

# The Meyersdale Commercial

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## OPINION OF THE COURT

That Judge W. H. Ruppel meant that treating should cease in Somerset county when the last March promulgated an anti-treating rule is demonstrated in an opinion filed in court today. The court says he will revoke the license of any landlord who disregards the court's anti-treating order. The revival of the anti-treating regulation is made by the court in disposing of a remonstrance filed against James M. Rhue, proprietor of the Colonial Inn, in Stoyestown.

One of the charges against Rhue was that "treating is allowed at his bar in violation of the order of the court."

In granting the license in the face of the remonstrance Judge Ruppel says:

"There is evidence to sustain this allegation, and while the act of assembly does not place this rule of court in the category of crimes, it may as well be understood by applicants that this rule of court is intended to be enforced, and while it does not even seem to be a flagrant violation in this instance, there has been sufficient violation to get the applicant in trouble and to endanger his license, and the court now serves notice that if this rule is disregarded in the future, a rule to show cause why the license shall not be revoked will be issued."

There was considerable interest in the Stoyestown remonstrances which are analyzed as follows by Judge Ruppel in an opinion filed in the Rhue case:

The remonstrance against the granting of this license sets forth the following reasons:

1. "The certificate is not signed by at least twelve reputable qualified electors of said borough."

"The names of the alleged unqualified signers are given but the reason for lack of qualifications is not stated, and there is no evidence whatever in support of this allegation. This is a serious matter. The petition disclosed the names of the parties and if there was a disqualification it was known when the remonstrance was prepared and ought to have been supported. The fact that this objection was made has been spread broadcast over the county, and many people will not learn of the reason of the action of the court charges of this kind ought not to be made unless there be at least an honest effort to support the charge."

2. "Minors have been furnished intoxicating liquors."

"The evidence as to this charge is quite weak except as to Harry Paul, who says he was 16 years old, and the charge seems to have been sustained, but the other minors were all near the age, and the furnishing of liquor to him is positively denied and the evidence outside of that relating to Paul, is not such warrant the court in sustaining the charge."

"The witness Paul says he got the liquor from the bartender, but does not know the name of the bartender; consequently, the bartender could not be called to contradict him. Mr. Rhue himself testifies unqualifiedly that he did not furnish any liquor and neither does the witness claim that he got any from Mr. Rhue himself. The witness says he was accompanied by another gentleman and his testimony would be very important in this connection, but he refused to divulge the name of the other party. Proper steps should have been taken to have compelled an answer to this question. A witness has no right to place another party in jeopardy and refuse to give the name of either corroborate or deny the testimony of the witness, and for this reason alone, if this case stood on the testimony of this witness, the court would refuse to sustain the charge against the applicant."

3. "Men of known intemperate habits have been furnished intoxicating liquors."

"The testimony entirely fails to establish this charge."

4. "Persons visibly affected by intoxicating liquors have been furnished intoxicating liquors at his bar."

There is not sufficient testimony in the case to sustain this charge."

5. "Treating allegation referred to above."

6. "Screens are kept at the bar-room windows so that persons from the outside cannot see into the bar-room."

"There is great diversity of opinion among temperance people as to whether or not screens should be placed over the windows of barrooms. Two years ago at the instance of a large number of petitioners of the county the Court suggested that screens should be removed. Later many of those who had insisted upon this regulation petitioned the court for the abrogation of the order, alleging that it is detrimental to the morals of the young, to be permitted to see into barrooms as they pass, and that some sort of protection should be afforded the school children as they pass the different barrooms. It seems to me that a proper regulation would be that screens of sufficient height be placed to prevent children from seeing what is going on, and after the closing hour in the evening, the screens should be entirely removed. There is sufficient in the testimony taken in support of the remonstrance to put the applicant upon his guard and he must be very cautious and careful to observe the rules and regulations of the statute, and the Court, or he will get himself into serious trouble. But under all the evidence the Court cannot see its way clear to refuse this license, and therefore the license is granted."

## OLD APPLICANTS SAFE NEW ONES REFUSED.

On Tuesday afternoon Judge Ruppel gave his answer to the applications for license and those granted are as follows:

Addison—James W. Rush. Benson—Ferdinand Sann. Berlin—Hiram Albright, and Bridget McGrath.

Boswell—Ivor Thomas, Justus Volk, Louis M. Shultz, and D. M. Wampler. Brothersvalley Twp—Robert Henderson.

