

Man I. R. Bangos

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WORKMENS' COMPENSATION

Decision of James W. Leech Makes Radical Changes.

Compensation Board Member James W. Leech of Ebensburg, in the case of Mrs. Watson of Moon Run against the Pittsburgh Coal Company, has made a ruling which has caused widespread comment and which is believed to have been one of the most notable and important so far handed down since the compensation law was enacted. One view of Mr. Leech's decision is thus set forth in the Pittsburgh Dispatch:

"The decision of Commissioner Leech of the workmen's compensation board, in the application of Mrs. Mary Watson of Moon Run for a claim for the death of her husband in a mine of the Pittsburgh Coal company, takes the matter of death indemnity out of the old field of legal technicality and lists it among the social obligations. The time honored bar of negligence, even if gross or criminal negligence, and act of a fellow-servant, have been set aside by this opinion of Commissioner Leech and the workmen's compensation law brought closer to what the public mind had in view when it was enacted. The decision in the Watson case declares the only escape from liability is when a workman takes his own life or is the victim of the act of another workman for personal reasons, and not directed against him because of his employment.

"Watson lost his life through an explosion of oil which he had taken into and secreted in the mine where he worked. The facts were admitted, and Commissioner Leech holds that the man's acts could not be considered other than negligence. There was no evidence that he intended to take his own life, the commissioner says, and while what he did was in gross and wilful violation of the mine code and regulations of the company, cannot be taken as other than negligence, which has been eliminated as a bar, whether the act of the man killed or a fellow-workman.

"In other words, the opinion of the compensation board is that the object of the compensation law is to provide for the dependents of industrial workers killed or injured at their calling. Dependency is as great under one condition as another. It makes no difference to the helpless little children of a man killed whether it was through his own ignorance of a fellow-workman, or failure to protect by the employing concern. The big facts are that the breadwinner is dead and dependent widows and orphans must be taken care of, either through a compensation law or by charity.

"Since the money for the awards is charged against the product, the same as any other cost item, and paid indirectly by society at large as consumers, the opinion of Commissioner Leech goes straight to the heart of things by declaring that is all the more reason why only the fewest defenses should be bars to compensation."

It is interesting in this connection to announce that the compensation board now has on press a report giving all decisions so far made in the enforcement of the law. The volume will contain all the evidence, arguments, etc., in each case, with the rulings thereon, and is certain to be in great demand among attorneys. The book will be issued from the state printery some time within the next few weeks, it is understood.

Lost Shadows in Oklahoma.
Durant (Okla.) Democrat.

When you see a man trying to convince his shadow that it is improper to follow a gentleman, it's a sure sign that prohibition isn't altogether a success.

Now Is the Hour for High Resolve.
From the Philadelphia Record.

The only really valuable city charter is the determination of the citizens to have good government.

Boston Barkeeps in Jovial Mood.
Boston saloon men may be pardoned for feeling that the drinks are on "Billy" Sunday.

"The movies have done a great deal for me." "Are you one of those big salaried actors?" "No, but I do almost as well." "I'm a pie manufacturer."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Fifty-Fifty.
By J. J. Montague, in N. Y. American.

Mr. Bryan has decided to quit Nebraska, Nebraska having decided some time ago to quit Mr. Bryan.

The Grim Reaper.

JESSIE J. COOK

Jesse J. Cook, a well known farmer, died at 1:30 p. m. Wednesday at the Cook homestead near Wellersburg, Pa., Somerset county, his death, which was unexpected, was due to pneumonia and heart trouble. The deceased was born September 18, 1856, and was a graduate of Mt. Union college, Alliance, Ohio. For many years the deceased taught school in the various parts of Somerset county. At one time he was mercantile appraiser of Somerset county and was justice of the peace of Southampton township for 25 years. The deceased was aged 60 years, 3 months and 2 days. The funeral took place at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon from his late residence near Wellersburg, Pa. The services were conducted by Rev. J. H. Wise, of Buffalo Mills, Pa., and Rev. W. H. Cramer of Ellerslie, Md., of the United Evangelical church. Burial was made in the Cook cemetery. In May, 1892, the deceased and Miss Belle C. Long, daughter of Justice Long of Wellersburg, were married by the Rev. S. Milliron of the U. E. denomination. Mrs. Cook survives her husband with six children, all single and at home, Harry Ellsworth, Ella Grace, Laura Pearle, Charles Bruce, Bertha Blanche and Viola Gertrude. Edna May died November 14, 1904. The brothers and sisters surviving are Mrs. Catherine A. Wilhelm and Mrs. Martha E. Carpenter, both of Hyndman, Pa.; Edward L. and William H. Cook, both of Johnstown, Pa.; Mrs. Charles Smouse of near Cumberland, Md.; Mrs. William H. Deal, of Meyersdale, Pa., and Jones M. Cook, of Somerset, Pa.

