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John T. Hocking— Passes Away.

A Man Prominent in Business Social and Church Life of Meyersdale.

On Friday morning at 5:00 o'clock, John T. Hocking, of Meyers Avenue, passed away. Mr. Hocking had been failing rapidly for the last few months but his condition took a very serious turn in the last week of his life when he sustained a paralytic stroke which made his condition hopeless from the beginning. For several days before his death came he was in an unconscious condition.

Mr. Hocking, while not a native of Meyersdale, yet was one of the old settlers and was closely related with the growth and activities of his adopted town. He is given credit for being one of the first to start industrial enterprises here, being identified with the early mining operations and the manufacture of bricks in this community.

He was born in Cornwall county in the town of Saint Just, England, on September 6, 1842, and was at the time of his death, aged 71 years, 2 months and 5 days. He came to America at the age of seven years and had lived at Clarksburg, W. Va., Frostburg, Md., and came to Meyersdale about forty-one years ago. Since then he had been closely identified with the business activities and deeply interested in the moral, social, numerical and business development of Meyersdale. His former business activities are related to the mining enterprise of Meyersdale, from which he retired five years ago. Not alone to his business associations is he well known by the community but he is especially remembered on account of his zeal and devotion to his church, the Methodist Episcopal which will gratefully hold his name in the kindest remembrance for his interest and labors in behalf of the church of his choice. For more than fifty years he had been a member of the Methodist church. The local church can trace its beginning to the time when Mr. Hocking, together with others established the Methodist church in Meyersdale. He was one of the charter members to organize the Methodist Episcopal church here and has been affiliated with that church to the day of his death, being zealous in her interests, loyal in her support and unassuming in his devotions.

Mr. Hocking had never been married. He is survived by the following brothers and sisters—all of town: George H. Hocking, Wm. G. Hocking, Henry T. Hocking, Mrs. Sarah Hoffman, Lillie Belle Hocking, and Mary Hocking.

The funeral services were conducted at the family mansion on Monday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock. Rev. G. A. Neeld, his pastor officiated. Interment was made in the Union cemetery.

PAINFULLY BURNED.

While Mrs. Fred Raymond of Olinger street, was canning sausage yesterday, a peculiar accident happened which might have resulted fatally. A can exploded dashing the heated lard over her hands and face, burning her very painfully. While suffering much pain she is not dangerously burned.

PARENT-TEACHERS MEETING POSTPONED.

The Parent-Teachers meeting to have been conducted by Mrs. Ott, of New York city, on the chemistry of food has been postponed. There will be no meeting until January.

The prizes to be given to the boys in the potato contest will be awarded at 4:00 o'clock on Friday, November 21st, in the High School building.

SUICIDE RUMOR.

It is generally believed that Mrs. Harvey Kurtz, Jr., of Confluence, who has been missing from her home since Sunday morning, has committed suicide by drowning in the Youghiogheny river. Searching parties dragged the river on Sunday and Monday, but at this writing no trace of the missing woman has been found.

Mrs. Kurtz had been melancholy for some time and on several occasions she had threatened to jump into the river. She retired with her husband at the usual time on Saturday night but when her husband awoke at two o'clock on Sunday morning she was missing.

W. M. R. R. GIVES BETTER PASSENGER SERVICE.

Business men and residents of Connellsville, Meyersdale, Frostburg and other points on the new Connellsville extension of the Western Maryland Railway company, will be accorded additional passenger train service under the new fall schedule of the company which went into effect on Sunday, November 16th. Under this train, a schedule, a new train is to be operated daily, except Sunday, between Cumberland and Connellsville, thus giving the people of these and intermediate points, three trains daily.

In providing this new service, the officials of the Western Maryland are endeavoring to provide for the increased passenger business in this territory, and to give the best possible train service facilities to the people among the new extension. The new service, when put in operation will place these points to closer relationship with each other, thus opening up new opportunities for increased business which will result in greater prosperity for the people of this section.

For months the traffic officials of the Western Maryland have been studying closely condition along the new Connellsville extension of the Western Maryland and the additional train which is to begin operation under the fall schedule, is the result of the efforts of the management of the railway company to give passenger service which will be entirely satisfactory to all.

Under the schedule, the new train will leave Cumberland at 7:42 a. m., arriving in Connellsville at 10:45 a. m. Returning, it will leave Connellsville at 2:45 p. m., arriving in Cumberland at 6 p. m. As a result, residents at these points will have three daily trains each way.

Baltimore will be drawn closer to Chicago as, the result of the faster through western train service which will be established in the future. The Chicago Limited which runs between the Monumental City, Pittsburgh and the west, will be operated on a faster schedule, thus making the run between the east and west in less than 23 hours. Instead of leaving Baltimore at 9:25 a. m., as heretofore, this train will depart from Hillen Station at 10 a. m., and Union Station at 10:06 a. m.