Conemaugh Twp—William W. Landis, Calvin Donges, Clinton P. Rhody. Confluence—Charles Marquart, C. H. Russell, H. L. Sellers. Garrett—Frederick D. Godel, James H. Hopkinson.

Hooversville—Daniel W. Saylor. Larimer Twp—Charles S. Kifer. Jenner Twp—William W. Wissel, John Brennan, Michael H. Sipe, William H. Farnsworth.

Lower Turkeyfoot Twp—George Rockwell Marietta. Meyersdale—Arthur O. Lorentz, Payton H. Raymer, John B. Schardt, John W. Haley, and George R. Logne. New Baltimore—Francis E. Straub. Northampton Twp—G. G. DeLozier. Paint—H. B. Kline, Richard T. Marsh.

Paint Twp—E. C. Armstrong. Rockwood—Mary Buckman, Samuel S. Rickard, J. H. Leighty. Salisbury—William Dietz, Henry Loechel.

Somerfield—Olifford H. Springer. Somerset Twp—Elizabeth C. Cleveland, Charles A. Trapp. Somers—Nora A. Winters, Charles Hantz, Elizabeth A. Grove and S. M. Flanagan.

Stoyestown—James M. Rhue. Wellersburg—G. A. Tressler. Windber—W. J. Murphy, John E. Hasson, Andrew Timko, Nellie C. King, John Sharkey, Joseph T. McCormick, and Frank Tarr.

**BREWERS.** Windber Brewing Company, No. 2. Windber; Rockwood Brewing Company, Rockwood; Meyersdale Brewing Company, Meyersdale; Jenner Brewing Company, Jenner township.

**DISTILLERS.** Topper Distilling Company, New Baltimore; Somerset Distilling Company, Conemaugh Twp.; Buhl & Gatesman, Inc., Meyersdale; Harry J. Landman, Somerset Twp.; Sylvanus K. Minor and Earl W. Minor, trading as the Shultz Distilling Company, Brothersvalley Twp.; Christopher Johnston, Summit Twp.

**WHOLESALE.** W. C. Moore Company.

**REFUSED.** Charles J. Ripple, Benson; Charles McIntyre, A. B. Falkner, Berlin; W. C. Grove, Confluence; Wilson K. Walker, Stoyestown; John Clark, Garrett; L. W. Behm, R. G. Bedford, Hooversville; John H. Altmiller and John Hartle, Meyersdale; John F. Werner, Central City; Albert L. Walter, Cairnbrook; Martin R. Brennan, Central City; Frank Lowry, Paul Pachuca, Albert L. Gohn, and John Metz, Windber.

Mrs. David Shoemaker, of Johnstown, arrived here Saturday evening on No. 16, to spend a few weeks with her mother, Mrs. Eliza Miller, of Front street, South Side, and sister, Mrs. Jacob Opel, of Salisbury street.

## WEST SALIS-BURY COURT.

It is rarely seen that a little hamlet like West Salisbury, our little suburb is transformed, as if by magic, into a populace that will compare favorably with busy days on Market street, Pittsburg, on a Saturday evening or the turmoil at a county fair on the banner days, but such was the case of our little neighbor on Tuesday of this week. What all this hustle and this gathering of people from Elk Lick township and Salisbury Borough and surrounding country? It was the rumor of a little court to be held in Emerick's cobbler shop, so ordered by the License Court at Somerset that brought hither all these people and it was for once that this little village on the west banks of the Casselman really put on a civilized appearance.

The object of this "court" was to take evidence in the cases of remonstrances which were filed against Albert Paschke, the applicant for license at the West Salisbury Hotel. The remonstrants' case was conducted by their attorney, Valentine Hay, and Mr. Paschke's case was ably taken care of by his attorney, Mr. Scott. B. F. Krause, our efficient constable, was there in the capacity of his office and Albert B. Lowry, our only squire administered the necessary oaths.

