

FREELAND TRIBUNE.

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TRouble AT A CHURCH.

DESPERATE STRUGGLE YESTERDAY MORNING AT ST. KASIMER'S.

The Town Disturbed by a Factional War Between Poles and Lithuanians—Police Take a Hand and Several Promoters of the Riot Get Shot.

The factional dispute which has been waged with vigor for the past few months in the congregation of St. Kasimer's Polish Catholic church of Ridge street broke out fiercely yesterday morning, and as a result there are several of belligerents lying today with bullets in their bodies. The congregation is composed of Poles and Lithuanians, and, like in many other parts of the country, there has been a bitter fight between the two parties for a long time to see which nationality would control the church here. The pastor, Rev. Joseph Maszotas, is a Lithuanian, and upon him the Poles have endeavored to wreak their vengeance. Several applications have been made to Bishop O'Hara to have him removed, but as the charges made against the priest were not proven by his persecutors he has been allowed to remain.

Baffled in their attempts to oust him, the Poles determined to try more radical measures, and for several weeks past an outbreak was expected during some of the services. About four weeks ago trouble did take place over the organist of the church, and several of the Poles were then placed under bail to keep the peace.

Bishop O'Hara had promised the Poles that he would make an investigation of the finances and other affairs of the congregation, but illness prevented him from doing so. Last week he gave them permission to hold services in the church yesterday morning at 9 o'clock with Rev. Ligday, of St. John's Slavish church, as priest, but owing to a libelous article which appeared on Thursday in a Polish paper this order was on Saturday rescinded by the bishop. The article reflected on the character and ability of Rev. Maszotas, and was signed by A. Rudewick, of South Heberton, and others who have since been arrested upon the charge of criminal libel and placed under bail.

Upon learning that Rev. Ligday would not be permitted to hold the services for them while Rev. Maszotas was at Hazleton, the Poles decided upon preventing services of any kind from being held there. A compromise, however, was effected early yesterday morning, and all parties agreed to refrain from creating trouble until an investigation could be made. This agreement, however, was made apparently for the purpose of throwing the priest and his followers off their guard, and the subsequent results proved.

When Rev. Maszotas arrived yesterday morning from Hazleton, where he had read mass for his congregation there, he found a large crowd about the church. The Poles were very demonstrative and had the church barred to keep out the priest. Rumors that trouble would take place spread through town and several hundred people were gathered in front of the church by 11 o'clock, the time for services to begin.

Rev. Maszotas, however, had taken the precaution to inform Constable Pundy, of Foster township, in whose territory the church stands, to be ready to protect him, and the constable had the entire police force of the borough sworn in as specials.

At 11 o'clock the priest left his residence, which is built south of the church a short distance, and walked through the yard to the rear door of the church, intending to enter the vestry room. At the steps he was met by an angry crowd, armed with clubs and stones, and violently pushed about. Seeing that it was impossible to gain admittance there, he went to the front door, where he was again met by the leaders of his opponents and threatened if he attempted to enter.

Finding that an attempt to get into the church would precipitate a struggle, the priest returned to the residence, intending to wait until the excitement would cool off and then go in, using force if necessary. The action of the priest, however, was construed as a victory by the Poles, and they gathered about the house cheering wildly and using threats against all who sympathized with the pastor.

Up to this time Constable Pundy and his deputies had taken no active part in the affair except to see that the priest was not harmed. They now received word from him that he was going into the church, and the force immediately prepared for action. Burgess McLaughlin was on the ground and advised the borough officers to do nothing radical unless all other means of preventing trouble should fail. Instructions were also given to arrest any person who interfered with the priest when he came

out. Mutual friends tried to advise the Poles to let the matter end there, but they appeared so elated over their first success that nothing could move them from their intention to prevent services being held. The Poles were very bitter against the borough police, and likely considered the time an appropriate one to settle up some old accounts with them.

In clearing a line from the residence to the church Chief of Police James M. Gallagher was shoved about by the Poles, and finally was caught by the coat by Joe Dietch, who attempted to force him toward the gate. Gallagher drew his revolver, at the sight of which Dietch let go his hold, but the weapon was at once grasped by another Pole and several more surrounded him with long clubs. The chief gave one order to the crowd to stand back, but it was not complied with and his position became very dangerous. A rush was made for him and Gallagher fired, and at the same time received a blow from a club which felled him to the ground.