JACOB A. HITE

The Grim Reaper claimed another in the depleted ranks of the local veterans of the Civil war yesterday morning when Jacob A. Hite of 837 Bedford street was called to answer the final summons. Mr. Hite's death was due to old age and general debility. He was aged 77 years, 10 months and 20 days, and was born in Bedford county. The deceased served two enlistments in the Civil war, first as a private in Company H, One Hundred Seventy-first regiment, under Capt. John Bierer. He served about a year in this regiment and when his enlistment expired, entered the service again in Company G, One Hundred One regiment, under Capt. Conley. He made his second enlistment in May, 1864, and served until the end of the great struggle, in June, 1865.

Mr. Hite is survived by his widow, who was formerly Miss Mary Oldham, and by three sisters: Mrs. J. P. Hasselbauer and Miss Amanda Hite of 806 Oak street, Seventh ward, and Mrs. Mary Mock of Hroversville. The deceased was employed until about 20 years ago by the Cambria Steel company. He left the employment of the steel concern to take up farming on a place near Hooversville. He lived on the farm until a few years ago, when he retired.

The funeral will take place at 1:30 o'clock tomorrow afternoon at the Hite home, 637 Bedford street, when services will be conducted by the Rev. J. N. Schoes, pastor of First Christian church. The services will be in charge of the members of Emory Fisher post, No. 30, G. A. R., of which the deceased was a member. Burial will be in Sandvyle cemetery.—Johnstown Democrat.

Ben Bittner.

Ben Bittner, a former resident and business man of Meyersdale, but who has been engaged in Pittsburgh for some time, died at his home in that city on Saturday, December 23, of endocarditis. His remains were brought here to the home of his sister, Mrs. Milton Meyers, where services were held on Tuesday by Rev. Franc, followed by interment in the Union cemetery. He is survived by his mother, his widow, his sister, Mrs. Meyers, and by his seven children. The funeral was conducted by undertaker, J. L. Tressler.

At the Bijou.

On Christmas afternoon the Bijou Theater was crowded to capacity, and pictures were shown continuously from two o'clock in the afternoon to 12 o'clock at night, and part of the time the aisles were filled by persons who were unable to get seats. The people who were present speak in the highest terms of the picture shown and also attest the popularity of this show house, where prices are always moderate.

"It's a long time from nuts to soup." "You mean 'soup to nuts.'" "No, I don't. I'm referring to long time from one good dinner to another."—Buffalo Express.

RUSSIA REFUSES PEACE TERMS

The Russian Docum discusses Peace Terms.

The first expression of Russia's official attitude toward President Wilson's note was obtained by the Associated Press in the form of the following statement emanating from a high official source and approved by the foreign office:

"We pay tribute to the humanitarian motives which actuated President Wilson in turning to the warring nations with the wish to conclude peace. These motives are not foreign to us.

"The initiative of Russia in the domain of peace conferences which would have placed a limitation upon destructive wars has always met with opposition from Germany. We were the defenders of peace in 1914 to the very last moment, when Germany declared war on us.

"We also understand to what extent war reacts on the interest of neutrals, principally on account of the manner in which it is being conducted by our enemies. But we cannot help keeping in view the fact that the American declaration was made almost simultaneously with the German one.

"In its true sense the German offer is now known to all. Germany considers herself a victor and thinks to dictate to us terms of peace. Under such conditions the beginning of peace negotiations with Germany would signify our acknowledgment of such a belief. We are not vanquished and cannot therefore make an acknowledgment of defeat. We deeply believe in the triumph of right and justice for which we are fighting and when this will prevail then will come the time for sincere peace negotiations."

Community Tree.

Somerset, Dec. 25.—Christmas services were conducted this evening under the community Christmas tree of Somerset. Selections were rendered by the High School band, and the male quartet gave a number of vocal numbers. The Christmas tree was beautifully decorated and illuminated with colored lights. A large star adorned the top of the tree. Rev. Edgar F. Hoffmeier. The musical part of the program was under the leadership of J. J. Walker. A large crowd attended the services.

