TOMATO RAISING CONTEST.

Last year under the auspices of the parent-teacher organization, the boys of the grades were encouraged to plant potatoes and the girls undertook to raise tomatoes. Twenty-nine girls promised to make the attempt in tomato culture and of the twenty-nine, twenty-three placed their products on exhibition in the basement of the High School Building. These products together with an essay on how each one raised tomatoes are taken into consideration by judges, R. H. Philson and J. N. Lint, who are authorized toward certain prizes.

On Monday evening the schools were given the opportunity to inspect the products of those who entered into the tomato raising contest. Each contestant furnished six tomatoes as specimens and taking it all together they gave a good account of their work during the vacation.

The following young ladies handed in tomatoes for the judges' inspection:

Misses Cora Landis, Clara Brown, Helen Pooley, Jennie Livengood, Marcella Reich, Leora Beale, Lucy Nash-winter, Kathryn Aurandt, Irene Resh, Rose Newman, Hilda Shultz, Mae Irwin, Emma Meyers, Elizabeth Hooking, Margaret Emerick, Mary E. Pritts, Louise Hooking, Allie Austin, Madeline Smith, Angela Reich, Almeda Beal, Gladys Stein, Yvonne O'Bryon.

Later on the record of the work the boys did in raising potatoes will be heard.

A GOOD LECTURE.

Warren E. Barnett, of Columbus, Ohio, a Supreme Lecturer of the Loyal Order of Moose, was present at the regular meeting of the local lodge on last Monday night and delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture. He also took an active part in the initiation of nine new members, in which work he is thoroughly versed. Mr. Barnett is an orator of rare ability and knows the secret work of the order from beginning to end. The local lodge expects to have him here in the near future at an open meeting to exemplify the grand principles of Moosehood at which time everybody will be invited.

IMPORTANT FASH- ION ANNOUNCEMENT.

We take great pleasure in announcing to our readers that beginning with an early issue we will publish the first of a series of weekly articles on women's and children's fashion.

These articles will be illustrated with artistic drawings of the very newest styles and will be especially written for this paper by a fashion authority of New York city.

These exclusive and interesting letters will provide the ladies of Meyersdale and vicinity with authentic fashion information of exceptional value. Watch for the first article.

SOMERSET UNDISTURBED BY FINANCIAL RE- VERSES.

The recent failures of prominent Somerset business men, which in some cases resulted in criminal prosecutions, has not disturbed the county seat town's financial stability was indicated today when stock of two of town's banking institutions sold at 70 per cent. above par, at public sale.

Ten shares of the capital stock of the Farmer's National Bank were sold to Miles A. Varner at \$165, and 30 shares of the capital stock of the County Trust were bid in by Jacob B. Gerhard at \$170. The stock was sold by the First National Bank, with which it had been placed some time ago as collateral security by John H. Seibert, who recently took advantage of the bankruptcy laws. Seibert was associated with the Berkeley Lumber company, which was recently placed in the hands of a receiver.

ANOTHER KILLING.

Two foreigners engaged in a fight on the outskirts of Hooversville late Monday night and one of them shot the other, causing almost instant death.

Both men are said to have been drinking throughout the evening. The man who did the shooting escaped at the time.

THE GRIM REAPER

MRS. MARY GRAY.

Mary Gray, wife of Thomas Gray, deceased, formerly, for many years of Coal Run, died on Monday evening, September 8, 1913, at Bard, Bedford county. She was buried on Thursday September 11th, at Madley, Bedford county, Rev. Mr. Powell of Hyndman, officiated.

She was born March 12, 1827, and was aged 86 years, 5 months and 27 days. She was the mother of ten children and is survived by four sons and two daughters as follows:—Geo. W. Beals of Elk Lick township, J. H. Beals of Coal Run, J. L. Bennett, of Chicago, Ill., Samuel T. Gray, and Mrs. Wm. James of Coal Run, and Mrs. Henry Sidas of Bard. She is also survived by 55 grand children and 56 great grand children.

W. L. HOOPER.

On Saturday evening one of the most widely known and prominent citizens of Garrett passed away. W. L. Hooper, the subject of this notice was aged 61 years, 4 months and 16 days. He had been in feeble health for the last 10 months. Recently he spent four weeks at the Allegany hospital in Cumberland, taking treatment for heart trouble. Dr. Johnson of Cumberland, Dr. Miller of Hyndman, and Dr. Pollard of Garrett, gave him their best attendance.

