

The Dallas Post

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An independent paper, of the people, devoted to the great farming section of Luzerne and other counties.

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THE DALLAS POST

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GIVE A BOOK

Dallas Borough High School needs books. Many other schools in this vicinity feel a similar need. Not for text books, to be sure, but for books of literary value that may serve as a nucleus for a school library. Nothing that any school can offer is of more value to students in their training for college or for life than a small library filled with books of merit written by good authors. Financially, it is impossible for the school boards to purchase these libraries at this time when school moneys are being used to meet building requirements to care for ever-increasing enrollments.

There are many persons in this vicinity who have good books which they can donate to the schools. The books need not be the latest editions, neither should they be junk. If you have books that you have read and that are of no longer use to you, give them to the schools. We know of no better way to be of service to the schools at this time than to donate books or the price of a good book. When you give a book be sure it is by a good author and not merely a lot of pages bound in a cover and of no use to anyone. Books like *Ivanhoe* by Scott; editions of poems; *The Americanization* of Edward Bok; Franklin's *Autobiography* and novels by recognized modern authors are the type the schools need. Give your book this week. Call the school or tell a student and a messenger will be sent from the school to your home to get the book.

ANIMALS ON THE ROADS

A scarcity of animals, alive or dead, has been noticed on the highways. It is said the heaviest mortality from motor cars is suffered by the skunk, which is hard to explain, for surely every driver would go far out of his way to avoid hitting this animal.

Birds, once run over in great numbers, are now seldom hit. The box tortoise, who years ago never "speeded up" when a car was coming, now fairly gallops to the safe woods when a driver toots the horn to warn him.

It is almost impossible to believe, but it really seems as though the animals have developed a sense of the danger of cars and therefore avoid the well traveled roads.

Some humans could profit by their example.

FALL BEAUTY

How fortunate we are at this time of the year to be living in the country. The beauty of color in the changing countryside, the brisk mornings and clear nights bring joy to us, a joy that is unknown to the city dweller. Yet there are those about us who fail to see these beauties so near at hand. Too engrossed in work-a-day life they fail to stop long enough to view nature in its greatest splendor. To them we say, "Get out of doors." Forget the petty things in life. Look at the stars. Take time to look at a sunset. See how small you are in the great scheme of things. Then go back to your work a better man or woman. The great English poet, Wordsworth, a lover of nature, caught the spirit of the season when he wrote:

My heart leaps up when I behold
A rainbow in the sky.

So was it when my life began,
So is it now I am a man,
Or let me die.

The child is father to the man,
And I would wish my days to be
Linked each to each in natural piety.

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The Plymouth power plant follows throughout the basic

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PLYMOUTH
AMERICA'S LOWEST-PRICED FULL-SIZE CAR

OLIVER'S GARAGE
Main Street Dallas, Pa.

Ryman Recalls Early Stores, Food, Clothing

Manufactured Goods Had Hard Time Displacing Homespun in Early Days

HISTORY OF DALLAS

Franklin township in this year (1845) set off from parts of Kingston, Exeter and Dallas townships.

This was the last pruning, except small corner from westerly end of Lake township, that Dallas township, as originally laid out and formed, was obliged to suffer. This leaves Dallas township with the same shape and size that it now has.

1844-1845. Isaac Whipple appears as doctor (second one), and Jonathan Husted gets a pleasure carriage (second one in township).

1845-1846. William W. Kirkendall dies. Jessie Kreidler start blacksmith shop near Goss or Corner school house, afterwards continued by his son, Abe Kreidler, who was accidentally shot by William C. Smith about 1856, and killed.

Joseph Orr, Justice of the Peace this year. Elijah Harris starts the first lath mill in Dallas township (near present "Ryman's Pond." Abram Ryman gets a pleasure carriage (the third one in the township). John Rainow moves on John Honeywell farm (lot four in certified Bedford, where John Welch now lives). Christopher Eypner, wheelwright, moves into township.

1846-1847. Gearl Cairl starts a tannery at Green woods near Kunkle. Anthony Peche, laborer, moves into township.

1847-1848. John Bulford starts his blacksmith shop in village of McLellonsville. Miner Fuller builds saw mill on Toby's Creek one-half mile above Jude Baldwin's mill, near Lehman township line. Almon Goss made postmaster. Henry Hancock and Joseph Shaver, as Hancock & Co., go into lumber business at Jude Baldwin's mill.

1848-1849. A. L. Waring starts a hotel or tavern, which continues but a short time.

1849-1850. Jacob Rice appears first time as merchant. Albert L. Waring, tavern keeper. John Thorn makes application for hotel license.

Stores, Food, Clothing, Etc.

After the abandonment and removal of the rolling mill from South Wilkes-Barre, about the year 1844, the firm of Stetler & Slyker, which had been keeping a general merchandise store there, stopped business and removed their remaining stock of goods out to McLellonsville. Stephen Slyker, one of the partners, who is still living (1886), at South Wilkes-Barre, went out with the goods to close them out. There was then a wagonmaker's shop owned by Jerome B. Blakeslee, standing on the southeastern bank of Toby's Creek, where the present store of Ira D. Shaver in Dallas borough now stands. Slyker secured this shop, put in shelves and a counter and otherwise fitted it for use as store and moved in with its stock of goods. This was the first store started within the present territory of Dallas township. Before this time, about the year 1840, Almon Goss kept a few goods at his house near the Goss or Corner school house, just north of McLellonsville, from which he supplied his men and others who wanted to buy; but the Slyker store was the first real store in a separate building devoted exclusively to the business.

