## **East Falls Past—May News**

## The Fallser, May 2007, by Wendy Moody

Here's a sampling of what was happening in East Falls during May in years past:

May 24, 1900 – Among the entries for the Philadelphia Horse Show, at Wissahickon Heights, during the week of May 2, we notice Miss Bessie Dobson's entries in both the jumping and tandem classes. *Weekly Forecast* 

May 24, 1900 - The strike of the drum room hands in J&J Dobson's Carpet Mill, which began on Monday of last week, terminated at noon on Wednesday last, concessions being made on both sides, the strikers having received an acceptable increase in their wages.

## Weekly Forecast

May 24, 1900 – Persons near East Falls station were given quite a fright on Monday afternoon as the 1:33pm train was pulling into the station. When Mrs.



J. A J. DOBSON, CARPET, BLANKET, CLOTH AND PLUSH MILLS,

Fred Pierson, of Queen Lane, crossed the track she dropped a quarter. She retraced her steps and, notwithstanding the fact that the train was fast bearing down upon her, she deliberately stooped down in the track to pick up her money. The onlookers were horrified...She recovered her coin, apparently not until then realizing her perilous position. As the whistle shrieked, she desperately pitched herself forward, striking the platform with her knees, and twisted herself out of harm's way just as the engine grazed her dress.

## Weekly Forecast

May 16, 1901 – Early visitors to the local post office on Monday morning were mystified...perhaps wondering if they were yet asleep. It was no wonder that they were just perplexed, for there were the carriers working in preparing the letters for delivery by the light of a flickering candle. It was a reminder of what the penny post of our grandfathers' days must have been...The strange situation was caused by the electric storm of Saturday night burning out the electric connections in the local office. Weekly Forecast

May 4, 1916 – The largest sale of land in this city in recent years was consummated last Thursday when 23 tracts near the Falls of the Schuylkill were conveyed to the School Lane Land company by Sarah W. Warden for \$446,650. The land extends from Sunnyside Avenue to Coulter Street and from Midvale Avenue to Wissahickon Avenue. *Suburban Press* 

**May 12, 1932 -** Women athletes participating in the games of the 10<sup>th</sup> Olympiad in Los Angeles, California from July 30 to August 14 will be housed in the Chapman Park

Hotel. Miss Grace D. Walker, niece of the late Dr. Charles Mills, formerly of the Falls of Schuylkill, has been appointed to serve the women athletes as social secretary. *Suburban Press*