

## East Falls Past--April Falls News

### *The Fallser*, April 2006, by Wendy Moody

Here are a few samples of entertainment in April 1901 from the *Weekly Forecast*:

- 1) A **checker tournament** is being arranged between members of the Falls Democratic Club and the Clearfield Athletic Association.
- 2) St. Bridget's Young Men's Literary Institute will give **a smoker** in the Institute rooms on next Tuesday evening, for members only.
- 3) The **annual ball** of the Violet Social, in America Hall, was pronounced a success, an immense gathering being present. The principal event, the grand march, was an attraction of exceptional brilliancy.
- 4) On Friday night, the "Butts" Sisters will give a delightful **concert and dance** at America Hall at which some of the best **vaudeville** talent in Philadelphia will appear, including our noted step and buck dancer, P. Obrion ...and the lightening sketch artists Johnson & Forbes. Dancing from 10 to 2.

4/25/1901 - A **thrilling scene** was witnessed at an early hour on Tuesday morning. As the horse-drawn laundry wagon ... passed under the bridge over Ridge Avenue, a pusher (a heavy engine) passed over the bridge frightening the horse driven by Lincoln Booth, 36 years of age. As the animal sprang forward, the driver was precipitated from the seat headlong and as he fell his left leg caught between the swingle tree and the shaft and, had he not with great presence of mind grabbed with his left hand the shaft, his brains would have been dashed out by the cobble stones. The horse continued on his mad career down Ridge Avenue, repeated efforts to stop the runaway proving unavailing. Try as he would Booth could not release his imprisoned leg which was being struck by the hoofs of the bewildered animal...the unfortunate young man was quickly growing weaker and...he would have had to release his hold...when fortunately the animal was brought to a sudden stop by two wagons which blocked his further progress at Nicetown lane, eight squares from the starting place. Booth was extricated from his perilous position...his injuries included bruises and a shaking up...he was taken to St. Luke's Hospital. *Weekly Forecast*

4/25/1901 - The **Standard Grocery & Meat Market**, 3501 Clearfield Street, advertised: Best Red Salmon (per can) - 11 cents; Good Prunes (per lb) - 4 cents; Pearl Barley (per lb) - 3 cents; Heinz's Tomato Catsup - 3 bottles for 25 cents.

4/8/1915 - **Mrs. Annie Whittaker**, of 3433 Crawford Street, lately received a letter from the honorable secretary of the Queen Mary's Needlework Guild of England: (Feb. 24, 1915) Dear Madam - Your kind contribution has just arrived and been unpacked, and I am desired by Her Majesty to thank you and the ladies of the Independent Order of the Daughters of St. George for your generosity in helping her Guild in so practical a manner. I will see that the socks are sent

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out to the front at once, as I have an enormous demand for them for the men in the trenches, where they will be very much appreciated by the French and Belgians, as well as by our British soldiers.... With renewed thanks, believe me, yours truly, Annie Lawley, Hon. Secretary. *Weekly Forecast*