



# EMMITSBURG CHRONICLE

"READ BY MOST EMMITSBURGIANS"

Weekend  
Weather Forecast  
Rain expected again over the weekend. Warmer today and colder again Sunday and Monday.

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## Most Anything At A Glance

BY ABIGAIL

Speaking of weather, and who isn't these days? The community was literally bathed in snow and rain during the past week and brother it was an experience most of us are unlikely to forget for many a moon. Weather bureau records say it was the most damaging snow in over 25 years. Only one other time can I remember when we were without power for a number of days and that was somewhere in the neighborhood of 30 years ago. At that time a blizzard knocked out the old Maryland Power Co.'s current sources for nearly a week. It takes a lot to keep the Chronicle from being published and that is the only time in my recollection when the staff had a week off without getting out the "sheet." Of course during the war the paper was suspended for a year, 1942, and right after that for another four years due to the death of the publisher, John D. Elder (1943), but it has been published constantly since then. We were given a real scare last Thursday when we opened shop and to our dismay had lights but no power to operate machinery. Our anxiety increased when we were unable to contact the Potomac Edison Co. (successor to the Md. Power Co. a number of years ago) due to nearly all the telephone lines being out of commission at the same time. We were absolutely "in the dark" as to when any current would be made available and wandered about the shop throughout the day hoping that by a stroke of luck, or a miracle that we would be able to produce an issue by Friday morning. Just about quitting time our waiting was rewarded and our anxiety quelled. Power had been restored. Well folks it was midnight before your favorite newspaper was "put to bed." It was on regular schedule Friday morning although some of you rural readers received your copies a few days later.

It really was a revelation to us how so many managed so quickly to provide meager provisions and accommodations. It was just like living back in the pioneer days of this country. No oil, light or heat. Those fortunate enough to have fireplaces utilized them immediately by obtaining wood or coal. Like in old times many of our friends did their cooking in their fireplaces. Food posed as no problem to town folks but I imagine there many anxious moments wiled away by our rural friends. Stores were soon out of oil heaters, wicks, kerosene, candles, oil lamps, lanterns, flashlights, etc. It appeared that we were about to settle down for a "long winter's nap," however block by block and day by day, phone and electric service was being restored and after three days the town itself I'd say, was restored to near normalcy. So widespread was the destruction to the telephone lines that certain areas of the rural section are without means of telephone communication, a week later.

You really can't imagine how destitute and helpless one can be rendered when both light and heat are deprived one's home. It seems in this space age nothing like this can happen to us. The age of atomic energy and space, miracles of engineering and science and medicine and yet one can be relegated to the pioneer age in a few short hours by the elements and Mother Nature. It seems like a nightmare but I can assure you it was no dream. I suppose now that an epidemic of colds, virus, etc., will plague us for the next several weeks as folks who were confined to their heatless homes will develop colds and other respiratory infections.

There were any number of families who had to move out of their homes. Especially those who depended on electrically-fired oil burners for heat and electric stoves for cooking. They were fortunate to live in a small community where almost everyone is related and where they are welcome, at any time, not necessarily during an emergency such as we experienced last week.

Our hat's off to the local firemen who did so much to relieve the misery during the storm. They worked day and night (Continued on Page Eight)

## Firemen Assist Many During Storm

Proof of the versatility of the members of the Vigilant Hose Co. was manifested last week when crews manned pumps and generators around the clock offering valuable assistance to neighbors in distress during the hardships incurred during the storm last week.

Fire Chief John S. Hollinger reported that at least 50 trips to homes, farms and business establishments had been made from Thursday through Sunday. The firemen were called on for assistance by farmers to pump milk from tanks to trucks, pump water from wells for homes and stables, pump cellars dry, etc.

Two crews worked 12 hours daily to keep the pump and generator in full use and to alleviate hardships caused when the electric source was disrupted. The firemen maintain one pump on their rescue truck. Also on the truck is a portable generator which the company used to provide temporary lights to farmers, "charge up" their deep freezers and save their food which would otherwise have spoiled. Through the generosity of Mount St. Mary's College an additional generator was put into use by the firemen. Numerous trips were made to local business places where the firemen connected the generator to ice cream cabinets and other refrigeration facilities.

The firemen accepted no remuneration for their invaluable services and went on their way with a pat on the back from grateful citizens, feeling a deep sense of satisfaction that they had been able to be of service to their neighbors. The work done by the rescue truck and its equipment and crews demonstrated just how great an asset this unit is to both the Fire Company and the community.

