

EXCERPTS FROM THE HISTORY OF LUZERNE COUNTY

By H. C. BRADSBY

(Readers will enjoy Mr. Bradsbys quaint, parenthetical remarks more if they keep in mind that he was writing this history of Luzerne County forty-five years ago, and refers to conditions as he knew them, not as they are in 1938.)

(Continued From Last Week)

When the fight occurred Captain Spalding was only forty miles away and hurrying to Forty Fort as fast as possible. With his and Franklin's men—thirty-five, who reached the fort during the fight—the invading army could have been successfully repulsed, and, standing on the defensive in various chosen localities, in time the British and Indians as an army destroyed in all probability. Captains Durkee and Bidlack had ridden all night and were at the fort in time to go into the battle, where both died. Hence the patriots knew just where Spalding and his men were at the moment they so rashly marched out to engage the enemy.

One of the theories that is read between the lines of this chapter of history is something like this: A number of families that had come to be known as anti-Yankee in sentiment had settled in the upper end of the Valley. They had been driven out, some ordered to go, and others persecuted until they felt compelled to leave. These had taken refuge in the northern part of New York and were eager to return to the Valley and even up old scores. And it is said that they suggested the expedition and some of these were in Colonel John Butler's command, and that some of the darkest of the colors in the sad picture were the results of their presence.

Col. Zebulon Butler, as soon as possible, wrote General Washington an account of the bloody day, and solicited succor, in order that, if possible a portion of the harvest standing in the fields might be saved.

Joining Captain Spalding early in August, he returned to Wyoming. A new stockade was built in Wilkes-Barre and put in the best possible defense. A number of settlers were now encouraged to return, among others John Abbott, who had been in the battle, and Isaac Williams, a young man. In attempting to harvest their wheat on Jacob's plains, they were waylaid, and both shot and scalped. The widow of Mr. Abbott, who had fled to Catawissa, with nine children (their house and barn having been burned, and all their property destroyed), set out on foot, a journey of nearly 300 miles, and begged their way to Hampton, Conn.

About this time three Indians took prisoners on the Lackawanna, Isaac Tripp, the elder; Isaac Tripp, his grandson, and two other young men, by the names of Keys and Hocksey. The old gentleman they painted and dismissed, but hurried the others into the forest (now Abington), above Leggett's Gap, on the Warriors' path to Oquago. Resting one night, they rose next morning and traveled about two miles, when they stopped at a little stream of water.

The two young Indians then took Keys and Hocksey some distance from the path, and were absent half an hour, the old Indian looking anxiously the way they had gone. Presently, the death-whoop was heard, and the Indians returned, brandishing bloody tomahawks, and exhibiting the scalps of their victims. Tripp's hat was taken from his head, and his scalp examined twice, the savages speaking earnestly, when at length they told him to fear nothing, he should not be hurt, and carried him off as a prisoner. Luke Swetland and Joseph Blanchard were taken prisoners near Nanticoke on August 24, and carried away captives to the Indian country.

A garrison of about 100 men was in the Wilkes-Barre stockade—Captains Garrison's and Spalding's companies; these were the militia of Westmoreland town. Armed parties labored in the fields and on the hills around were placed sentinels. Late in the fall Isaac Inman was murdered in Hanover. He supposed he had heard wild turkeys and went out to kill one. His scalped body laid under the snow and was not discovered until spring.

On October 2 four of Captain Morrison's men were attacked on the west side of the river, three of whom were killed, and one escaped. October 14 William Jameson, returning home from Wilkes-Barre, was shot near where the canal crossed the road below Careytown. Being wounded, he fell from the horse and attempted to gain the woods, but he was pursued, tomahawked and scalped. A valuable young man in the prime of life, being twenty-six years of age. He had been in the battle and escaped, and his scalp was therefore doubly precious to the savages.

November 7 John Perkins was killed in Plymouth, a victim also most gratifying to the revengeful savage, as Mr. Perkins had a son in Spalding's independent company. William Jackson and Mr. Lester, taken from the mill at Nanticoke, were marched three miles up into Hanover, and then shot down. An aged man, spoken of as "old Mr. Hageman", a prisoner, escaped with six wounds, and survived. November 9 Captain Carr and Phillip Goss, in attempting to flee in a canoe, were shot below Wap-walpen and left, the latter dead, the other dying on the shore. Robert Alexander and Amos Parker were, about the same time, found murdered in the lower part of the valley.

A whole family was brutally massacred November 19, near Nescopceck—John, Elisha and Diah Utley, the first two shot down. Diah fled and swam the river, but as he came to the opposite shore was brained by an Indian. The savages then entered the house, murdered and scalped the aged mother, and in savage glee placed her body mockingly in a chair.

(To Be Continued)

IT'S TRUE!

By Wiley Padan

DENNIS O'KEEFE CAN DRIVE A GOLF BALL OFF THE FACE OF A WATCH USED AS A TEE WITHOUT INJURING THE TIMEPIECE! HE HAS DONE IT HUNDREDS OF TIMES IN VALDEVILLE BUT STILL HE CANNOT CORRECT HIS "SLICE" ON THE LINKS!

Florence RICE KEEPS A PERPETUAL SCORE OF 7/8 SOLITAIRE GAMES SHE PLAYS. OUT OF 5522 GAMES SHE HAS BEEN ABLE TO COMPLETE THE GAME 112 TIMES!