Immediately another rush was made for the chief, who was lying upon the ground, but Officers Jones and Rymer met them with a volley from their revolvers. A general stampede took place among the outsiders, as bullets and rocks were flying thick from both sides, and by this time Constables Quigley and Pundy and Officers Daniel Gallagher, Welch and Wolf were pouring lead into the rioters. The determined manner in which the police met the assault struck the Poles with terror, and they retreated behind the church, from which place several wounded men were immediately taken away and they refuse to give any information regarding the number who are injured.

The shooting lasted scarcely two minutes and about sixty shots were fired. Several bystanders were slightly hurt by stones thrown by the Poles, but so far as is known only one person was shot outside of those who opposed the priest. This was Charles Shinsinsky, a Lithuanian, who was standing on the steps of the residence. Patrick Hanlon, of Upper Lehigh, had the leg of his pants ripped by a bullet, and Joseph Rimshaw, of South Heberton, was hit but the ball struck a button on his drawers and glanced off.

Another attack from the Poles was expected, and Constable Pundy deputized several citizens. The attack, however, was not made, and the priest went to the church. On account of the excitement and the lateness of the hour he decided not have services.

About 12 o'clock some of the rioters came around again to see what was going on, and the following were placed under arrest, charged with inciting and participating in a riot: Joseph Rosinski, Frank Wanski, Stanislaus Tomski and Joseph Kraniski. They were taken to the borough lockup and at 3 o'clock Albert Novak entered bail for \$300 for each to appear at a hearing before Squire Buckley at 9 o'clock a. m. tomorrow. Several arrests are predicted on both sides before the trouble ends.

During the trouble the priest remained in his residence, and throughout the whole fight took no part in it. He regretted very much that blood was shed yesterday, but he is determined to stay until removed by the church authorities. The sympathy of the town was with the priest and the police during the fight.

The list of injured cannot be given in full, as the Poles refuse to make known the number hurt on their side. Below are a few of those reported hurt: Victor Trynoski, shot in leg and cheek, taken to Hazleton hospital, condition very serious.

Andrew Yosinski, shot in left leg.

Peter Jasinski, shot in thumb of right hand.

Charles Shinsinsky, shot in left thigh.

Andrew Novak, shot in left leg.

Stanley Novak, shot twice in right leg below the knee.

Chief of Police James M. Gallagher, head gashed with a club and cheek cut with a stone.

Officer Daniel Jones, nose severely cut with a stone.

Several more or less serious cuts were received by outsiders and the police.

A Foster Will Probated.

The will of Margaret Reifsky, late of Foster township, was probated last week, and she thus disposes of her estate: All of the household furniture goes to her sons Harry and Israel. To her sons William and Thomas the sum of \$5. To her children Harry, Joseph, Israel, Isaac, Lizzie, Annie, Hannah, and her granddaughter Laura is given share and share alike, the real estate. The policy held by the deceased in the Prudential Insurance Company is to be used toward defraying the funeral expenses. To her sons Harry and Israel is given \$100, the amount she has in bank.

Go to McDonald's for \$1 chenille table covers.

Ladies' shirt waists 25c at Neuberger's.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE.

Freeland Ready to Do Honor to the Memory of Its Dead Soldiers.

Memorial Day is almost here again, and the citizens in general are preparing to observe the day with all the splendor and spirit that the occasion demands. The desire to do honor to the patriot dead, and to the veterans of that bitter struggle who are still living, is becoming much stronger each year in Freeland. This is as it should be, for there never can be too much enthusiasm in celebrating this important event, under the auspices of Maj. C. B. Cox, Post, as the veterans fought and won, in which the veterans of Post 147 participated, have been some of the most brilliant of the war. Each year the number of these old heroes who compose the G. A. R. in this vicinity is getting smaller, but their memory still lives, and those who yet remain with us, as living patriots, should be honored.

