

Children Mourn Granny's Death

Mrs. Nora Riley
Buried At Warden

When Mrs. Nora Riley was buried in Warden Cemetery Tuesday afternoon, all the children on Claude Street who had called her Granny for years, gathered round her grave to say goodbye.

It was Granny who baked the cookies, Granny who bound up sore toes, Granny who never refused the children an apple from her back yard.

Granny will be sorely missed. She was always there, rocking on her front porch. When she was taken to the Nesbitt Hospital five weeks before her death last Sunday morning, the nurses picked up the term of affection from her next door neighbor, Mrs. John H. Roberts. It was Mrs. Roberts who spent the long days with her while she was ill, and who has now taken over guardianship of Mrs. Riley's little dog, Taffy.

Friends will be glad to know that Mrs. Riley slept away her last days, and was spared pain.

Her health began to fail when she heard that her favorite grandson, Corp. Fred Brown, had been killed on the Korean front early in November. The boy had lived with her for several years while attending Dallas-Franklin Township High School.

She would have been seventy-two years old on July 4th.

Born at the old Bulford homestead, daughter of Samuel and Jeanetta Hoover Bulford, she lived her life in Dallas, and was a long-time resident of Claude Street.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Arthur Brown, Church Street; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild; two sisters, Mrs. Myrtle Rineman, Fernbrook, and Mrs. Stella Reynolds, Norwich, New York; and a brother, George Bulford, Trucksville.

Rev. Joseph Sproule conducted funeral services from the Nulton Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were nephews: Billy and Sterling Rineman, Donald and Roland Bulford, John Fielding, and Ralph Meyers.



LAST WEEK'S SCORES			TO BE PLAYED		Standings	W	L	Pct.
Wed. June 18	Shavertown Trucksville	19 11	Fri. June 27	Trucksville Fernbrook	Jackson	8	1	.889
Thurs. June 19	Jackson Fernbrook	8 3	VACATION WEEK END OF 1ST HALF NEXT GAME - JULY 7TH FERNBROOK AND CARVERTON		Fernbrook	6	3	.667
Fri. June 20	Shavertown Dallas	10 9		Shavertown	5	4	.556	
Sat. June 21	Fernbrook Jackson	4 2		Trucksville	4	4	.500	
Mon. June 23	Carverton Dallas	RAIN		Carverton	2	6	.250	
Tues. June 24	Fernbrook Shavertown	15 3		Dallas	1	8	.111	

The race is getting tighter with Fernbrook a strong challenger.

Some of the other teams will get in good practice sessions during the vacation period.

Pleasant holiday to all the fans.

WATCH THAT WASTE!
WATER IS PRECIOUS,
USE IT ADVISEDLY.

"We have a good water supply in Dallas," states Les Warhol, manager of the Dallas-Shavertown Water Company, "but nobody knows that a summer will bring. This one has started off with intense heat."

"There have been reports that water is being wasted. Nobody who lives in the country can afford to be spendthrift with water. Water means life itself."

"So, please, please, don't let your children waste water by playing with the hose. Water your gardens between eight and ten at night, when water will do the most good."

Sarah Moss Dies Quietly At 92

Burial Services
This Afternoon

Mrs. Sarah A. Moss, lifelong resident of Bloomingdale, passed away Tuesday night at 7:40. She had been in failing health for some time, due not to a specific ailment but to advancing age. Up until last fall she took great delight in raking leaves and caring for her flowers.

She will be buried this afternoon from her home, with Rev. William Howie and Rev. J. W. Booth officiating. Interment will be in Bloomingdale Cemetery in the family plot.

Born of pioneer stock, Mrs. Moss was the granddaughter of David and Sarah Seward Road, daughter of Stewart and Esther Benscooter.

Her husband, Samuel B. Moss, to whom she was married on New Year's Day, 1882, predeceased her in December, 1923.

Originally a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, she followed the congregation when it became the Protestant Bible Church, and served for seventeen years as treasurer of the Willing Hand Missionary Society.

A daughter, Mrs. Harold Booth, survives.

Ralph Road, on the staff at the Dallas Post, is a relative. He visited her sickroom on Tuesday, and realized from her condition that death was very near. She had been critically ill for ten days.

He describes her as "a kindly woman, devoted to her home, active in the church, with a seemingly inexhaustible store of energy and enjoyment of life." He recalls attending her wedding when a very young child.