He is survived by his wife, one daughter, Mrs. W. L. Brant of Garrett, eight grandchildren, and also by two brothers and three sisters namely James of Garrett, Henry of Chadwick, Ill., Mrs. S. T. Burkholder of Garrett, Mrs. Frank Rugg of Markleton and Mrs. Lucinda Booher of Scottsdale, Pa.

The funeral services were conducted on Tuesday by his pastor, Rev. W. H. B. Carney, assisted by Rev. H. H. Wiandt.

For a period of twenty seven years he had been track foreman on the B. & O. railroad and received three medals of distinction for efficiency in his work. In 1903 he retired from the railroad service and since then engaged in farming and other enterprises.

Mr. Hoover had been a member of the Lutheran church at Garrett, and belonged to the following fraternal organizations:—Knights of the Golden Eagle, of Garrett, and Knights of Pythias of Meyersdale. Mr. Hoover was a large property holder at Garrett, and took an active interest in business enterprises. He was a director of the Paint Bank Lumber company, operating a mill in Virginia; a director of the First National Bank of Garrett, since the organization of the bank; one of the largest stockholders of the Garrett Water company, director and superintendent at the time of his death.

In his death Garrett loses an influential citizen, the church loses a warm and loyal supporter, the business element in the community will be deprived of his wise counsel, and the town loses one who had a strong faith in the future of Garrett.

MRS. CHAMBERS.

Mrs. Matilda Chambers, wife of Charles Chambers of Salisbury street, died on Friday of heart trouble and dropsy at the Markleton sanitarium. Sunday a week ago she was taken to the sanitarium with the hope that she would get the needed help and recover her health speedily. Her remains were brought to Meyersdale, and the funeral services were conducted at her home on Saturday evening by her pastor, Rev. G. A. Neeld. Her remains were taken to Houtzdale, Clearfield county, where interment took place on Monday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, when Rev. Mr. Mitchell of the Presbyterian church officiated.

She was aged 42 years, 11 months and 19 days. She is survived by her husband and four children as follows: James of Pittsburg, Marion Love, Charles and Chester, at home. The three youngest children are enrolled in the Meyersdale schools. Marion Love is a member of the present senior class of the high school. Charles is at present a typhoid fever patient. Three children died in infancy and are buried in Clearfield county.

Mrs. Chambers was a member of a large family of children. Mrs. Harry Calhoun of Berlin is her sister. She has a brother and sister at Windber, a sister in Pittsburg, a brother and sister at Houtzdale, and a brother and sister in Phillipsburg, this state.

Mr. Chambers' home is unusually afflicted and discouraged. Much sympathy is felt for the family.

LEVI DEAL PETITIONS THE COURT.

Levi Deal of Grove City, Pa., on Tuesday petitioned the Somerset court for a mandamus compelling Fred Rowe, president of the Erie Coal & Coke Company, to transfer to the plaintiff 130 shares of the capital stock of the company, which he purchased at public sale. The stock consists of \$50 par shares and was sold at \$66.

The sale was made by the Somerset Trust company and the First National Bank of Somerset, where it had been put up as collateral security by Attorney Harvey M. Berkley, who has disappeared from the county. It is claimed that Berkley's tangled financial affairs are responsible for his absence and that he issued fraudulent stock in the Somerset Telephone company, of which he had been treasurer.

Rowe refused to transfer the stock, contending that Berkley before fleeing the county had given an option to purchase the stock. Deal alleges that it was given as collateral prior to the option and for this reason the option is void.

The 130 shares, added to Deal's present holdings of stock, would give him a controlling interest in the company.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN.

For several days this week the Church of the Brethren have had in their midst some of the most prominent men of their church, Bishop L. W. Leeter of Indiana, Bishop P. S. Miller, and Rev. Mr. Kege of Virginia. Meyersdale is an important field for work in that denomination and this conference is held in order that this charge may be placed in a position to do the most effective work in the future, making changes and adjusting matters for the highest good of the large membership.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC AT MARKLETON.

The annual picnic of the U. S. Sunday school was held in a new grove near the Black township school house and was a decided success, quite a neat sum being realized.

The grounds were loaned free by the Sanatorium, and the brush was removed and stands erected, and the place makes a nice picnic ground. There were about 400 people present from all the surrounding country, and all had a good.

The Casselman band furnished music for the occasion. Right here we would like to say a word for the Casselman band, and for a small town like Casselman, it is hard to beat.

GOOD ROADS MEETING.