The societies intending to participate in the exercises here on Wednesday will form in line and on the streets selected for them, as published in Monday's issue. The parade will move promptly at 2 o'clock over the principal streets of town.

After arriving at Freeland cemetery the graves of the soldiers buried there will be decorated, and the assemblage will be called to order by the chairman of the day, Hon. Eckley B. Cox. An address will be delivered by Chas. Orion Stroh, Esq., followed by patriotic songs and music by the Sunday school children and bands.

The graves of the soldiers interred at St. Ann's and Eckley cemeteries will be decorated by delegations of Maj. C. B. Cox Post during the morning.

Reservoir Bursts at Avoca.

The heavy rains of the past few days so filled the large reservoir of the Pennsylvania Coal Company at Avoca that on Friday morning between 3 and 4 o'clock the walls, unable to bear the great strain, crumbled away, and the great mass of water rushed down the hill. Directly in its path lay the slope and shaft of the Langelife Coal Company and into these openings the water fell, completely drowning out the colliery.

The accident happened fortunately at an hour when no men were in the mine. Had it occurred in the day time the loss of life would have been appalling. It will be some weeks before work can be resumed in the colliery.

In the rush of water down the hill, trees, fences and sheds were carried away by the flood. Large furrows were plowed through the streets, and several houses are moved from their foundations. The "Last Chance" shaft of the Avoca Coal Company, the workings of the Heidleberg colliery and of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company at Smithville were also flooded.

First of the Season.

The first picnic of the season will be held on Wednesday afternoon and evening at Freeland Public park by the Tigers Athletic Club. The picnic will commence immediately after the parade and exercises are concluded. Music for the dancers will be furnished by DePierro's orchestra. Refreshments of every kind will be on sale on the grounds, and amusements of all descriptions will be there to make the day a pleasant one for the public.

Shooting Match Tomorrow.

Tomorrow afternoon the shooting match between M. E. Fritzinger, of town, and Patrick Herron, of Milnesville, will come off at Freeland ball park. The stakes are \$200 a side, and eleven birds will be shot at by each. Quite an amount of money has already been wagered upon the result. Both are known as expert shooters, and have been doing some very fine work in their practice the past few weeks.

First Trip to Tidewater.

Engineer James Tully and Conductor Thomas Slattery, of the D. S. & S., have the honor of making the first trip with a D. S. & S. train via L. V. R. R. to Perth Amboy. The crew left Driston this morning at 6 a. m. with forty-five loaded gondolas and a caboose. The trip was made to familiarize the crew with the road. Others will follow at stated intervals until the first of July, when all will run regular.

Pioneer Ball Tomorrow Evening.

The annual ball held on Memorial Day eve by St. Ann's T. A. B. Pioneer Corps will take place at the opera house on Tuesday evening, and as this has been the first ball for some time the attendance is certain to be large. DePierro's orchestra has been engaged to entertain the dancers, and all others who attend will find many things there to interest and amuse them. Admission, 50 cents.

Ladies, call at Neuberger's and see the 40c wrappers.

Men's hose at McDonald's for 5c.

DEFENDING LEISENRING.

A Well-Known Democratic Paper Has Its Say Upon Boodle Rumors.

From the Wilkes-Barre Newsdealer. It is very evident from the tone of the Record that they are exceedingly anxious to have Morgan Williams nominated for congress in preference to Mr. Leisenring of the lower end of the county. They, of course, have not the courage to oppose Mr. Leisenring openly, but "under the hay" they are giving him some knocks, none of which, however, have the force that a well directed open attack would have. It is very unkind in the Record to allege, indirectly, that Leisenring largely depends on the use of boodle to nominate him, for the same allegation would be equally strong against Williams.

No newspaper claiming to be run with brains does the ill-advised things that the Record does. Four years ago it made charges and allegations affecting George W. Shonk in his candidacy for congress, that after his nomination rendered what support they gave him no service or benefit. The want of tact displayed by them was a nine-days' wonder, and was, at the time, the subject of much adverse comment. The same course they pursued toward Mr. Shonk in the campaign previous to his nomination, they are now pursuing toward the candidacy of Mr. Leisenring.

