

Newsletter97

Keith's Corner/McGill News

March 26, 2021

Copper Club

The Copper Club was originally housed in the building now being used by the McGill Post Office. This photo is dated 1909.



The Copper Club was a bar, not a meeting place for policemen. (a little humor there). As far as I can tell it was the first bar in McGill, however there were plenty of bars in Ragtown and Smelterville at that time.

Apparently the first Copper Club building was a tent or frame building, or a combination. The reason I say that, is because in the White Pine Newspaper on August 13, 1908, there is mention of a new concrete building being constructed in front of the Copper Club tent. Mr. William McGill stated this along with the fact that the building is to be 25 x 90. I measured it the other day and that figure is correct. Mr. McGill said that he expects the construction to be done in 60 days. How right he was.

October 15, 1908, the new Copper Club opened. The bar and fixtures were moved from the old tent into the new concrete building.

In January, 1920, The McGill Post Office was moved from next to the McGill Drug Store, across the street and into the vacated Copper Club. The post office is still there.

There are many items in the old newspapers about different people and events at the Copper Club. I will present some of them, by date.

1908-August 6—Mr. Phillips, manager of the Copper Club was doing the best business in the district.

1908- September 17, credit was stopped for the workers of the copper company. They were spending more than they were making.

1908-August 27, Mr. Williams was the manager of the club.

1909-May 22, Mr. J. Geary, bartender, was covered in decorations for the holiday.

1909-June 26, fishing licenses were now available from Mr. Sargent at the Copper Club. No longer any need to go to Ely. The fish and game were all out of tags, but Sargent can give you a receipt to be used in place of a tag.

1909-December 17, the old county jail cells were brought over to be erected behind the Copper Club. George Newman and Charles Holmes, of the Copper Club said it would be easier to roll the drunks down the hill instead of uphill to the jail which was next to the train depot.

1909-September 28, J. Geary went on a trip to Utah. H. O. Hall, of the Southern Club will fill in for Geary.

1914-August 23, Deputy Sheriff A. J. Millick was ambushed behind the Copper Club, by an unknown thug. He was hit in the back of the head. He was carried into the Club where a local doctor attended to him. He was off duty for a long period of recovery.

1911-There was a flood that swept thru the Post Office and then across the street and into the Copper Club.

1912-The Copper Club was closed for a few weeks due to the violence of the labor strike at the Consolidated Copper Company.

I have never seen any photos of the inside of the Copper Club. Let me know if you have.

McGill New

Other than the cold nasty north wind and a scattering of snow, not much has happened around here.

McGill Oldies

1910—May 22. Bowling opens up in McGill.

1909-May2—McGill Bank officials and a contractor met to discuss erecting a new bank building on the north side of the Nye Bros. and Clark Drug store building. Also, to build a brick cottage for the McGill Bank cashier, P. C. Cripps.

Old Photos



Not McGill, but I bet lots of McGillites were there. Dated
August 8,9,10-1935.