Court convened at 9 a. m., and most of the forenoon was taken up in hearing witnesses for the plaintiff side. At 12 o'clock adjournment was taken for lunch and court was again taken up at 1 o'clock p. m. and about 3 o'clock the testimony for the defendant side was finished. A number of prominent people testified that in their opinion a licensed hotel at West Salisbury is not necessary for the accommodation and entertainment of the traveling public, while probably a great number of eminent citizens testified to the contrary. As to the other things that were threshed over it is not the policy or necessary for your scribe to go into details. The affair waxed pretty warm some times and enough "leaked out" that there was a good bit of spite work and old grudges connected with the whole affair, which is usually the case in such affairs. Nor was it all void of surprises for some parties concerned. Sensational charges of misconduct were intimated against the "star" witness of the remonstrants and many good people freely express themselves to the effect that the remonstrants would have fared better if they not put so much stress on the vengeful clamorings of the so-called star witness who seems to have wanted also to be a "Star Boarder" at the Paschke House before no was asked to change quarters. A "Star Boarder" by some modern Webster is said to be one who never misses a meal nor pays a cent.

Much amusement was afforded to the spectators and so the occasion did something for the community, no matter in what His Honor, the Judge will regard the outcome of the procedure when the case comes up for final consideration.

## SURPRISE PARTY.

A surprise party was given on Tuesday evening of last week at the home of William Freese, in honor of their daughters, Mary and Martha. Games were played and refreshments were served and a very pleasant evening was spent by all.

Those present were: Misses Edith Rae, Mora Siehl, Anna Platter, Anna Merschbacher, Love Chambers, Jessie Forespring, Edith and Anna Freese and Mrs. Rae. Messrs. Lawrence Guisbert, Ralph Darrach, Ralph Commons, Leonard Branche, Alexander Murray and George Rae.

## SHIRT FACTORY IN OPERATION.

The shirt factory of which so much has been said and such hard efforts made to establish, is at last a reality. Work has been started, employees are at work. Yesterday six young ladies were at work and were making splendid progress. To-day a few more were added and this is the plan, to start a few new girls every day until the machines are all in charge of a competent trained person. The machines are of the latest models. One machine sews four seams at the same time. Of this pattern we understand there are very few in use in this county. The outlook for the new industry is good. The surroundings are cheerful, and the building is light and sanitary.

## DEATH'S HARVEST.

**HENRIETTA EBBECKA.**

Mrs. Henrietta Ebbecka, an aged lady of Meyersdale died last Thursday at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Mervine on Center street. She had reached the age of 87 years, 7 months and 16 days and was born in Hanover, Germany, July 17th, 1826.

She came to America forty-two years ago, having lived in Somerset county all these years and making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Mervine for the last few years.

She was twice married, first to a man by the name of Brown, in Germany, who died many years ago and was married fifty-two years ago to Frederick Ebbecka in Germany. He died July 30th, 1894.

Mrs. Ebbecka is survived by the following: Mrs. Charles Floto, of Stuebenville, Ohio, by the first husband; Mrs. Melvin Mervine, of Meyersdale. The following step-children are, Mrs. C. H. Dis, and H. J. Ebbecka, both of Meyersdale and A. C. Ebbecka, of Davenport, Neb., twenty grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

She was a life long member of the German Lutheran church and held her membership in the Pine Hill church where she was buried on Sunday by the side of her husband and a daughter. Rev. Mr. Bowers who supplied the pulpit of the Lutheran church on Sunday, conducted the service at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mervine and Rev. Mr. Carny of Garrett officiated at the grave.

The family desires to express their appreciation through the columns of the Commercial for the help and sympathies shown in the recent bereavement.

**WILLIAM FIKE.**

Passing away of a former Meyersdale man in California.

William M. Fike was born at Meyersdale, September 5, 1858, and died in Fresno county, Cal., February 20, 1914, at the age of 55 years, 5 months and 15 days. Funeral took place at Rasin City, Cal., February 25th.

At the age of 21 he moved with his parents to Carroll Co., Ill., and one year later he returned to Pennsylvania and married Mary A. Walker, after which they returned to Milledgeville, Ill., where they lived until four years ago, when they moved to Rasin City, Cal.

To this union were born ten children, two of whom have preceded him to the spirit world. He leaves to mourn his loss, a devoted wife, four sons and four daughters viz—Mrs. H. A. Boose of Sunny Side, Wash., Mrs. H. W. Miller and Ira A. Fike of Waterloo, Ia., Wallace W. Fike of Milledgeville, Ill., Mrs. Sadie Scott, Samuel W. and Homer E. Fike and Mrs. Grace Hamilton, all of Rasin City.