In Shonk's case, the hostility shown him was moved by a desire to assist Mr. Miner, and in Mr. Leisenring's case it is a desire to benefit Morgan Williams. But the policy pursued in both cases is the same. Shonk, they cried, was to be nominated by boodle, and Leisenring, they assert, is to use the same methods.

These are certainly grave charges to make against a candidate of the party, and if they are not based on facts they are doing Mr. Leisenring the same injustice that they did Mr. Shonk. What seems to be badly lacking in the editorial management of the Record is brains and tact to know what to do, and to do it in a proper way. Leisenring's friends are not to be blamed for the anger they show at the attacks on their favorite, and it is the general opinion that the Record people are making a hot battle for themselves; much warmer indeed than they can stand. What fools these Record people be.

DRIFTON ITEMS.

About 300 people assembled at the ball park yesterday afternoon to see the first game this year. It was between the Fearnots of town and the Freeland Tigers. The game was a hotly-contested one from beginning to end, and the players put up a fine exhibition, considering that neither side had any practice. The score was tied four times during the game, but the Tigers managed to get a runner home in the tenth inning and won the game, 8 to 7. The batteries were Charles McGeehan and Thomas O'Donnell, of town, for the Fearnots, and James Welsh, of Freeland, and Matt Broderick, of Sandy Run, for the Tigers.

Nothing of any account was done on the electric road at this place last week owing to the stormy weather. Two bridges are to be built yet and only a portion of the material has arrived to commence the work.

Engine No. 2, D. S. & S., is receiving a thorough overhauling in the shop.

The shop hands continue to work full time.

Patrick O'Donnell attended the funeral of a relative at Wilkes-Barre last week.

Many of the residents fear the recent rain will ruin their potato crops.

No. 1 slope was not affected to any great extent by the heavy rain. It worked steady.

The employes here will receive their pay today.

Condy O'Donnell, Silver Brook, was in town on Friday visiting relatives.

Many of the crews on the D. S. & S. were laid off a portion of last week on account of the collieries being idle.

John McKinley and Miss Mary Beach, both of Jeunesville, were married at St. James' church on Wednesday by Rev. J. P. Buxton.

Many of the men who made application for work on the D. S. & S., as engine-men, firemen and trainmen on the run to Tidewater, are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the ten new crews. It is said that applications to the number of 150 have been presented from trainmen alone.

Some of our young boys have a habit of going around after dark throwing stones at doors. If caught at this business they will be punished severely.

Mrs. James A. O'Donnell, of Silver Brook, was in town last week and had Dr. John Wentz, of Scranton, Dr. Geo. S. Wentz, of this place, and Dr. McKnight, of Eckley, perform an operation upon her six-months-old daughter. The operation was successful.

BRIEF ITEMS OF NEWS.

PARAGRAPHS GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE REGION.

Synopsis of Local and Miscellaneous Occurrences That Can Be Read Quickly. What the Folks of This and Other Towns Are Doing.

Several cases of measles are reported by the physicians of town.

The Mountain Grove camp meeting will be held this year from August 6 to August 18 inclusive.

The actors of town defeated a club from Beaver Meadow at Birvanton yesterday. Score, 9 to 8.

High Constable Ludwig is after the swine of town, and has averaged half a dozen captures daily for a week past.

Jacob Andrews, of Butler valley, who was recently adjudged insane, was removed to the Danville asylum on Thursday.

All the small pox patients at Lee, near Shickshiny, are doing well and no further spread of the disease is anticipated.

On Saturday evening several people from town attended the production of Dan Hart's new play, "A Daughter of Dixie," at Hazleton.

Jan. J. Gillespie left this morning on a week's business trip to Ottawa, Canada. During his absence he will visit Niagara Falls and other places of interest along the line.

The Mayberry band gave its first open air concert of this summer in front of the Central hotel on Saturday evening. A programme of choice music was rendered.

All the lumber for the ball park has arrived and work upon the fence will be pushed this week. The Tigers expect to have it in condition by June 3, when the first game will be played here.

The members of Maj. C. B. Cox, No. 147, G. A. R., listened to a very interesting sermon which was delivered by Rev. J. W. Bischoff, of Upper Lehigh, at Lindsay's hall last evening.