My father, Abram Ryman, also for many years, kept a few goods in his house at the homestead farm, between Dallas and Huntsville, to accommodate his employees and others who wished to buy. He also began about a year or two ago to sell a few staple articles. Some dry goods of the commonest and most substantial kind were kept in the "spare room" laid out on a board, which rested on two or three chairs. Molasses, pork and damp goods of that class were kept in the cellar. Sugar, tea, coffee and that class of groceries were kept upstairs over the kitchen in a large room next to the roof where we boys and sometimes the hired men slept. Many times were we awakened after going to bed by my father coming upstairs with some late customer to weigh out some coffee or sugar or the like. His counter in that room was a large table. Just over the table, suspended from a rafter, was a pair of balancing scales. Weights were put in either side, and the article to be weighed was put in the other side. My father kept store in this way until about the year 1856, when he erected a separate building for it near the road. After ten or eleven years he erected another store down in the village of Dallas, which is still in use by the firm of A. Ryman & Sons.

The Slyker store did not remain long in McLellonsville. About 1846 Samuel Lynch, now of Wilkes-Barre, leased the Slyker building and started a branch to his Wilkes-Barre store, and thus conducted business there for about two years.

About the same time that Lynch's store was started (Mr. Lynch thinks a little before) Henry Hancock came up from Kingston and opened a store in the front part of the house where J. J. Bulford now lives (ground since occupied by Lehigh Valley Railroad station). Bulford lived in the back part of the house at the same time. Lynch abandoned his Dallas store soon afterwards, and Hancock moved his store to Huntsville, where he continued in business until just prior to the war. When he broke out his sympathies were with the South, and not wishing to shirk any duty toward the Southern cause, he went South and joined the Confederate army. He was afterwards taken prisoner and died during his confinement in one of the western prisons.

About the year 1848 Jacob Rice, 2nd, of Dallas, and Dr. James A. Lewis, of Trucksville, former a copartnership under the firm name of Rice & Lewis, and continued business in the Slyker building, which Mr. Rice had in the meantime purchased, as successors to Mr. Lynch. Dr. Lewis left the firm

Of Course, We Know What He Was Aiming At — By Albert T. Reid



-Noxen-

Mr. and Mrs. John Ruff entertained Mr. and Mrs. William (MacWilliam) Sigmund of Galveston, Texas, this week while Mr. Sigmund called on schoolmates of his boyhood. Mr. Sigmund resided in Noxen with his foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Silas McWilliam, leaving here twenty-one years ago. Mr. Sigmund motored from Galveston to Dalton, Pa., where his mother, Mrs. Jesse Lewis, lives. From there he came to Noxen. The entire trip was made in one week's traveling and spending nights in camp.

Mr. Sigmund says working industries in Texas are as bad if not worse than in Pennsylvania but that the weather is really a lot warmer there. Mr. Sigmund visited the tannery, seeing a number of former schoolmates, among them Harry Miller, now assistant superintendent of the plant. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Saxte entertained them at dinner on Tuesday. On Tuesday evening Mr. Sigmund called on Marvin French of French Bros. and Stewart Casterline of Kingston, also school mates. Mr. Sigmund remarked on the many improvements our town has made in the twenty years he has been gone.

Mr. and Mrs. OJ Dunlap of East Stroudsburg called on Mr. and Mrs. John Ruff on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Richards of Wilkes-Barre visited Mr. Richards' brother, Earl Richards.

Albert May and Calvin Kelper of Noxen with Stephen Lasko of Centermoreland have accepted the contract to furnish music for the farmer dances at Beaumont.

Mrs. Robert Hackling has returned home from Wilkes-Barre, Pa., where she visited Mr. Hackling's father.

Mrs. Roy Roote is visiting her sister, Mrs. Harry Kelper.

Mr. and Mrs. William Cuddy had Mrs. Cuddy's sister and family of Albany as guests over the week-end.

In 1841, and the firm of Rice & Kirkendall soon followed, with George W. Kirkendall, deceased, late of Wilkes-Barre, as the junior partner. The successions in that store since then have been Rice & Sons, John J. Whitney, Whitney & Shaver, Brown & Henry, Smith & Garrahan, Garrahan & Son, and now Ira D. Shaver. The old store building burned down about 1861 while occupied by Brown & Henry, but was immediately rebuilt by Whitney & Shaver.

Another store was started at McLellonsville quite early in the fifties by Charles Smith, now of Trucksville, in a store building which until quite recently stood on the ground now occupied by Dr. C. A. Spencer's residence. Still another store was started there about the same time as the Smith store, on the corner where now stands the residence of Chester White. It was more of a "fluid" grocery store where oysters, cider and even stronger drinks could be had. The Smith store buildings was used for like purposes after Smith went away.