GEORGE FITZMAURICE DIRECTOR OF M. G. M.'S "VACATION FROM LOVE" HAS CREATED ALMOST INNUMERABLE TYPES OF SCENES DURING HIS MANY YEARS IN HOLLYWOOD. HE HAS BEEN A SCENARIO WRITER, FILM EDITOR, CHIEF CUTTER AND PRODUCTION MANAGER!

GEORGE IS A TIRELESS WORKER.

OUR PUZZLE CORNER

CAN YOU SOLVE THIS PUZZLE?

1-2 A GARDEN IMPLEMENT
3-4 TO DIVIDE INTO TWO PARTS
5-6 A HOT CONDIMENT
7-8 A GENTLE BLOW
9-10 A COLOR
11-12 MYTHICAL GOD OF SHEPHERDS
13-14 TO ATTEMPT
15-16 PARTICULARS
17-18 FOUND IN EVERY HOUSE
19-20 A LIMB
21-22 TO POSSESS
23-24 A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT
25-26 PLACE FOR COAL
27-28 A CHEESE DELICACY
29-30 QUICK
31-32 A BASEBALL GLOVE
33-34 A YOUNG MAN

35-36 HEROIC POEM
1-37 PART OF THE VERB HAVE
3-8 PART OF A WHEEL
5-27 A DIRECTOR
7-23 DRIED FRUIT
11-19 A CHUM
24-29 A SAILOR
39-31 MALE SHEEP
2-38 A GIRL'S NAME
4-9 TO MAKE AN ERROR
6-28 A LARGE WESTERN CITY
10-26 TO SUFFOCATE IN WATER
14-22 YONDER
14-22 YONDER
25-30 AN OFFER
40-32 A SMALL PIECE

DRAW A LINE FROM 1 TO 40 AND YOU'LL HAVE A PORTRAIT OF ARTISTIC ARTIE'S LUNKY DORY...

FIND THE OBJECTS HERE!

LITTLE BUDDY

IT'S NO EASY WORK...

BEIN A AUTO MECHANIC! I DON'T SEE HOW HE CAN PUT ALL THOSE PARTS TOGETHER!!

SAY, WASN'T THERE ANOTHER LITTLE NUT HERE A SECOND AGO?

YARE, THAT WAS MY COUSIN OSCAR!! HE JUST WENT HOME!!

By Bruce Stuart

DASH DIXON

DOCTOR OZOV HEARS THE VOICE OF HIS LONG LOST DAUGHTER OVER AN INTERPLANETARY PHONE!

ANNE!! ANNE!! THIS IS DOCTOR OZOV, YOUR FATHER!

FATHER! AT LAST I'VE FOUND YOU!!

WHERE ARE YOU ANNE? HOW CAN I REACH YOU?

I'M ON THE MOON! COME AT ONCE! YOU WILL FIND ME AT THE UPPER POLE, HURRY!!

WE'RE COMING RIGHT AWAY, ANNE!

GOOD! I HAVE A SURPRISE FOR YOU!

THE SHIP'S ALL SET TO GO, DOCTOR! IN A SHORT WHILE WE'LL BE TO THE MOON, AND MY DAUGHTER!

WILL THEY REACH THE MOON SAFELY? WHAT HAPPENS???

By Dean Carr

DETECTIVE RILEY

THIS LONG TRIP TO CHINA WILL GIVE ME TIME TO MAP MY PLANS!! THOSE OPIUM SMUGGLERS WILL HAVE TO BE HANDLED WITH KID GLOVES AT THE START!!

WHAT-CAN THAT BE HIM? SURE IT IS! IMAGINE FINDING DETECTIVE RILEY ON THIS BOAT! HEY, RILEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

YES, I'M TRAVELLING INCOGNITO! JUST THOUGHT A LITTLE SEA TRIP WOULD DO ME GOOD!!

I UNDERSTAND RILEY! YOU'LL FIND ME ON "C" DECK-75! DROP IN!!

SO THAT'S DETECTIVE RILEY, EH? I WONDER WHAT'S ON HIS MIND? YOU CAN'T EVER TELL ABOUT THOSE BIRDS!! LINK, OLD BOY, YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN!

WHY IS "LINK" LEONARDO SO CONCERNED ABOUT DETECTIVE RILEY ON BOARD SHIP??

By Richard Lee

FACTS YOU NEVER KNEW!!!

IN THE INTERIOR OF THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS BOTH MEN AND WOMEN WEAR SANDALS MADE FROM TREE WEEDS!

SOME OF THE OLDER NATIVES OF HOLLAND WEAR THE SAME WOODEN SHOES FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS.

THE GRAND CANYON OF ARIZONA A SPECTACULAR CHASM, CHISELED OUT OF THE EARTH BY THE COLORADO RIVER IS 217 MILES LONG, FROM 4000 TO 6000 FT. DEEP AND FROM 1 TO 18 MILES WIDE AT THE TOP!

FOLLOWING THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY IN SUMATRA, A BRIDE'S FIRST TASK IS TO MAKE HER HUSBAND A NEW SUIT OF CLOTHES!!

DURING JULIUS CAESAR'S TIME IN ROME ONLY MEMBERS OF THE PATRICIAN CLASS WERE PERMITTED TO WEAR SILK GARMENTS! SEVERAL PRIVILEGES WERE INFLICTED ON COMMONERS FOUND WEARING THIS FABRIC.

RAZOR BLADES ARE MADE OUT OF TIN CANS, BY THE NATIVE BARBERS OF CALCUTTA, INDIA.

By Bob Dart