## University Will Conduct Firemen's Training Course

The Fire Service Extension Department of the University of Maryland, will conduct the seventh annual short course for Fire Inspectors on April 8 through April 11.

Under the direction of Robert C. Byrns, director of the Fire Service Extension Dept., the program is devoted to aspects of the increasingly complex fire safety picture. Specialists in specific fields from various colleges of the university, industries and fire departments will conduct the technical public safety program.

Classes will begin at 8:30 a. m., April 8 with a welcome to the university by Dr. Frederick T. Mavis, dean, College of Engineering.

The program will include such topics as how to make an inspection, selling fire safety, predicting building collapse, fire detection systems, arson photography, juvenile and adolescent fire setters, courtroom demeanor and legal aspects of arson.

There are no fees or advance registration and the course is open to all interested people, each enrollee attending the sessions will receive an identification card to admit him to the meetings being held in the fire protection laboratory of the Fire Extension Building.

## Sportsmen's Club Will Help Build Mountain Picnic Area

Twenty-one members were present at the regular monthly meeting of the Indian Lookout Conservation Club held Tuesday evening in the Fire Hall, President Clay Z. Green presiding.

The game committee chairman announced that it was a certainty that local game was consuming the food which the club set out for it in the game refuge near town. Indications were that the game was steadily eating the feed and should be well-conditioned this season.

Harold M. Hoke, fish committee chairman, reported the dam building program would be postponed until later due to the flooded condition of the streams at this time of the year.

The club decided to hold a benefit drawing during the 1958 carnival in September and a committee of Vernon Welch and Luther Anderson was selected to

## Honorary Degrees To Be Awarded At Convocation

The Honorable James P. McGranery, former Attorney General of the United States, will address a special academic convocation at Mount St. Mary's College on April 12 at 3 p. m. in Memorial Gymnasium. The special convocation, the second of three marking the 150th anniversary of the founding of Mount St. Mary's, will stress the role of the college in education in the United States.

Honorary LL.D. degrees will be awarded Mr. McGranery, Rt. Rev. Msgr. William J. McDonald, rector of the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.; the Very Rev. Lloyd P. McDonald, S.S., provincial of the Society of St. Sulpice in the United States and president of St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore; Rev. Edward B. Pooney, S.J., president of the Jesuit Educational Assn., New York, N. Y.; Rev. Mother Mary Leandro, superior general of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis, Glen Riddle, Pa.; Sister Isabel Toohy, provincial superior of the Emmitsburg Province of the Daughters of Charity, Emmitsburg, Md.; Mr. Patrick Scanlan, managing editor, The Tablet, Brooklyn, N. Y.; and Miss Katharine Toomey, administrative assistant to the dean of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, University of Maryland.

The Most Rev. Jerome D. Sebastian, auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore, will preside at the ceremonies which will begin with an academic procession at 2:45 p. m. Guests are expected from many of the nation's institutions of higher learning. Members of the student body and the alumni also will attend.

Following the convocation a buffet dinner will be served the guests in Bradley Hall.

The convocation will stress the role of the college in American education. More than 30 colleges and seminaries were founded either directly by Mountaineers or under their patronage. Among these are Fordham University, Xavier, John Carroll, Spring Hill, Mount St. Mary's of the West and the American College at Rome. The final jubilee convocation will be held in June in connection with the 150th Commencement of the college.

## Driver Misses Bridge, Lands In Flat Run

An Emmitsburg man miraculously escaped serious injury late Wednesday night when the car he was driving missed Flat Run Bridge on U. S. 15 just north of Emmitsburg, plummeted over a 15-foot embankment into the rain-swollen stream and landed upright.

State Trooper William F. Davis who investigated the accident, reported Paul E. J. Eyer, 39, Emmitsburg, was driving a 1948 Chevrolet when the car swerved off the highway. Eyer escaped unhurt. Trooper Davis said the driver had lost control of the vehicle and missed the bridge by at least 10 feet. The mishap occurred shortly after 10 p. m.

## Fire Quickly Doused

The Vigilant Hose Co. quickly extinguished a blaze in the home of Mrs. Charles Keepers, N. Seton Ave., early Friday morning.

Fire Chief John S. Hollinger reported he believed the blaze was started by a short-circuit in the electric wiring under the first floor. Slight damage was reported.

