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Some Meandering Thoughts

The hot days of summer aren't encouraging to deep thought and opinion. This week, particularly, we find it hard to collect our thoughts for intelligent directives in this column.

Sitting on the front porch the other day—and our front porch is just across the street from the Carrolltown postoffice—we noticed the patrons emerging from the mail-dispensing establishment with the latest edition of the country's greatest mail-order concern's catalogs.

For many years the Assemblymen and the Senator from this district have endeavored to have the state take over the township road that leads from the top of the hill above the Lanark Mine tipple directly into Hastings.

We want to congratulate the committee in charge of the recent picnic held by St. Monica's Church parish at Chest Springs. Most all of the summer picnics held everywhere feature a good meal as the main attraction.

Carrolltown and Barnesboro have rather "questionable" honors of being the lowest percentage-wise in the assessed valuation of real estate in Cambria County.

The recent holiday week end disclosed an alarming number of fatalities from drowning all over the nation, and in practically all cases the victims were persons who were unable to swim.

Think your car won't skid in the summertime? Don't be too sure. After a warm spell, and dry, most of the permanent roads of present construction develop a slippery trend after rain first begins to fall.

There's every indication coming out of Harrisburg that Cambria County will benefit at long last by a couple of state parks—something they should have had long ago.

Some time a bit later in the summer, when the grounds are completed, the County Commissioners plan an official opening of the new Men's County Home near Ebensburg.

While people generally are prone to discuss the pros and the cons of our national government, or praise or condemn the officials of our state government, and rant or rave over government at the county level, they are sometimes prone to overlook the

most important of all governments—to them. We speak of the elected school directors, the town councilmen, and the township supervisors, all of whom directly affect the education and living conditions of our own communities.

Six Solid Weeks Touring Europe

By MRS. THOMAS A. OWENS SR. This is one of a series of articles covering a recent trip to Europe by Mrs. Tom Owens, Mrs. H. Shubert, and Mrs. John J. Haluska, down by bus on Holy Saturday.

On the morning of Tuesday, April 4th, after spending two days in Sorrento, Italy, with a visit to the Capri, as noted in last week's article, we departed in our motor-bus for Rome. However, this was not to be a direct and non-stop journey.

Vesuvius lies a little to the westward on a line between Naples and Sorrento, and the beginning of the trip northward to Rome was diverted along the highway through Pompeii at the base of Vesuvius.

Grape arbors were many in this area, grains, fruits, vegetables, and all manner of garden produce, were pleasing to behold. Planting was followed up to the very roadside, and even under all of the trees, and the grape arbors.

From the moment we landed in Italy we began to note that it abounds in a diversity of interesting contrasts in scenery, cities and tourist attractions. Meals, generally ranged from excellent to passable, and on a couple of occasions they were really poor.

Three Cities Stood at Base. Three cities stood at the base of the mountain at the time of Christ—Herculaneum, at the western base, Stabiae, nearby, and Pompeii on the eastern side.

Excavations by the Italian government throughout the years affords the visitor an insight of a Roman city of Christ's time. Certainly it is a "must" on anyone's visit to Italy.

Most of the streets ran straight with the intersections at right angles. A curbing of upended blocks of volcanic stone framed a raised sidewalk, hardly wide enough for pedestrians to pass one another.

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and picked over by men. Even so, the ground plans of the building were clear, and enormous quantities of damaged furnishings and odds and ends survived.

In fact, many of the buildings, which have been excavated and restored during the past century, are well preserved. Perhaps the most impressive feature to be seen by American visitors was the Amphitheater, built before anything of a like nature was constructed in Rome itself.

To endeavor to go into detail on Pompeii would be impossible in the space we are afforded. There were houses with magnificent mural paintings predominantly in Pompeian red.

And On To Breath-Taking Rome. On and so we departed, in our bus for Rome. Mainly we were traversing the same roadway we had come down to Naples on Holy Saturday.

By... STATE SENATOR JOHN J. HALUSKA

"As I See It"

In our column last week we pointed out the bitterness that has been rampant in our country since the American Medical Assn. with regards to the Salk vaccine.

Dr. Salk, at Pittsburgh, in 1954, was awarded the Congressional Medal for his achievement and President Eisenhower saw fit to honor Dr. Salk.

Here in Pennsylvania, Gov. Leader appeared on a program in the hall of our Assembly when Dr. Salk addressed that honorable body.

We find no fault with President Eisenhower or Gov. Leader for being elated over this achievement; but we only say now as we have said before, that this entire parade of honors was all premature.

Now outstanding physicians throughout the nation insist that Dr. Salk does not have the answer to the polio question.

This statement should never go unchallenged. If the thousands of our children who have been injected with this so-called dangerous vaccine should be subjected to paralytic polio, then it is high time that our government and the AMA definitely stop this vaccine from further use.

Insight of Ancient Roman City. It was our privilege to get an insight of houses and living conditions of nearly 1,900 years ago. Unlike its sister cities, mentioned, Pompeii was merely covered with a bed of lighter substance, cinders, small stones and ashes which fell in a dry state.

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Surely the day will come when public opinion will outweigh the opinion and the action of this great monopoly but ruling our country.

And while it takes courage to battle a group of this kind, we here feel that we have not only the common people on our side in this battle, but we have the guiding light of our Maker who makes it possible for us to continue our courage and fight this great battle of life.

SEN. JOHN J. HALUSKA

SUMMER

By FERDINAND D. WHARTON Chest Springs, Pa. The garden is now knee deep in the midst of Summer. All growth is at its peak and the robins are raising their second brood.

The moon flowers and morning glory vines have reached the top of the trellis and the beds of white and scarlet geraniums are a mass of vivid colored blossoms.

A tiny seed—the germ of life buried deep in the cool, moist, dark earth waiting for the first rays of the sun to bring it warmth and then the mysterious force to find the light, it sends tiny shoots up through the soil.

The leaves on the elm are rustling from a soft summer breeze and overhead a sky of azure blue is dotted with white fleecy clouds like huge balls of cotton—a perfect summer day in an ideal setting.

In silent meditation I marvel at the wonderful work of Nature all around me. She goes about her work so quietly and efficiently

ly that we are not aware of any effort. Across the fields I can see stacks of new mown hay and a cherry tree nearby is heavy with bright red fruit.

The fullness of summer when growth slows down and the maturing and ripening process begins, and although the Autumn season is but a few short weeks away, there are no signs or indications of it now.

The matchless beauty of Summer is a wonderful thing to behold. No matter what your mood, Nature is in sympathy with it.

And we who have reached the

Autumn and Winter of life have a feeling of regret that the Summers have gone but the beauty all around us lessens this feeling of sadness.

Navy Announces Program For Aviation Officers

The U. S. Navy Recruiting Station at Altoona has announced the opening of a new aviation officer program designed to train Naval Fliers needed to expand the Navy's Sea-Air Arm.

Your advertisement in the classified page of the Union Press-Courier will bring results.

NEW LOW COST! COMPLETE EYE SERVICE. Examination, Your Choice of Any Style. All Lenses Ground in Our Own Laboratory. DR. RAY HEVERLING, Optometrist - Simms Bldg., Altoona.

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