The railway company will also establish an additional through train service between Cumberland and Baltimore and also between Chambersburg, Waynesboro and Smithsburg and Baltimore. The train from the last named points will also provide a new connection from the west. Another additional train will also be operated on the Durbin branch, between Durbin and Elkins, W. Va.

W. M. RAILROAD MAKES GOOD.

Some months ago the Western Maryland railroad company gave the promise that when the fall schedule was made, the needs of Meyersdale and intervening points between Cumberland and Connellsville, would be met. The company has now made good. Of course Meyersdale wants still better accommodations, and doubtless when the people along the line give sufficient patronage, the company will still further meet the wishes of the people. It is true the company lost patronage when the train was taken off and it will require time to get back the lost support, but we believe that the additional train will be much appreciated and that the W. M. R. R. will have its due support from the people. The people are grateful for this better train service, and will mark it down in their minds that the Western Maryland has made good its promise.

SPECIAL SERVICES.

A tri-dun was begun in SS. Philip and James Catholic church on Wednesday evening and will close on Sunday evening, during which time services are held every morning and evening. The pastor, Rev. Father Brady, is being assisted by Rev. Father Murray of Washington, D. C., who will deliver a sermon at each service. The public is cordially invited.

George Hocking, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Hocking, who is employed at Pittsburgh, arrived here Sunday on No. 6, to attend the funeral of his uncle, Mr. John Hocking, which took place here Monday.

CONFLUENCE TERRORIZED BY A BAD NEGRO!

Assaults Woman in Squire's Office. Treats Squire Roughly. Landed in Jail

Charged with carrying concealed weapons, wantonly and maliciously pointing firearms, and surety of the peace, Frank Johnson, aged 40 years, probably, the most vicious negro ever arrested in the county, was lodged in jail at Somerset yesterday on a commitment issued by Justice of the Peace G. G. Groff, of Confluence, where he terrorized the people of the town. Among other deprecations he committed was a severe beating of a colored woman in the office of Squire Groff. He also drove people from the streets and demanded and received drinks at the saloons by holding up the bar employees at the point of a revolver.

When finally arrested he lamented the loss of his brand new revolver because he had not killed anybody with it. He stabbed a colored woman in the hand with a pocket knife when she resisted an attack upon her and threatened to kill practically everybody in Confluence, commanding them to get out of his sight. Johnson was just recently released from a three-year term in the penitentiary and said he had spent more of his life behind the bars than he did a free man. He said he has served numerous other sentences and rather enjoys the prison menus, although he does not relish working with a ball and chain. If it were not for the ball and chain, he declared, he would just as soon be confined in jail all the time.

Just before closing time last night he entered the bar of the Riverside Hotel at Confluence, and, drawing his revolver in a menacing manner, commanded all the patrons of the saloon to retire and they beat a hasty retreat for the side rooms. He then demanded and was furnished with a number of bottles of beer and other liquors and withdrew noisily, boasting of his "haul". He and his peace officers cowed by this time and as he walked along the street, as disorderly as possible, he kept up a steady fusillade fire from his gun driving everybody he met into dark alleys and into buildings under penalty of instant death. Many of the bullets from his revolver penetrated windows along the streets, menacing people in their homes, while others were imbedded in the walls of houses. A particular hobby of the negro was making targets of electric light bulbs and arc lamps. He finally arrived at his domicile in the notorious seven house row. After consuming the liquor he and his hissy, known as "Black Susie," retired for the night.

Early Wednesday morning Constable Alvin Burnworth and a posse surprised Johnson by entering his house while he was asleep. He was covered by a half dozen revolvers and roused from his slumbers. "Shoot ahead; I'll die before I submit to arrest!" he declared excitedly. He was quickly overpowered and when he saw his efforts to escape were futile he ceased resisting.

Earlier in the day he rioted the office of Justice Groff, whom he assaulted. The justice being without a weapon was powerless to defend himself. The negro had beaten up a colored woman named Ada Jeffries, who was visiting "Black Susie." The Jeffries woman was in Justice Groff's office for the purpose of swearing to an information, charging Johnson with assault and battery, with intent to kill, when the negro came upon the scene. He hurled Squire Groff, aside when the magistrate attempted to preserve order in the office, and proceeded to brutally assault the woman for "having the nerve to try to have me arrested". Justice Groff again attempted to uphold the dignity of his official position but was roughly slammed down in a rocking chair and told to keep quiet. He then beat the Jeffries woman into a semi-conscious condition keeping the squire at bay at the point of a gun. Squire Groff persisted in attempting to shield the woman, but was violently shoved into a far corner of the office his head being bumped severely against the wall. By this time the woman had rallied, and Johnson again assaulted her. Justice Groff made a leap for the door in an effort to summon assistance, but was preceded by the negro who anticipated such a move and, dragging the woman with him, quickly blocked the only exit from the room.

