

Sullivan County Named For Legislator, Not Its Founder

Michael Meylert, who created the new county of Sullivan from Luzerne, Lycoming and Columbia counties in 1847 stands out as one of the most remarkable figures in Central Pennsylvania history.

He found in the region which afterwards became Sullivan county vast tracts of valuable virgin timber land and mines of coal, iron and copper and rich agricultural areas and these he felt could administer better if they were in an independent county and no longer parts of Luzerne, Lycoming, and Columbia.

He interested State Senator C. C. Sullivan, of Butler County, to push the necessary legislation through at Harrisburg, which he

accomplished quietly and promptly. When the new county was set up many friends of Michael Meylert desired to name it after him, Meylert County, but he said, "I am a modest man and don't even want a cross-road post office named for me." As a result though Sullivan has grown tremendously in the past 100 years not a single object is named for Meylert, no stream nor spring and of course no post office nor township or even country lane bears his name. Most Pennsylvania historians make the mistake of stating that Sullivan county is named for General John Sullivan of the Revolutionary War, a man who Michael Meylert probably heard very little of but he

Back Mountain Dance Studio

Formal Opening Sunday In City

Many Back Mountain mothers and children were present at Sunday afternoon's formal opening of Wilkes-Barre Ballet Theatre, to see Barbara Linshes Weisberger, director, receive from the hands of Dr. Charles Magnan a small silver medal worn by Anna Pavlova.

Mrs. Weisberger, wearing an orchid corsage given her by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mulcey from their own orchid rooms, introduced Anna Pavlova's former accompanist, Dr. Magnan, who studied under Cesar Franck and other notables, and has written and arranged music for numerous ballets, including the famous "Red Shoes," in addition to accompanying for famous artists, spoke to the children in the audience. He told them the story behind his Curcus Ballet, and played excerpts for their delight, then performed musical gymnastics at the request of Carl Roth, leaving the musical-minded breathless.

Wilkes-Barre Ballet Theatre opened a branch for convenience of Back Mountain children at Shavertown Fire Hall last Wednesday. Mrs. Marshall Nunlist, who has taught ballet classes all summer at Shavertown Methodist church, will assist Mrs. Weisberger, teaching the younger students.

The pair have put on a number of programs for Back Mountain organizations, Mrs. Nunlist speaking on the ballet, and her companion demonstrating, usually with the assistance of advanced pupils.

He insisted that his county seat should be the highest elevated in Pennsylvania and it stands at an elevation of 2300 feet.

John Laporte for whom the town was named was surveyor general of Pennsylvania and member of congress being the son of the old John Laporte who laid out Asilum as a refuge for King Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette who were captured at Varennes and turned back to Paris during the Revolution, just as George Crowninshield tried to aid Napoleon Bonaparte in escaping from St. Helena thirty years later.

"A free press stands as one of the great interpreters between the government and the people. To allow it to be fettered is to fetter ourselves." —Justice George Sutherland

Westmoreland Student Wins Ford Award

Ten Books Purchased By Library Book Club

Joseph W. Coniglio, Grade 10, Westmoreland High School, Trucksville, was awarded a Special Certificate of Achievement and a Bronze Lapel Pin by the Ford Motor Company of Dearborn, Michigan, for his entry of a hand carved pistol and case in the 1953 Industrial Arts Awards. Joseph is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Coniglio of Davis Street, Trucksville.

The pistol was an intricate carving of mahogany wood and the case was carved from scrap wood. Burnished copper was used in assembling the two articles. They were judged on their craftsmanship, both in basic design and technique, and on its evidence of initiative and originality.

The awards committee also sent a letter of congratulations to Mr. Joseph E. Podrazik, teacher of industrial arts at Westmoreland High School, who encouraged and advised Joseph.

The school received a list of the names of all winners from the 5,000 entries which represented 1016 high schools. There was but one other award made in Luzerne County and that was made to a member of the junior class at Kingston High School.

Three Principals Attend Congress

James A. Martin, supervising principal, and Charles A. James, director of curriculum and instruction, Dallas Borough - Kingston Township joint schools; and George A. Taylor, resigning supervising principal of Lake Noxen, attended the Annual Education Congress in Harrisburg, Wednesday and Thursday.

The program included an address by Governor John S. Fine at Wednesday night's dinner meeting, and by Dr. Edgar Fulker, Executive Secretary, National Council of Chief State School Administration Officers, and Dr. Lee L. Driver, Department of Public Instruction.

Wednesday morning's Keynote was Dr. Francis Haas, superintendent of public instruction, speaking on reorganization of administrative school units.

Curriculum developments, including citizenship education, were discussed Thursday morning, and a review of recent legislation offered Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Flora Weaver Dies At Hospital

The funeral of Mrs. Flora Weaver 82, of Idetown who died Wednesday morning at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 from Nulton Funeral Home at Beaumont with services in charge of Rev. Clayton Bostic.

Born in Plymouth, Mrs. Weaver was the widow of the late William Weaver. She had lived in Idetown for the past sixty-one years. Prior to that time she had lived in Bloomingdale.

Surviving are a son, William, Kunkle; three daughters, Mrs. Phoebe Atherholt and Mrs. Helen Lindenmuth, Wilkes-Barre, and Mrs. Margaret Jennings, Idetown, also seven grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

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