A Christmas concert was given this evening in the Somerset opera house under the direction of Prof. Wehland Young. A capacity crowd attended.

Wittenberg.

Mrs. Joseph Braugher and daughter of Akron, Ohio, are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Caler of Deal for a few days.

Miss Florence Pedenbrink of Connellsville is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Pedenbrink of Mountain Valley.

Mr. Roy Deal of Smithfield is spending Christmas with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Simon Deal.

Mr. Dewey Smith and Mr. Elmer Pedenbrink were shoppers in Meyersdale last Friday.

Mrs. Charles May and daughter Beatrice of Connellsville are spending the holidays with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mankamyer.

Mr. Albert Fair of Akron, Ohio, is spending a few weeks with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Fair.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Smith left on Saturday for Braddock to spend Christmas with the latter's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Dove.

Mr. John Slagle of Akron, Ohio, is visiting friends and relatives for a few days.

Misses Orpha and Blanche Mankamyer of Connellsville are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Mankamyer.

Mr. Norman Pedenbrink of Akron, Ohio, spent Sunday afternoon at the home of his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Pedenbrink.

Mr. Lewis Bittner of Garrett spent Sunday and Monday with his wife at the home of J. E. Geiger.

Miss Lydia Smith was a caller on Sunday evening and Christmas at the home of C. C. Houssels of Deal.

Must Have Mouth Open, Too.

New York Telegram.

Mr. W. J. Bryan's portrait to be hung with other former secretaries of state represents the statesman with one hand full of peace treaties and the other thrust into a trousers pocket. It's his lifeline.

A "Dry Fact."
Philadelphia Inquirer.

A state is "constructively dry" when every man in it can get only a gallon of liquor each month.

DOCTOR AND HIS PATIENT

Patients so impatient that renders treatment ineffective.

Do you know how to use a doctor? When you are ill you send for him of course. He has an automobile to go to see people who wait so long before seeking his advice that he must go to them. He begins by asking all sorts of questions which may seem to have little to do with the matter in hand.

Suppose you did go to a banquet and eat and perhaps drink a little more than usual. Perhaps you have been working extra long hours at the office and naturally you haven't had time to take exercise. Maybe you have neglected yourself a trifle. The important thing is that you are sick and it is the doctor's business to give you medicine that will right all this promptly. You haven't time to stay in bed and he knows it. Therefore, the thing for him to do is to give you a teaspoonful of something three times a day before meals that will set everything straight forthwith. This is an ordinary man's conception of a doctor's duty to his patient.

Now as to the doctor's side of it. When he comes to see a patient he probably thinks, after asking questions: here is a man who works hard, he eats too fast and too much, neglects to exercise, is careless about his daily habits, feels a little fatigued and resorts to a nip two or three times a day to "buck himself up," his digestive organs are overworked and what he needs is a change of habit and modification of his method of living. A little rest if I insist upon it, a tonic and some restriction of his diet for a few days, will pull him through this spell. He will probably take the medicine I have prescribed but the advice he will forget in a week. That's the doctor's side of the case.

Then of course there is the man or woman who is almost certain that something is wrong with them physically. Some of the bodily functions are not right and they know it but they keep on because they "haven't time to be sick." Finally they must seek advice and then the doctor discovers that there is some profound organic disturbance that may have gone so far that he is helpless to aid.

If you are going to build a house you call in an architect who acts as your adviser, makes your plans and sees that they are carried out. If you go into a business deal your lawyer draws up the contract, sees that your interests are protected and advises you how to proceed. But your doctor you call in when the damage is done and you expect him to give you something in a bottle that will undo the results of weeks, months or years of indiscretion.

Elected Officers.

At the last meeting of M. C. Lowry post, No. 214, G. A. R., the following officers were elected for the coming year and will be installed at the regular meeting of the Post on January 4, 1917:

Com., H. C. McKinley; S. V., Eli Hair; J. V., John Daubert; Q. M., M. A. Rutter; O. D., Samuel Huffmeyer; Chap., Rev. W. W. Wagner; O. G., Joseph Wagner; Surg., August Rosenberger.

The Adjutant, S. M., and Quarter Master Sergeant will be appointed at the regular meeting and installed at that time.

Marriage Licenses.