He also leaves an aged mother, Caroline Fike of Illinois, one brother, J. S. Fike of North Dakota, and four sisters, Mrs. B. J. Rodamar of Waterloo, Iowa, Mrs. Samuel Beachy of Salisbury, Pa., Mrs. S. J. Meyers and Mrs. F. B. Turner of Illinois. He also leaves 10 grand children. His father, J. J. Fike, two sisters, Abbie Fike and Mrs. M. W. Saylor, and one brother, Elias Fike, preceded him to the world beyond.

He and his companion united with the Church of the Brethren in the same year that they were married, and he served as deacon more than a quarter of a century. He never was sick enough for a doctor in his life until his last illness, which sickness he bore with exemplary patience.

He certainly was a thrifty, industrious, economical, prosperous farmer, a first class neighbor, a kind husband and father and a pillar in the church, and an out and out christian, with no uncertain sound. May the good spirit fill the vacancy until we all meet again.

**SAMUEL A. KRETCHMAN.**

Samuel A. Kretchman of Black township, was born near Summit Mills, February 8, 1863, married May 10, 1892, at Grantsville, Md., to Anna Elizabeth Muenlenberg. He was a prominent citizen, served in the capacity as justice of the peace, tax collector, township clerk, and county auditor of Somerset county. At the time of his death he was engaged in farming, having been previously engaged in the mercantile business, and in teaching. He was a member of the Reformed church, and at the time of his death, held the office of elder.

Mr. Kretchman died on Monday, March 9th, in the Memorial hospital

in Johnstown. He had been ailing for more than a year with throat trouble and threatened with tuberculosis. A week before his death he went to the hospital where he was treated for pneumonia, and had counted on returning home the following day.

The day of his death several persons were at the hospital transacting business with him. Later his temperature rose rapidly, and death came suddenly.

He is survived by his wife and these children:—Mrs. Edna Gertrude Meyers, Newton Byron, and Eleanor Elizabeth, and the following brothers and sisters:—L. A. Kretchman of Summit township, N. J. Kretchman of York, Pa., Mrs. Abraham Hay of Rockwood; Mrs. Jacob Nicholson of Oklahoma, Mrs. Mortimore Welfley of Akron, O., and Mrs. Samuel Bidinger of Black township.

A short service will be held today at 1:00 o'clock p. m. at the home of the deceased, while the more extended service will be held at Rockwood, in the Reformed church at 2:00 p. m. Rev. W. A. McClellan, officiating. Interment in the Odd Fellows cemetery.

**JOHN M. LIGHTY.**

John M. Lighty of Waterloo, Iowa, formerly of Milford county, died on Sunday, at the age of 76 years. He was a cousin of S. J. Miller and Mrs. H. C. McKinley, and an uncle of Mrs. C. P. Meyers, all of town. He left Pennsylvania more than fifty years ago.

## VIEWERS APPOINTED.

Judge Ruppel has appointed the following viewers in the matter of the petition of inhabitants of Conemaugh township for a new county bridge over Koontz's run where the public highway leading from Glessner's mill to Thomas' mill crosses the stream near the home of William Governor: Attorney Rufus E. Meyers of Somerset; Peter Hoffman of Paint township; and Joseph B. Miller of Jefferson township.

On petition of citizens of Allegheny township and Brothersvalley township, Judge Ruppel has appointed the following viewers to vacate and supply parts of a public highway leading from the Brush Creek road to the Miller road: Attorney John A. Hartman of Windber; William M. Schrock of Somerset; and Jeremiah J. Reiman of Stonycreek township.

Judge Ruppel has appointed the following viewers in the matter of the petition of citizens of Lower Turkeyfoot township for a new county bridge over Drakestown run where the public road leading from Connessville to Confluence crosses the stream: Attorney Rufus E. Meyers of Somerset; Peter Dumbauld of Milford township; and Jeremiah J. Reiman of Stonycreek township.

On petition of the road supervisors of Shade township the court has approved the opening of a new road connecting the Hillsborough highway and the Shade Furnace road.

Attorney Louis C. Colborn of Somerset; Jeremiah J. Reiman of Stonycreek township; and Peter Hoffman of Paint township, viewers appointed by the court, have reported favorably on the petition of citizens of Shade township for a new county bridge over Oven run, where the public road leading from Kantner to Central City crosses the stream between the residences of Joseph L. and Cyrus Berkebile.

Attorney Rufus E. Meyers of Somerset; Peter Dumbauld of Milford township; and Peter Hoffman of Paint township, viewers appointed by the court, having reported in favor of a new road in Stonycreek township beginning at the Shanksville-Bucks-town road at the residence of Peter Spangler, to the Pittsburg and Philadelphia turnpike, at the residence of the Hon. M. D. Reel.