J. H. Weeks, of Philadelphia, chairman of the good roads committee of the Pennsylvania Motor Federation, has posted notices that two public meetings will be held in Somerset county in the interest of the proposed \$50,000,000 bond issue which will be voted upon in November. On September 23rd a meeting will be held in the court house at Somerset, and on the 24th at Meyersdale.

INSTITUTE AT ST. PAUL.

Following is the program for an institute to be held at St. Paul, October 11th at 1 p. m.

Organization.
Song.
Opening Address—M. J. Blough.
Word Study, its value and how to direct it—Edith Deal.
Methods and Devices of Spelling in the primary Grades—Elizabeth Engle.
School room Hygiene—Lester Engle.
Recitation—Grace Wright.
Song.

Address—Rev. E. S. Hassler.
Devices for Reading Based on Memory Work—Lulu Livengood.
Child Study—Ada Glotfelty.

Reform in Primary Teaching—Margaret Robertson.
Personality of the Teacher—Steward Rodamer.
Recitation—Grace Blough.
Song.

Preparation of the Lesson. First by the teacher—J. Lowry. Second by the Pupil—Savannah Miller.
Paper—Florence Kretchman.
Teacher's Opportunity and Responsibility—Roy Folk and Oscar Breneman.

The program will be interspersed with queries.

COMMITTEE.

ODD FELLOWS AND RE- BEKA'S AND THEIR FRIENDS BANQUET.

Odd Fellowship and the daughters of Rebekah had the first place in Meyersdale on Tuesday evening. Members and guests to the number of nearly one hundred and fifty assembled in the Odd Fellows Hall, to do honor to the 62nd anniversary of the founding of the Rebekah organization.

Rev. A. S. Kresge, as toast master, acquitted himself very creditably and kept the large audience in excellent humor. The music was a pleasing feature of the evening's gathering, while the recitations and addresses were of a high order and acclaimed the glory of Odd Fellowship and the beauty of the Rebekah institution.

Ice cream and cake was served after the literary and musical features had been disposed of. It was an enthusiastic meeting, long to be remembered by the Odd Fellows of Meyersdale and vicinity and the Rebekah organization.

The following program was rendered:

Singing—America.
Invocation.
Quartet—C. C. T. B.
Address—Editor Commercial.
Quartet.
Oration—Miss Emma Grass.
Duet—Alma and Carrie Donecker.
Address—Editor Republican.
Instrumental Solo—Mrs. Della B. Livengood.
Quartet.
Address—R. A. Winter.
Reading—Miss Alma Donecker.
Closing Remarks.
Singing—"Blest be the Tie That Binds."

A. M. E. ZION.

Brown's A. M. E. Zion church is being favored with distinguished visitors of late.

On August 31st Rev. John M. Davis, A. M. B. D., of Portland, Ore., a class mate of Rev. T. Alphonzo Fenderson, pastor of the church, while paying a visit to our town, preached two able sermons. On Sunday September 7th, W. H. Walker, recently of Oakland, Md., very acceptably filled the pulpit in the absence of the pastor, who was in Uniontown, Pa., assisting Rev. Martin, B. M. Butler, by the corner stone of the new A. M. E. Zion, of that place.

On Sunday September 14th, at 7:45 p. m. Rev. Mary J. Small (widow of the late Bishop John B. Small) and General President of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society will preach.

On Tuesday night September 16th, Mrs. Small delivered an address at the A. M. E. Zion church. Silver offering at the door. All are welcome, especially Missionary workers of both races.

VERDICT OF MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE AT SOMERSET.

A jury on Tuesday evening rendered a first degree verdict in the murder case in which Michael Meader, of Boswell, was charged with killing Stephen Dudla. The murder was committed after a dance where the parties had been drinking.

GONE TO CONFERENCE.

Rev. L. B. Rittenhouse left on Duquesne on Tuesday morning to attend the annual meeting of the Pittsburg Conference of the Evangelical Association. Owing to the condition of Mr. Rittenhouse's health, he does not expect to engage in the work of the active ministry during the coming year. There will be no preaching service in his church on Sunday. In two weeks however the regular service will be held.

TELEPHONE STOCK BELOW PAR.

The First National Bank of Salisbury, at public sale on Monday, sold 107 shares of the preferred stock of the Somerset Telephone company, \$25 par, to Attorney Ernest O. Kooser, at \$6.25. Attorney Harvey M. Berkley had given the stock to the Salisbury institution as collateral security on a loan.

The low price at which the stock was sold was due to a notice read at the sale by Attorney Charles F. Uhl, Jr., counsel for telephone company, in which it was stated that in 1905 the company redeemed all outstanding stock, and that if there is yet any out it is fraudulent.