Cumberland, Md., Dec. 25.—Marriage licenses were issued here Saturday as follows:

Walter Pebley, Dunlo, and Frances Catherine Cover, Beaver Falls.

Bureau Vance Shaffer, Johnstown, and Clara Burkett, New Buena Vista.

Claude Arnold Williams, and Virginia Frances Deneen, Hobbitzell.

William Franklin Day and Saline Jane Largent, both of Meyersdale.

David Richard Lamberson and Marie Smith Resevetz, both of Johnstown.

Greenville.

The Christmas service given by the Sunday school in the Hostetter church on Christmas eve was the first one given in that edifice, although the church has been erected for half a century. The house was filled to overflowing and a program was rendered by the scholars and teachers consisting of music and recitations, and an address by the superintendent. The program was an unusual one and was well rendered and well received. The affair will add interest in the school, in the objects, as well as in the attendance.

Doings at Pochontas.

The Willing Workers of the Reformed church at Pochontas will hold a box social and oyster supper Saturday evening December 30, to which everybody is cordially invited.

Farmers Institute.

The annual Farmers' Institutes under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture will start in Somerset county on Saturday Dec. 30, and continue until Jan. 6, with meetings at Boswell on Dec. 30; Meyersdale on Jan. 1 and 2; Berlin on January 3 and 4, and Somerset on Jan. 5 and 6.

County Chairman Robert L. Lohr, of Boswell, Pa., has arranged attractive programs for all of the agricultural subjects vital to the cultural interests of Somerset county will be discussed by the state experts who have been assigned. J. T. Campbell of Hartstown is the section leader and one of the State Farm advisers. Mr. Campbell is a successful poultryman and soil expert. Other speakers will be Prof. Franklin Menges, of York, Pa., who is a soil and general farming expert, and Dr. John Rosenberger, of Wycombe, Pa., who will speak on: Some Cattle Diseases and How to Handle Them; Feeding the Dairy Herd; Cooperation to Improve the Dairy Herd; Selection of the Dairy Sire; and Community Building.

Some of the subjects Mr. Campbell will discuss are: Restoration and Maintenance of the Productive Power of the Soil; Lessons from Experience in Tile Drainage; Poultry Feeding and Care of Chicks; Problems of the Large Poultry Farm, and two evening lectures.

Prof. Menges will speak on: Natural Ways of Maintaining the Fertility of the Soil; Soil Moisture and Humus; Nitrogen Fixation; Ways of Introducing Clovers into Rotations; Corn Breeding and Selection of Seed, Wheat and Wheat Raising.

These meetings are held for the special benefit of the farmers and their families and the instructors are practical farmers who have made a success in the lines of agriculture about which they speak. Farmers who have any problems should attend these meetings and get the advice of the experts. Farmers and the general public interested in agriculture throughout Somerset county are urged to attend these meetings as they offer much advice that will be profitable in increasing and producing better crops on the farms.

Ridge View.

We are very glad to see the Meyersdale Commercial step out again as it is a very lively and interesting paper and we don't want to see it go down again.

Our three stores report a rushing business during the holiday season. Mr. Earl T. Toney who has been employed at the rubber factory at Akron, Ohio, is home for the holidays.

Mrs. Maria Stark sold her property to Thomas Cunningham and had a sale of her household goods Saturday and will leave here on Thursday to go to her son Robert, who has been engaged in business for several years at Chester, Pa.

The Christmas services at St. John's Lutheran church was very largely attended and their annual treat to the scholars as heretofore. The music furnished by the choir was excellent.

W. F. Null, teacher of our grammar school, is getting along fine and has a good attendance.

Miss Robt Bender, daughter of C. Bender at Listonburg, won the silver set given away at Addison by the Indian show which was here for over a week.

Miss Gussie V. Rishberger who has been quite ill for the past two weeks is convalescent.

Mrs. Camp and son Arnold has returned home after a two weeks' visit at Connellsville, visiting friends.

Mrs. T. P. Heavener and granddaughter Mary Heavener was calling on Addison friends Saturday.

Glencoe.

Family reunions at Christmas time were epidemic—such took place at F. Webreck's, J. T. Leydig's, H. M. Poorbaugh's and W. H. Bittner's.

The Charles Love family of Pittsburgh are guests at the J. L. Snyder home.