Attorney Louis C. Colborn of Somerset; Joseph B. Miller of Jefferson township; and Jeremiah J. Reiman of Stonycreek township, viewers appointed by the court, have reported favorably on the petition of citizens of Prothersvalley township for a new county bridge over Swamp creek, where the public road leading from Garrett to Pine Hill crosses the creek between the residences of John W. Brant and Howard Hay.

Attorney John A. Hartman of Windber; William M. Schrock of Somerset; and Virgil M. Black of Confluence, viewers appointed by the court, have reported in favor of two new county bridges in Meyersdale over Flaugherty creek, where Centre street and Walnut street cross the stream.

## OUR SUNDAY SCHOOLS

The Sunday Schools of all Protestant denominations in the district, of which Meyersdale, Salisbury and Garrett are the centers, comprises what is known as District No. 8 of the Somerset County Sunday Association. There are 31 Sunday Schools in this district. The officers of the district are as follows:

President—Rev. E. S. Hassler. Vice President—E. E. Hazelbarth. Secretary—Miss E. V. Ebbecka. Treasurer—Morris S. Maust. Supt. Cradle Roll—Miss Mary Eicher. Supt. Home Dept.—Mrs. H. F. Fogie. Supt. Teacher Training—George E. Yoder. Supt. Temperance Dept.—Miss E. Lichliter. Supt. Missionary Dept.—Mrs. Sue Liston. Supt. A. O. B. C. Dept.—Wm. M. Kistler. Supt. Asst.—Rev. Ira S. Monn. Supt. Secondary Division—W. W. Nicholson.

The readers of the Commercial will remember to have read in last week's issue the account of the meeting of these officers recently held. The aim of the officers is to bring our district up to the front line standard. There is no reason in the world why our district should not lead all the other districts in the county. We have some of the best and largest schools in the county. Our officers and teachers are second to none anywhere. Our only trouble is that we have not yet been conscious of our ability. And we have not been cooperating with the interdenominational organized Sunday school work to the extent in which we should, and consequently have not received in full measure the benefits accruing therefrom, nor exerted our influence for the inspiration of others.

We feel sure that everybody will be interested in making our district front line. To accomplish it we must qualify in all these 10 points:

1. Complete District Organization.
2. Annual Convention Held.
3. Annual Visitation of Schools by District Officers.
4. 50 per cent of Schools represented at County Convention.
5. Statistics of all Schools secured and sent to the County Secretary.
6. A Contribution for Organized S. S. Work.
7. 50 per cent of Schools with Cradle Rolls.
8. 30 per cent of Schools with Home Department.
9. 20 per cent of Schools with qualified Teacher Training classes.
10. 20 per cent of schools Front Line Schools.

The 3rd point is the one that the district officers are now engaged in accomplishing. Every one of the 31 schools in the district will be visited this month by some one of the officers. It is to be hoped that the visitor will be kindly received, and every assistance and opportunity afforded him or her for getting the necessary information. As soon as this visitation is concluded, the district officers will again meet, and on the basis of the reports of the visitors, formulate the program for the next District S. S. Convention. This convention will be held in Meyersdale on some day early in May.

Let us not forget that as we work along these lines, we increase the efficiency of our own schools, and thereby work to the best advantage of our own denomination.

**E. S. HASSLER, Dist. Pres.**

## A BIRTHDAY SURPRISE.

More than thirty of the friends and neighbors of George D. Siel, of the Siel hardware store, assembled at his home on the South Side, Friday evening of last and gave him a stunning birthday surprise. The evening was delightfully spent and the big supper was an important factor. Several well known singers entertained the guests, to their delight and edification. Three solos were rendered. His honor, dressed in "Laad-croaga", Joan A. Giesner, "The Old Time Religion, Good enough for me," and "J. A. Saylor, a solo of ninety-nine verses, "Father Grimes' house."

The occasion will long be remembered. The following were present:—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Giesner, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Weimer, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Downmaster, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Saylor, Mr. and Mrs. George Siel, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Siel, Mr. and Mrs. J. Saylor, Mr. and Mrs. James Kreitzberg, Mr. and Mrs. John Siel, Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Siel, Mrs. H. Bigger, Mr. and Mrs. George Folk, and Burgess Giesner.