## Lineman Receives Severe Electrical Burns Near Here

Linford Leroy Myers, 33, Waynesboro, a South Penn Power Company employee on loan to the Potomac Edison for storm damage repair work in the vicinity of Emmitsburg, was admitted to the Warner Hospital, Gettysburg, Monday morning after suffering burns that knocked him 40 feet to the ground from a power line pole.

Myers was working about nine o'clock near farm buildings north-east of here in the direction of Harney and was handling what had been a "dead" wire. Without warning, a charge of electricity "backfired" through the line from a specially-rigged generator at the farm buildings and Myers was knocked free of the pole.

He fell 40 feet to the ground and suffered contusions of the forehead and brush burns of the left thigh.

The hospital said he is also suffering from bad electrical burns to the right wrist and the left hand. His condition was described as "satisfactory" after he had been

admitted as a "badly shaken up" patient. He had been brought to the hospital by ambulance.

Although the current that caused the burns was believed to have been 7,900 volts, the fact that Myers was not wearing a safety belt at the time probably saved his life or at least prevented more severe burns. The shock of the electrical charge threw Myers free of the pole and released his hands from the charged wires.

Potomac Edison Company officials at Taneytown said the accident occurred along Bollinger Rd. between Emmitsburg and Harney, at the Allen Bollinger farm. They said Myers apparently was in the act of fastening his safety belt when his hand touched a broken bushing that had been energized by an emergency generator at the Bollinger buildings.

If the bushing had not been faulty, they said, it might have energized the entire line and injured other workmen.

## New Car Demolished After Hitting Culvert

A 1958 Ford sedan was completely demolished after striking a roadside culvert late Saturday afternoon near Bridgeport, State Police report. The mishap occurred at 4:50 p. m. on State Route 97 west of Bridgeport when the vehicle being driven by Eugene Shindeldecker, 36, Fairfield, Pa., went out of control, left the road and struck a concrete culvert completely demolishing the car.

State Trooper William G. Morgan, investigating officer, charged Shindeldecker with failing to drive to the right of the center of the highway and he will be given a hearing Saturday before Magistrate Charles D. Gillette, in Emmitsburg. The car was traveling toward Emmitsburg when the accident occurred. Shindeldecker was transported to the Warner Hospital in Gettysburg by Trooper Morgan where it was determined he was suffering from a fractured left leg and internal injuries.

BEULAH M. HERRING  
Mrs. Beulah M. Herring, 49, wife of John A. Herring, Greenmount died last Thursday afternoon at 2:12 o'clock at the Warner Hospital, 17 hours after having been admitted.  
Dr. C. G. Crist, Adams County coroner, said the death was caused by a cerebral hemorrhage. Mrs. Herring had been in her usual health following supper Wednesday evening and had gone to a barn where her husband was tending some dogs. She complained of feeling ill and returned to her home where she lost consciousness within about a half hour and was transferred to the hospital.

A native of Taneytown, she was a daughter of Mrs. Mollie J. Copenhaver, Taneytown, and the late Luther C. Copenhaver. She had been employed by the Windsor Shoe Co. of Littlestown for a number of years and was a member of the Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg, and the Auxiliary of the Greenmount Fire Co. She and her husband had wed in November, 1928.  
Besides her mother and husband, she is survived by a son, Richard D. Herring, at home, and three brothers and sisters: Mrs. Nellie Knox, Taneytown, Mrs. Edgar Fair, Taneytown, Mrs. Albert Caverno, Baltimore; Mrs. Kenneth Gilds, Taneytown; Mrs. Hazel Yealy, Taneytown; Charles Copenhaver, Emmitsburg; Mrs. Donald Clingan, Taneytown. Earl Copenhaver, Baltimore, and Mrs. Ellwood Crabbs, Taneytown.  
Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Bender Funeral Home, Gettysburg, with the Rev. Philip Bower officiating.

## K. OF C. WILL HOLD BINGO GAME

Brute Council 1860, Knights of Columbus, will sponsor a bingo game in the K. of C. building on the Monday following Easter, April 7. The committee reports many and varied prizes will be awarded during the evening and the public is invited to attend.