The best of these first stores in Dallas would hardly be dignified by that name now. Only a few necessities were kept in them, and "necessaries" then had a much scantier meaning than now. A few of the commonest and cheapest cotton cloths were kept in stock; the woolen goods used for winter wear, for both men and women, were all homespun. It took many years for the storekeepers to convince the farmers that they could buy heavy clothes of part wool and part cotton that would be as durable and cheaper than the all wool homespun. The time spent on the latter counted as nothing and the argument failed. A few other goods of kinds in daily use, such as coffee, tea, sugar, tobacco, molasses, powder, shot and flints and rum were of course necessary to complete the store. Hunting materials and supplies were in great demand. A hunter's outfit at that time was proverbially "a quarter of powder, a pound of shot, a pint of rum and a flint." Tobacco was always in demand. The flint was the box of matches of that day.

(Continued Next Week)

THE WEEK'S DOINGS

The north bound Lehigh Valley passenger train was held up at the local station for twenty minutes on Thursday morning while two beautiful, registered Guernsey cows were unloaded from the express car for Dorrance Reynolds, Goodleigh Farm. The animals were shipped here from the Osceola Farms at Cranford, N. J.

Frank Morris, Harold Wagner and Charley Johnson of Beaumont made up a fishing party the early part of the week at Nigger Pond, Wyoming county. Harold caught pickerel weighing 3 1/4 pounds and measuring 21 inches. A day or so later the same party of fisherman caught eighteen pike at Nigger Pond.

The World Series daily attracts a large crowd of fans to Olivers Garage where Mr. Oliver has installed a large outdoor radio speaker to give Dallas residents the series returns. Among the most enthusiastic followers of the game are Prof. Gerton and some other teachers from the Dallas township schools.

Trainmen on the local branch of the Lehigh Valley report seeing an abundance of wild game along the tracks at this season of the year. On Saturday night they saw a young cub near the tracks at Mountain Springs and on several days recently they have seen a number of deer in the same vicinity.

Thom Higgins has an interesting exhibit of fossil coal in one of his show windows. The exhibit is a perfect fern now hardened into coal. It is one of the growths of nature that a plant which grew thousands of years ago is thus preserved in hardened form to be viewed by posterity. The fossil was given to Mr. Higgins by a local coal dealer.

State engineers have been working in this section making surveys for a new State and county road. The new road, it is claimed, will connect with the State road somewhere near the intersection of the Fernbrook and Upper Shavertown road and will then follow a course along Lehman avenue in Dallas and later join the county road in the vicinity of Misericordia college. The reason given for such a location is that the road will ease the traffic problem through the center of the borough.

-Lehman-

The Queen Esther Circle was entertained at the home of Helen and Ruth Kinsman on Wednesday evening of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Ide spent Sunday afternoon with the latter's father, J. W. Pembleton, at Trucksville.

Mrs. Albert Vocher has been ill the past few weeks.

A. B. Ide, Jr., who has a position traveling for the Watkins Company in Wyoming county, spent the week-end at his home here.

Mrs. recGe Lewis has returned from a two weeks' stay in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Harry Howells' division of the Ladies' Aid Society are preparing to give an entertainment in the church basement in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. William Parks and family spent Sunday at Wilkes-Barre. Clifford Ide and son Dean of Dallas and Howard Ide and son Byron of Shavertown and Marcus Ide and family were callers at James Ide's on Sunday afternoon.

Rally Day was observed in the Sunday school on Sunday at which time there were thirteen admitted to full membership in the church.

Heard Around The Corner

SOME FISHERMAN

Charlie Johnson of Beaumont seems to be the premier fisherman when it comes to getting pickerel. Charlie spends most of his time up at the ponds at Jenningsville, and on last Saturday caught thirteen, one of them measuring twenty-five and one-half inches long. And we can verify the length, for we were there and did the measuring. F. F. Morris was also in the party but did not do so well. Probably Frank did not pay enough attention to the fish, as his mind might have been on school problems, or, perhaps, his coming campaign this fall.

LOSES TOO MANY

This same fellow, Charlie Johnson, loses more fish than the average ten persons would. Whether it is because he catches or hooks more than the average, we don't know, but Charlie can usually tell of a few big ones that got away, or the one the "turtle" chawed up, or some other good thing in addition to his catch.

SHOWING ACTIVITY

This fellow Jim Beseker is sure full of action. Besides being the hustling Ford dealer of town, Jim is president of the Rotary club, president of the Henry M. Laing Fire Company, active in church circles, secretary of the school board and what not? However, Jim still thinks he has time to become a school director. If his vote in the primary is any judge of results he should go in nicely in the fall election. We have heard rumors that Stanley Doll, his opponent on the Prohibition ticket, is thinking of making a fight for it.

Land Hurt by Dam

The bottomland of Egypt is not as fertile as it was before the Assuan dam was built. The mud that was carried down the Nile by natural flooding is stopped by the dam. It settles back of the dam, and the clear water which irrigates the land below lacks the fertilizing element.



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