Weekly Dances Start At Country Club

Weekly dances every Wednesday night are announced by the entertainment committee, Dr. Robert M. Bodycomb, chairman, as having already begun at Irem Country Club. Hours are from 9 to 12, and the public is invited.

Governor Fine Is Called President Maker

(Continued from Page 1)
a political boss and a judge at the same time.

Loyalties
A serious politician like Fine may hesitate long over decisions and make them finally in great anguish. It is unlikely, however, that Fine is suffering as much over his Taft-like decision as he did over one that faced him in 1930. Fine is still stirred by the memory. The story throws some light on the ethics and values of politics as played by John Fine.

In the 1920's, Fine became friendly with a Philadelphia lawyer by the name of Francis Shunk Brown. Brown wanted some day to run for governor, and discussed his plans with Fine. The boy from the mine patch was thrilled to be the confidant of so big a man. "I felt highly honored to be in the presence of Francis Shunk Brown," says Fine. "I looked up to him with the

most profound respect and admiration." But Fine told him that if ever Gifford Pinchot, to whom he owed his judgeship, should decide to run for governor again, he would have to support Pinchot. Brown thought that quite proper. Three years later, when Pinchot actually tried for the nomination against Francis Shunk Brown, the situation grew a little tight for Fine.

At first, not being sure of Pinchot's plans, he favored Brown. When he dropped in to see Pinchot in Washington, on his way to Florida, Mrs. Pinchot snapped: "You're against Gifford!" Fine promptly returned to Pennsylvania, told Brown he had to go to work for Pinchot. Brown was hurt. "I didn't mean that Pinchot wanted you for life," he said. As Fine recalls it: "We both had a tear and I left." Pinchot won with a slim majority of 21,000. Fine's own Luzerne County gave him a majority of 26,500. In a way, this meant that Fine had elected Pinchot virtually single-handed. Says Fine: "If Pinchot had won by 50,000, Brown and I could have healed the breach. As it was, we never could. I did not sleep for two nights after the returns were in."

Rebellion

The next major trial of John Fine's loyalties came in 1950, with the big rebellion against Joe Grundy. The Pennsylvania county leaders were disgruntled at the Grundy regime. The P.M.A. expected them to get out the vote, but often ignored their requests at the council table. The county leaders, in touch with the people, thought that they should be consulted on unpopular measures that might hurt their organization. Grundy's P.M.A. never worried much about popularity.

The county leaders wanted to run their own man for governor rather than the P.M.A.'s candidate. But suppose they lost? How seriously would they suffer under a hostile governor who could withhold state patronage? They reached an important decision. As one of the leaders put it: "This state patronage is way overrated. I have more jobs in my own county than the governor can give me. State patronage is the meringue on the pie. But we have the pie itself."

Who Is Punitive?

The big moment of the 1950 rebellion came at the Penn Sheraton Hotel in Philadelphia. Duff, who was planning to run for U.S. Senator, made a rousing speech urging the group to pick an anti-Grundy candidate for governor. The majority picked Fine.

John Fine was in a delicate position. He had dealt with Grundy for 30 years. But then, of course, he also owed a great deal to Duff, who had appointed him to the superior court. In characteristic fashion, Fine managed to stretch between the two forces—without tearing.

Fine felt he needed Grundy support at the polls to beat the Democrats, and went to see G. Mason Owlett, Grundy's deputy. "His big worry," recalls Fine, "was whether I would be punitive against the Grundys. He didn't ask for anything and I didn't offer anything. But I said I had no intention of being punitive."

As a result, Grundymen urged the election of the straight Republican ticket, and Owlett raised money for Fine's campaign.

Mother & Father

Three months after Fine moved into the 27-room, heavily Victorian

governor's mansion on Harrisburg's Front Street, personal tragedy shook his life. His wife, whom he had married in 1939 (she was 19 years his junior), died of brain cancer. Fine moved out of the mansion, and went to live at the governor's summer residence at Indian-town Gap. Mrs. Fine's brother and his wife came to keep house for the governor and help him look after his two sons, Jack, now 11, and Donald, 9. Fine is deeply devoted to the boys, and they to him. One of the reasons for Fine's affection for General MacArthur is supposed to be the attention the general paid to the boys during a visit. Eisenhower was well briefed on this matter. At the Gettysburg picnic Ike met the boys, and asked Donald:

"What do you call your father?"

"Dad."

"And what do you call your father, Jack?"

"Pal."

Says Fine: "He always calls me pal. I don't know where he picked it up but I get a great kick out of it."