## Legion Schedules Pre-Easter Dance

The Francis X. Elder Post No. 121, American Legion, will sponsor a pre-Easter dance in the post home on Saturday evening, April 5 from 9 til 12 p. m. There will be no admission charge to the affair and music will be furnished by the popular local Debonaires' Orchestra. The dance is being held Saturday night in lieu of

## Surprise Shower

A surprise stork shower was given in honor of Mrs. Robert Mumma on Saturday evening, March 8, in the Rocky Ridge Fire Hall, by Mrs. Charles Mumma, Mrs. Ethel Mumma and Mrs. Kenneth Mumma.

The hall was attractively decorated in a yellow and white color scheme. A large stork adorned the gift table. The stork held a gaily-decorated umbrella in his beak and inside the umbrella was an infant baby doll. Yellow and white streamers extended from the ceiling to the tables. Misses Velma and Carolyn Glass, sisters of the celebrant, arranged the decorations. Many lovely and useful gifts were received.

A large cake appropriately decorated in pink and blue with miniature baby shoes atop, centered the refreshment table, along with many other delicacies.

Those attending were: Mrs. Robert Mumma, Mrs. Kenneth Mumma and Mrs. Lee Weddle, Thurmont; Mrs. Kermit Glass, Mrs. Roy Glass, Mrs. E. R. Glass, Mrs. Eugene Warthen, Mrs. John Baumgardner, Mrs. Charles Hartdagen, Misses Velma, Nancy, Carolyn and Patty Glass, Monica Warthen, Violet Kefauver, Emmitsburg; Mrs. James Six and Linda, Mrs. Katherine Valentine, Mrs. Ethel Mumma, Mrs. Charles Mumma, Misses Becky Mumma, and Frances Ann Beard, Rocky Ridge; Mrs. Robert Brown and Darrel, Sabillasville; Mrs. Wilbur Gladhill, Mrs. Robert Baumgardner and Miss Janet Gladhill, Fairfield, Pa.; Miss Mary Plunkert, Utica; Mrs. Richard Valentine, Mrs. Morris Valentine, Graceham; Mrs. Robert Rohrbach, Gettysburg, Pa.; Mrs. Donald Wantz, and Mrs. Rodney Valentine, Taneytown; Mrs. Alice Schaeffer, Germantown; Mrs. John Haines, Damascus; Mrs. Royce Watkins, Mrs. Mary Jo and Jane Watkins, Cedar Grove; Robert, Kenneth, Charles and Ronnie Mumma, John Haines, and Bill Glass.  
Those sending gifts but unable to attend were: Mrs. Raymond Baumgardner, Mrs. Richard Toms, Mrs. Wilbur Dutrow, Mrs. James Ling, Mrs. John Randolph, Mrs. Eunice Neighbors, Mrs. Guy Krom, Miss Betty Smith, Mrs. John Freeze, Mrs. Oscar Fritz, and Mrs. Bud Valentine, Emmitsburg; Mrs. Calvin Riley, Fairfield; Mrs. Frank Valentine, Taneytown; Mrs. Ambrose Eckenrode, Thurmont; Miss Mildred Tyler, and Miss Juanita Tyler, Harney.

## Dr. Povsic Addresses Lions Club

About 30 members and guests were present at the regular meeting of the Emmitsburg Lions Club held Monday evening in the Lutheran Parish Hall, President Paul W. Claypool presiding.

Guests present from Thurmont were these Lions: George Campbell, Lee Saylor and William Houck. In addition four Lions from New Freedom were present.

The president announced that the project of renovating the Crippled Children's Home in Frederick had been postponed pending a date from the director of the home. New roadside signs were ordered by the club to replace those located on the four main approaches to the town. The lettering has been obliterated thru years of service and the new signs will be erected in the near future. Capt. Philip B. Sharpe reported the Civic Assn. had granted the Corporation of Emmitsburg a right-of-way to lay a road to the new sewerage disposal plant, thru the Civic Grounds. A request for financial assistance from a lady from a neighboring town, was received and discussed. It is understood the lady has been invited to appear on a television show on the West Coast and that she needed transportation fees. The club took the matter under advisement and will provide an answer in the near future.

Secretary-treasurer Bernard J. Eckenrode reported \$57.77 netted from the recent talent show. This sum will be turned over to the local Boy Scouts.

Guest speaker of the evening was Dr. Boleslav Povsic, of St. Joseph College faculty. His dissertation was extremely interesting and informative. He drew a comparison between the educational systems of the United States and a number of European countries.