A ball will be held on Wednesday even by the Young Men's Slavonian Society at Haas' hall, and another at the opera house for the benefit of the Freeland Slavonian school the same night.

The card of John J. McNelis, of Drifton, who is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for representative, appears today. Mr. McNelis intends to make a hard struggle for the honor, and solicits the aid of his friends in the fourth district.

The finance committee of the Tigers Athletic Club acknowledge the receipt of the following voluntary contributions towards the expense of repairing and improving the ball park: Hugh Malloy, \$5; William F. Boyle, \$5; Jas. J. Maloy, \$5; Hugh Dennison, \$2.

Hon. E. B. Cox, of Drifton, and J. P. Gorman and Christ Martin, of Hazleton, were selected on Saturday afternoon at the Democratic district convention held at Hazleton, to represent the fourth district in the state convention at Harrisburg next month.

Dress gingham, 5c a yard at Neuberger's.

DEATHS.

GILLESPIE.—At Eckley, May 27, Cornelius, son of Henry and Bridget Gillespie, aged 3 years and 6 months. Funeral tomorrow at 2 p. m. Interment at St. Ann's cemetery. Brislin.

See McDonald's 75c lace curtains.

PLEASURE CALENDAR.

May 29.—Annual ball of St. Ann's T. A. B. Pioneer Corps, at Freeland opera house. Admission, 50 cents.

May 30.—Ball of Young Men's Slavonian Society, at Haas' hall. Admission, 25 cents.

May 30.—Ball for the benefit of the First Slavonian school, at Freeland opera house. Admission, 25 cents.

May 30.—Fifth annual picnic of Tigers Athletic Club, at Freeland Public park.

June 16.—Fourth annual picnic of Division 20, A. O. H., at Eckley grove.

June 23.—Picnic of the Fearnots Athletic Association, at Drifton ball park.

June 23.—Excursion of Young Men's T. A. B. Society to Glen Onoko. Fare: adults, 80 cents; children, 50 cents. Train leaves Freeland, 7:30 a. m.; Glen Onoko, 6 p. m.

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

FOR CONGRESS—

JOHN LEISENRING, of Upper Lehigh.

Subject to the decision of the Republican congressional convention.

FOR REPRESENTATIVE—

JOHN J. MCNELIS, of Drifton.

Subject to the decision of the Democratic convention of the fourth legislative district.

Read - the - Tribune.

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Men's suits, \$4 up.

Boys' suits, \$3 up.

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In men's summer furnish goods we have a complete stock. Undershirts, drawers, dress shirts, outing shirts, neckwear, collars, cuffs, etc. All new goods. Lowest prices.

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GREAT BARGAINS IN

Dry Goods, Groceries,

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Notions, Rag Carpet,

Boots and Shoes, Flour and Feed,

Wood and Tin and Queensware,

Willowware, Tobacco,

Table and Floor Cigars,

Oil Cloth, Etc., Etc.

A celebrated brand of XX flour always in stock.

Fresh Roll Butter

and

Fresh Eggs a Specialty.

My motto is small profits and quick sales. I always have fresh goods and am turning my stock every month. Therefore every article is guaranteed.

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Northwest Corner

Centre and Front Streets, Freeland.

DePIERRO - BROS.

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CORNER OF CENTRE AND FRONT STREETS,

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Gilson, Dougherty, Kaufer Club,

Rosenbluth's Velvet, of which we have

Exclusive Sale in Town.

Mumm's Extra Dry Champagne,

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Gins, Wines, Cordials, Etc.

Imported and Domestic Cigars.

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Ham and Schweitzer Cheese Sandwiches,

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Baths, Hot or Cold, 25 Cents.

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teeth inserted.

Reasonable prices and

ALL WORK GUARANTEED.

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The best of whiskies, wines, gin cigars, etc.

Call in when in that part of the town.

Fresh Beer and Porter on Tap.

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151 South Centre street, Freeland.

(Near the L. V. R. R. depot.)

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LIQUOR, BEER,

ALE, PORTER

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—ON TAP.

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