Fine is a regular churchgoer (Episcopalian), vice president of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches and a senior warden at his own parish, St. George's, Nanticoke. He says with true Pennsylvania candor: "As a boy, I never missed an opportunity to cut church. But when I became a judge, I felt that a judge should set a good example in his county."

Ultimatum

As governor, Fine continues to run Luzerne County almost as closely as before. He will call his lieutenants several times a day, sometimes at 7:30 in the morning, sometimes at 1:30 at night, and drop in for unexpected inspections. He continues to supervise Luzerne County patronage, and often angers the regulars by handing jobs to defeated political enemies as consolation prizes. He always likes to play his cards close to the chest; he rarely announces a slate of candidates until the last possible minute of the last day.

Fine had not been governor long before the P.M.A.'s masterful lobbyists sold him Joe Grundy's favorite idea—a state personal-income tax (ungraded) to reduce taxes on corporations. The anti-Grundy county leaders howled in outrage. They said the tax would lose thousands of voters to the Democrats. Eventually, the tax bill was defeated.

On the heels of that row came a related one, the Taft-Eisenhower issue. Last month the anti-Grundy group met again. Jim Duff came up from Washington. Conspicuously missing: John Fine. The group's decision: John Fine ought to come out immediately for Ike. Otherwise, Fine would either be "on the freight," i.e., go for Eisenhower too late to do himself any good, or 2) be stuck with the man (Taft) who, the leaders thought, was sure to lose in November.

News of the impending ultimatum leaked out, and Fine heard about it. When two of the county leaders appeared to deliver it, Fine was ready. No one knows just what he told them. The gist: he flatly refused to commit himself for the time being. Once again, John Fine stretched without breaking.

Maybe Later?

There are other pro-Ike forces working on Fine. One of them is a millionaire with a passion for politics and photography named Andrew John Sordoni, for years a close friend of Fine's. Sordoni, a son of one of Garibaldi's famous 1,000 who came to the U.S. in 1867, worked in the mines as a

child, and decided to make a million. He made his million many times over. He owns 14 companies, is a director of 40 more, lives in one of his six hotels. He is also secretary of commerce in the cabinet of his good friend Governor Fine, and an Ikeman.

Some months before the primary, Sordoni offered \$15,000 to the Eisenhower campaign fund. A few days later, Fine told him: "Andy, I wish you wouldn't do it. I don't think we should make a commitment now." Sordoni told the Eisenhower people: "I am sorry, gentlemen, but I've got to respect his wishes. Maybe later."

But Sordoni still likes Ike. He has nothing against Taft except the belief that he can't win the election. "Ike has a feeling for people," says Sordoni. "They have a feeling for him. It isn't that way with Taft. I'm sure Taft is one of the ablest men in the country. But I thought Hoover was too. Taft is like Hoover. He says no, then won't take the trouble to sell a man his reasons for saying no."

Most people who know Fine say that the man who has the greatest personal influence on him is Andrew Sordoni.

Man of the Hour?

Fine, who, like Boss Quay, has great "skill in calculating political quantities," can certainly understand the arguments of the county leaders and his friend Sordoni to the effect that Ike is a good bet for November. The Grundys, out of touch with the voters as usual, are pressing just as hard for Taft. They can point to 20 pro-Taft counties. The Ikemen reply that these are rural counties, Republican since the Civil War. The pro-Ike county leaders where the party faces the fight of its life against the Democrats.

Fine seems to have only three alternatives:

1) He can continue to do nothing until Chicago where, on the first ballot, some think he might go for MacArthur—a safe way to temporize—and then jump either on an Ike or a Taft bandwagon. But there is some question whether Fine can hold on to his bloc of delegates that

long. Also, a last-minute decision will earn him less gratitude from the nominee than an earlier commitment.

2) He can come out for Taft. While Taft may well be nominated, it is another question how much good that would do John Fine. Chances are that a pro-Taft stand by Fine would simply be regarded as a machine politico's routine fall-in with the Grundys. Taft leaders have been saying for weeks that Fine will be in their camp; if he is, he won't get much credit for it. While John Fine might pick a Republican nominee in Bob Taft, it is more than doubtful that he would be picking a President.

3) He can commit himself to Eisenhower. He is obviously still afraid that if he does, and Ike loses in Chicago, John Fine's political position will be badly shaken. But there is a very good chance that a pro-Ike pronouncement from Fine would assure Eisenhower's nomination. In that case, John Fine would be the man of the hour, the President maker from Luzerne County.



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