His actions finally exhausted the giant, but intoxicated, negro's strength somewhat and the woman managed to get out through the door. She sought refuge in the jewelry store of David Ashby. She was followed by Johnson who inflicted an ugly gash in her right hand with a pocket knife, while she went rushing through the store. The woman succeeded in reaching the rear of the building which is occupied as a residence by the Ashbys. As she entered a room she slammed the door in the negro's face, dazing him, and made herself safe by bolting the door on the inside. Ashby quickly secured a revolver with which he drove Johnson from the premises.

From his jail cell the negro declares that he does not remember a single one of the atrocities charged against him. Public sentiment is at a high pitch and the court will be asked to impose a severe penitentiary sentence on Johnson.

Recent outrages at the "seven-house row" in Confluence, some of the citizens have threatened to "rail-ride" some of the colored population if they persist in their obnoxious conduct.

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MET AT COLUMBUS.

The Fifteenth Annual Convention of the Anti-Saloon League met in Memorial hall, Columbus, O., November 10-13th. It was attended by thousands of delegates from nearly every state in the union and from Holland and Canada. It was one of the greatest conventions in the history of the world because of the vital question at issue and in point of the number of famous men and women who were on the program and who responded to the roll call.

The purpose was to unite all the temperance forces in America for the great battle to be waged against the organized liquor traffic during the next seven years or longer if it need be. We purpose to move next upon Washington and get an amendment to the federal constitution making it a high crime to manufacture, sell or import intoxicating liquors within the fair confines of the U. S. This we hope to accomplish and have ratified by the necessary 36 states by 1920. There are already nine states with an aggregate population of 15,000,000 under absolute prohibition, which added to the dry territory in other states gives us 71 percent of our total area and 76,000,000 people under prohibition. Surely we cannot fail if every christian awakens to the enormity of the liquor crime and goes to the polls and does his christian duty. Where were all the Meyersdale delegates? we are sorry none were present.

SOMERSET VETERAN DIED SATURDAY.

Joseph J. Mishler, 91 years of age, a well known resident of Somerset, and a Civil War Veteran, died Saturday, November 16th, 1913.

SOPHOMORE PARTY.

On Friday night, the Sophomore class of the High School held a social under the supervision of the teachers. The guests, with the exception of Joe Schults who stood guard over the ice cream from half-past five, assembled at about eight o'clock. Games of all kinds were indulged in. Programs were filled out and "One Minute Conversations" were enjoyed. Soon the boys and girls lost most of their shyness and were all just children again.

Ruth Kimble won the prize for needle threading among the girls and Charles Fike among the boys. The potato race went to Frank Boueber. William Leckemby presented a clean tongue first in the cracker-eating marathon.

At last came the time for rest and refreshment. Slips of paper were passed around and the partners had to hunt each other. Crackers and cheese sat down together, peaches and cream, buckwheat cakes and sausage, mince pie and indigestion, the bad boy and paddle, etc.

The girls will surely prove equal to the care of large families if the refreshments of the evening are to serve as any indication. They must have over-estimated the capacity of the average boy for after stomachs and pockets were filled, still some remained. Prof. Kretzman was the chief grub reducer but even he was not equal to the task before him. Sandwiches, olives, pickles, candy, ice cream, and cake were served.

After a song session, the merry party broke up. All, from teachers to pupils, seemed to enjoy the evening and wish for more like it.

FROSTBURG SPIRITS DISCOURAGEMENTS.

The veteran newspaper man, Peter L. Livengood, known to many readers of The Commercial, who published the Salisbury Star, the Windber Era, and later was co-editor and publisher of the Meyersdale Republican, and whose latest effort in newspaper work is the Frostburg Spirit; in last week's issue Bro. Peter L. Livengood had a three column article not the epistle of Peter as such, but the lamentations of Peter. We are somewhat surprised that an old newspaper man takes to heart so seriously a few left handed love taps. Most newspaper men are accustomed to that kind of treatment. He says his landlords put a raw deal over on him by charging \$40 per month rent. Most newspaper men would not squeal if the other fellow had gotten the better of them and, on account of dancing above, the printshop, he says his place of business is a veritable hell on earth. If I was Pete I would abandon hell and seek paradise. He says:

There are a good many people in the town who know what the editor of paper can do with a pen when goaded to desperation. He has demonstrated that on many occasions to his own gratification, and to the utter dismay and discomfiture of his oppressors. He is getting his Dutch up right now, and when it reaches the 200-degree-in-the-shade point, stop, look, and listen, and keep off the grass. The old Spirit quill-pusher can give you hot shot that makes "Billy" Sunday's fiery darts fired at the devil look like 30 cents in comparison. He's going to stay in business right here in Frostburg, and he's soon going to waken up some of the snakes. The editor is getting tired of offering to meet oppressors and extortioners more than half way in an effort to adjust differences, and it will soon be a case of turn loose the dogs of war.

