## East Falls Past—February News

## The Fallser, February 2006, by Wendy Moody

Enjoy this sampling of what made the news in East Falls during Februarys past:

2/18/1916 - The name East Falls ought to be changed to Falls of Schuylkill, the name of the place and not a following of the Reading Railroad in naming its station. A short time ago there was a widespread opposition to changing the name of the local post office from Station Z to East Falls. Is it too late to remedy this evil? *Chronicle* 

2/23/1917 - Since the doing away with the office of alderman, the Falls has had no minor court with the exception of a magistrate sitting each morning in the police station. Under the old regime it was little trouble for the persons seeking "Law" to get all they wanted in the neighborhood....The following dealt out justice here: Robert Knox Scott..., William M. Sorber, who dealt out law in



addition to manufacturing coaches and carriages...;Francis Albright, a silk handkerchief printer in Simpson's mill, held court in a room back of his tobacco store, and Charles Whalley...Each of the above tried to fix up neighborhood quarrels before sending them to the higher courts.... *Chronicle* 

2/11/1926 - Godfrey Shronk was a noted fisherman who passed a long life at the Falls of Schuylkill....with wonderful piscatorial achievements. Dr. Smith, a celebrated Episcopal minister and the first provost of the University of Pennsylvania who lived on Queen Lane, was renowned for his liking of good dinners. He once took to reprimand Godfrey Shronk for fishing on Sunday. Shronk replied: "Doctor, if your dinner was at the bottom of the Schuylkill, you, too, would be very apt for fish for it."

East Falls Herald

**2/21/1929** - Readers in Community Express Approval of New Newspaper - "Starting last week a new weekly paper published under the name of The Suburban Press was distributed on Thursday. The paper is conducted by Joseph H. Ewing and A. C. Chadwick, Jr. *[photo]* and looked quite attractive and presented its readers with many news features" Review from the *Manayunk Review* on, and in, *The Suburban Press* 

2/21/1935 - Down at the Falls of Schuylkill away back in 1855, a man named George Mundy was the first to go hatless in this vicinity. He appeared outdoors with his long yellow hair hanging down over his coat collar. He claimed that the Savior never wore a hat, and that he was following in His example. *The Suburban Press*