C. S. Poorbaugh left Tuesday for Johnstown where he probably will locate instead of returning to Montana.

Mrs. Lewis Little and the Harry Hensel family of Friedens were disappointed visitors in our town Monday night. The railroad accident a mile west of Glencoe delayed No. 40 several hours, thereby making it impossible for travelers to hear the Christmas services.

Dr. Spicer and wife of Cumberland spend Christmas at I. D. Leydig's.

Archie Tressler and Samuel Bittner of Akron, are home for the holidays.

Alice Webreck and a classmate, Miss Hindman of Pittsburgh, are here for the week. They hardly know which "conveyance" of the Big Boss they like better.

James L. Poorbaugh and family of Somerset spent Christmas with their brother Calvin.

Annie Sharp of Sandpatch hung her stocking with her Delozier cousins here on Dec. 25.

"Candy" C. W. Poorbaugh, of Meyersdale was home for his Christmas and incidentally renewed his acquaintance with the lovely ladies of our township.

COMMON DISEASE OF POULTRY

Description of Poultry Diseases and Treatment.

The prevention of poultry diseases is much more satisfactory than trying to effect a cure. A great many farmers and poultrymen invite disease into their flock by keeping weak stock under unsanitary conditions. Doctoring, except when treatment can be applied to the whole flock, is not advisable.

Extension Circular No. 47, of the Pennsylvania State College school of agriculture and experiment station, has the following to say of the treatment of colds, and roup, so common in fowls during this season of the year.

Simple colds are caused by overcrowding in the roosts at night, exposure to draughts or dampness, and are characterized by watery eyes, sneezing and a discharge from the nostrils. The discharge from the nostrils does not have an offensive odor. Colds are usually cured by dipping the heads of the fowls in the following solution: alcohol, 50 per cent, water 36 per cent, boracic acid, 4 per cent and glycerine 10 per cent.

Roup occurs in several forms, as nasal or eye roup, diphtheritic roup or canker, and chicken pox or sore head, and is highly contagious. With nasal roup the eyes are swollen and an offensive discharge is given off from the nostrils. Diphtheritic roup is characterized by yellowish membranes in the mouth and throat. In chicken pox the unfeathered parts of the head become covered with reddish brown nodules. In all forms the disease is very difficult to cure, and when found in a flock the killing of infected birds and thorough disinfection of the house is to be recommended.

St. Paul.

Robert Engle, who had been working in Pittsburgh, is spending the Christmas season with his mother in St. Paul.

A Christmas program was rendered by the teachers and pupils of the St. Paul school to an appreciative audience last Friday afternoon. A treat, distributed by Mr. and Mrs. "Santa Claus" followed the exercises.

Some of our people attended the Christmas exercises in Grantsville, and Summit Mills on Christmas Eve.

The St. Paul's Reformed church was filled to its capacity on Christmas evening to hear the cantata "Around the Manger." Many were the expressions of appreciation by those attending the services.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Sipple accompanied by their children, spent Christmas with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sipple.

Mr. Ross Sechler spent Christmas with his wife, who is a patient in a Cancer hospital in Richmond, Virginia.

Some thought provoking questions for Christmas:

Can a man be consistent who preaches and supports a system that leads to war? Does not the system that makes profits out of the needs of the people inevitably lead to war? Are not the big interests of this or any other nation organized principally for the purpose of making profits out of the needs of the people? Are not vast military organizations mainly for the purpose of holding and securing advantages for these profiteers of society? Are you sure that a law compelling our children to be trained in the arts of war is not fathered by those who make profit out of war? Is it possible that 93 per cent of the people will allow 2 per cent of the people, owning 60 per cent of the wealth of this nation, to use them as cat's paws?

VIM

Thomas Swindell is reported to be improving slowly.

Byron E. Nicholson who is attending F. and M. college, is spending his Christmas vacation at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Nicholson.

Miss Harriet Nicholson is staying at Cyrus Hochstetler's.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Herring spent from Saturday to Monday at the home of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Beck at Bakersville.

Henry Suder and family spent Christmas at the home of Peter Bowman.

P. W. White and family of Larimer township ate their Christmas dinner at Vim.

Mr. and Mrs. William Engle spent Monday in Salisbury at the home of Frank Thomas.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee of Randolph spent over Christmas at Vim visiting relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ball of Frostburg, Md., spent over Christmas at the home of their son-in-law, Henry Engle.

Irvin Engle is visiting in Frostburg, Md., this week.

W. W. Nicholson's cow brought him twin calves on Wednesday of last week.