Don't you do it, Pete, you will lose out by letting the poison drop off the points of your pen.

Hang on to the job, give a clean newspaper and all will wish you well. Pete's troubles do not appeal very strongly to the newspaper fraternity, but when he speaks of his little boy battling for his life, when the devoted wife and mother is giving her strength to the boy and the father and bread earner denied the privilege of being in the house of sickness, the heart of every newspaper man is touched and his sympathy goes out to that little boy and his anxious parents.

THE M'KINLEY'S BETTER.

Intelligence from Iowa yesterday gives the information that Mrs. McKinley is getting along nicely and that the Doctor apparently passed the crisis. The indications are that both will speedily recover their health and will return to Meyersdale before long.

Mrs. Geo. C. Wetzel Seriously Burned, Died Later.

On Wednesday morning while Mrs. George C. Wetzel, of Trans-Meyersdale, was engaged in making mince meat, having butchered the day before, in some mysterious way her underclothing caught fire. She was working at an exposed fire place in the yard and while she felt an unusual heat she was not aware that her under clothing had caught fire. Gradually the fire had consumed her under garments when she realized that she was on fire. The flames enveloped her, and she became a veritable pillar of fire. Her whole body was burned except the palms of her hands and the soles of her feet. Mrs. Wetzel lingered in her agony from 8:00 o'clock yesterday morning until 7:00 o'clock last evening when she was mercifully relieved of her sufferings. Dr. Rowe gave her all the relief possible, but her life could not be saved. She is survived by her husband and a family of eight children.

Mrs. Wetzel's maiden name was Catherine Kretzman, and was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Kretzman, both deceased. The following brothers and sisters survive her:—John, James, Alex, Adam, George Enoc, and Frank Kretzman, and Mrs. Ellen Miller of near Grantsville, Md., Mrs. Elizabeth Shauls of Somerset, and Mrs. Mary Jones of New Castle, Pa.

The funeral will be held Saturday morning, her pastor, Rev. A. E. Truxal, will conduct the services. Interment will be made in the Union cemetery.

WOODMEN DISPLAY THEIR ENTERPRISE.

The Modern Woodmen of America held an interesting meeting in the Summer Garden on Tuesday evening, when they presented on the screen their sanitarium on the Rocky mountains. This institution has been established but a few years ago and in this time about 800 tuberculosis patients have been cured.

The Modern Woodmen of America has a membership of more than a million members. It is a fraternal organization and one of the attractive features is the cheap insurance which it gives its members. Meyersdale has a flourishing camp and the prospects for an increase of membership is very encouraging.

The summer garden was well filled and in addition to the different scenes of the sanitarium, moving pictures formed an interesting part of the evenings entertainment.

BIRTHDAY PARTY.

On Monday Robert Hoffmeyer of Keystone street, reached another milestone in his young and hopeful life, when a number of his young friends met at his home to celebrate the occasion. The evening was very pleasantly spent, the refreshments were most appetizing and the midnight hour had struck before the young folks were aware. A number of birthday remembrances were left by the guests. The following were present:—Mary Wiland, Edna Baker, Orpha and Elizabeth Tressler, Minerva Felker, Nelle Weimer, Eva Leckemby, Emma Gress, Emma Christner, Mary and Martha Frease, Anna Mershbacher, Evelyn Gordon, Edith and Mary Hoffmeyer, and Daniel and Paul Schaffner, Harold Sipple, John Bodes, Walter Gress, Ed. Christner, Lawrence Mershbacher and Robert Hoffmeyer.

BIRTHDAY SURPRISE PARTY FOR AGED LADY

On Friday evening of last week, Mrs. Lucinda Baldwin, was given a surprise party at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Baldwin, with whom she makes her home, in honor of her 76th birthday. She was very much surprised when a number of her friends came in to spend the evening with her, which was very pleasantly spent by all. A delicious lunch was served, when all left for their homes, wishing her many more happy birthdays.

Those present were:—Mrs. John Baker, Mrs. James Wilson, Mrs. B. B. Collins, Mrs. Minerva Stratton, Mrs. William Hady, Mrs. C. Sides, Mrs. O. V. Durst, Mrs. Ed. Donges, and Mrs. Rufus Wahl.