## Blaze At Shoe Factory Causes Little Damage

A slight blaze caused by an overheated sewing machine motor was quickly doused by the sprinkling system in the building on Thursday evening, March 20 at about 5:30 o'clock. The blaze occurred in the H. O. Toor Shoe Corp. plant on Chesapeake Ave. The plant's own fire alarm sounded and the Vigilant Hose Co. responded. The sprinkling system had extinguished the fire by the time firemen arrived and they cut off the system and pumped out the water from the building and cleaned up the premises so work could be resumed the next morning. No one was working in the plant during the day because of power failure caused by the storm. It is believed that the machine operator neglected to shut off the motor upon quitting work and when the power was turned on later during the day the motor was stalled and became overheated. Little damage was reported.

## Local Grange Will Hold 'Open House'

The annual "Open House" of the Emmitsburg Grange will be held in the Public School on Wednesday evening, April 2, Master Harry Swomley has announced.

Mrs. Alta Eckenrode, program chairman for the evening, reports representatives from various agencies will be present to discuss foster children. The public is invited to attend the meeting and hear the discussion.

## BINGO GAME

The Parent-Teachers Assn. of Emmitsburg Public School will sponsor a penny bingo game Saturday night in the VFW annex. Play will start at 8 o'clock and will continue throughout the evening. The general public is cordially invited to attend and many lovely and useful prizes will be offered.

## POLICE SEEK HIT-RUN DRIVER

Police are still searching for a hit-run driver who was involved in a traffic accident Sunday evening at 6:45 p. m. The automobile of William B. Anders, 70, Thurmont, was damaged to the extent of \$100 as a result of the mishap which occurred on Toll Gate Hill a mile south of Emmitsburg.

Mr. Anders, driving a 1953 Nash was struck by an unknown vehicle which was traveling south-

## Community Recovering From Storm

Emmitsburgians spent the better part of a week extricating themselves from hardships and inconveniences heaped on them as the result of last week's snow storm which has been reported by weather officials as the worst of its kind locally, for over a quarter of a century.

The initial trouble came early Thursday morning at about 2 a. m. when practically all electric power supplied to the town by the Potomac Edison Co. failed. Wires were snapped by the accumulation of the heavy wet snow and numerous poles supporting the wiring gave way under the heavy pressure. Old-type single-strand telephone wiring was strewn about like twisted spaghetti all over the area as hundreds of phones were decommissioned. Few homes inside the corporate limits of the town had any electricity and many of them received no current from Thursday until Saturday night. Heating became a problem as many modern homes have oil furnaces which require electric motors for igniting the fuel. Those fortunate enough to have fireplaces in their homes took advantage of the opportunity to use them as their only means of heating. Others simply had no heat.

The snow, while only amounting to about 10 inches in this area, was one of the heaviest ever to fall here. Many stores lost food and ice cream because of the lack of refrigeration for two to three days. The rural population perhaps suffered the most inconvenience and food spoilage because they were without power for as long as 70 hours. Telephone service to many rural homes is still lacking at this writing, and numerous poles and wiring still can be seen laying on the ground in the Emmitsburg section. Numerous families were forced to leave their home due to the lack of heat and others for lack of cooking facilities caused by the current failure. A number of individuals cooked in their fireplaces.

The public utilities were hard-pressed to rectify the damage and restore service. Work crews were in service on a round the clock schedule but the damage inflicted was to such an extent that it took days before anything resembling normal service was restored. Outside help was not available to the utilities because the storm covered a number of states and the crews could not be re-deployed being needed in their home area. By Monday evening most homes in the area had heat and light. Utilities have been hesitant as to express an estimate on damages. So widespread was the destruction that it undoubtedly will take several months before any estimate will be forthcoming.

The Vigilant Hose Co. coped with the emergency by putting into use the old meeting bell which is operated manually, when the electric siren went out of action.

## Hospital Report

Admitted  
Thornton W. Rodgers, Emmitsburg.  
Vincent Rosensteel, Emmitsburg.

Discharged  
Mrs. Howard Weant, Emmitsburg.

Births  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Green, Emmitsburg, a son, born Wednesday.  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hobbs, Emmitsburg, a daughter, born on Tuesday.

Deaths  
Mr. and Mrs. Rodman Myers, Thurmont, a daughter, born Monday. Mrs. Myers was the former Jean Ogle of Rocky Ridge.  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brawner, Emmitsburg, a daughter, born on Thursday.