

East Falls Past--December News

The Fallser, December 2006, by Wendy Moody

December 5, 1901 – Went to the Cats and Dogs – About 10:30 o'clock yesterday morning, as Milkman Burgess' team was turning out of Frederick Street into Stanton, the tailboard of the wagon fell and allowed two churns containing about 50 quarts of milk to slide out, spilling the entire contents into the streets. Several kioodles...were soon in the middle of it, lapping it up. They had a regular feast at the milkman's expense.

Weekly Forecast

December 16, 1915 – Motor Vehicles at Local Fire House [photo]– At last the long-made promise of new motor-driven fire apparatus for the local fire company is to be fulfilled. On Tuesday the new motor combination chemical wagon (13,000 pounds and a speed of 40 mph) was installed at the fire house and tomorrow the tractor-propelled fire engine will be delivered. The engine has a double seat...a new idea just come into use. The fire laddies are rejoicing over their new machine. *Weekly Forecast*



December 21, 1917 – The New Parish House of St. James the Less was dedicated on Saturday afternoon...The new building was erected by Mrs. H. Wilson Catherwood of 1708 Walnut Street as a memorial for her daughter, Mrs. Alfred Tucker. The site was donated by Mrs. Elizabeth Dobson Riddle. The new building is of Gothic style...with sittings for 350, and a fully equipped gymnasium. It is on the north side of Clearfield Street at 32nd Street, opposite the old parish house, rectory and sexton's house. These will all be torn down and the site added to the church cemetery. The old parish house was built more than 30 years ago by the late John Dobson. *The Chronicle*

December 8, 1996 – 16 Second Mega Event! Hundreds of East Falls residents, Philadelphia Housing Authority personnel, and Mazzocchi Engineering Demolition employees, stood alongside politicians and media reps on the west side of the Schuylkill River on Sunday, December 8 and joined in the 9am countdown – 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1-BOOM! The center section of the Calumet Building at Schuylkill Falls Development caved inward, the remainder a split second later...within 4 seconds the Ridge Building followed suit. As onlookers cheered, the dust cloud moved out toward Midvale Avenue. It will take ten months to clear the debris left by the implosion. *The Fallser*