

## More Mills Open To Grind Grain As Prices Fall

### Long-Abandoned Places Meet Needs of Present Situation

Do you know of any old mills in this vicinity or of the sites of old mills? The Post will be pleased to publish your contributions along this line. What is the oldest house or building in Dallas or in this region? If you know of an old one, let us hear its history. EDITOR

The spiderwebbed and dust-laden machinery of many Pennsylvania grist mills, long behind bolted doors, has been cleaned and greased or else replaced with more modern equipment, and is now operating again. Trade from farmers who have an abundance of low-priced grain, has proved a stimulus to local milling.

One hundred years ago there were approximately 1800 mills operating in Pennsylvania, according to George A. Stuart, director, Bureau of Markets, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The number continued at a relatively high figure until the World War when a sharp reduction took place. A low record of approximately 500 mills in operation was reached in 1929. The tide turned with the start of the depression and the number of active mills increased to 525 in 1930. It is believed that this rate of increase continued during 1931.

Being located along streams usually in a most picturesque spot and built of stone, dozens of these mills have been converted during the past ten years into summer homes, tea rooms and apartments. However, in practically every county a number have remained intact, ready for business in case the opportunity came.

Hundreds of farmers today are doing what their fathers and grandfathers did in generations past; they are taking their wheat and corn to nearby mills for grinding into mill feed and flour. This is adding new life to Pennsylvania countryside and reviving memories of colonial days.

An illustration of the historic environment surrounding many Pennsylvania grist and flour mills is given by Alden W. Quimby, historical writer, in the following story:

#### Great Valley Mill

"What memories cling about the Great Valley Grist Mill near Paoli, picturesquely situated on the north branch of Valley Creek. Built in 1710, by Thomas Jerman, it is but twenty-eight years younger than Pennsylvania itself. It has mused the wars of some of our far-back English sovereigns, and was more than a century old when Pontiac set foot his daring scheme to restore French supremacy along the Great Lakes.

"Still more precious are its recollections of the Revolutionary period. For a few days of September, 1777, the rich green of the superb valley was flecked with the scarlet and white of British uniforms. Along the Swedford road, from Howellville to Centerville, stretched the camp of Howe's 18,000 veterans—British and Hessians—bent upon the capture of Philadelphia. On the 20th from this very vicinity marched the column under "the no-flint general," Gray, to the deadly assault upon the American rear guard, far up on the South Valley Hill, known as the "Paoli Massacre." Scarcely two miles to the southward is the birthplace of the gallant Wayne. Within gunshot to the north is Diamond Rock, with its remarkable crystals, beneath which, to the eastward, is the house occupied by the patriot general, Lord Sterling, during the American encampment at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-1778.

"Looking east from the mill, one glimpses the quarters, respectively, of Cornwallis, Howe and Knaphausen. At Iron Bridge on Valley Creek, Lafayette's temporary home is still extant; at the wooden covered bridge, further down the stream are the quarters of General Knox, while down the fascinating gorge through which the creek flows to the Schuylkill, are the sites of the famous forge burned by the British invaders and the general headquarters of Washington. In full view are the historic hills tenanted by the starving Continentals, and it is grateful to think that the hunger pangs of those heroes were alleviated in some slight degree by the ministry of the Great Valley Mill.

"This mill is still running today turning out flour and other mill products for the community.

## Council Reduces Borough Expenses

### Salary of Police Officer is Cut \$50 per month For Winter Period—Others Also Take Cuts.

Drastic reductions in borough police expenditures were made at the meeting of borough council on Tuesday night. Officer Elwood Elston was retained as borough police officer but his salary was reduced from \$100 a month to \$50 a month for the period from January 1 to April 1. After that date the salary of the police officer will be \$100 a month until the first of October when the salary is automatically lowered to \$50 a month for the winter months.

The specified duties of the police officer during the winter months are to protect school children at street intersections and to answer police calls.

There was considerable discussion on the point of reduction in police expenditures but all members of council seemed to be in agreement that borough expenditures should be reduced to a minimum.

Borough Street Commissioner W. T. Daddow was reappointed for the coming year the street commissioner received 60c an hour for general work as street commissioner and 70c per hour for operation of the road roller and repairs to machinery. This year all work will be paid for at a rate of 60c per hour.

At a reorganization meeting of the Council on Monday night the newly elected councilmen, Warden Kunkle, Elmer D. Parrish, Clyde Vietch and William Schmoll were sworn in by Burgess Harry Anderson before a large audience of spectators in the borough building. The Burgess continued to preside during the remainder of the reorganization meeting until Warden Kunkle was reelected unanimously as president of the council.

William Niemeyer was elected at a salary of \$150 a year to fill the office of secretary after the resignation of Fred Youngblood. Mr. Youngblood during his tenure of office has made an excellent secretary. His resignation came as the result of a request sent to all government employees asking that they refrain from holding two jobs during the present period of unemployment.

Machell Hildebrandt was appointed borough auditor by council to fill the position left vacant when Mr. Niemeyer was appointed secretary. According to law the borough secretary cannot hold office as borough auditor. Mr. Niemeyer was elected last fall.

Ralph Brickel was retained as borough treasurer at a salary of \$50 a year and Arthur Turner was retained as borough solicitor at a salary of \$75 a year. John Jeter was reappointed borough engineer.

## TEXAS ARMADILLO DRAWS ATTENTION

John L. Sullivan who is spending some time in Texas visiting his mother, shipped a stuffed armadillo this week to Ray Harris, manager of Meridian restaurant. The armadillo which is now on exhibition in one of the windows of the restaurant is attracting considerable attention daily.

The armadillo is a mammal, native chiefly of South America but also found in Texas and Arizona. It is intermediate between the sloths and the anteaters and inclusive of tail reaches a length of about two feet, being nearly equal in size to an opossum. It gets its name from the hard bony armour which incases and protects the body everywhere except the breast and the abdomen. The legs are short and stout and the feet are provided with long claws for burrowing. The little animal is inoffensive in habit sleeping during the day and feeding at night. Its food consists of grasshoppers, snails, beetles, lizards and worms. Despite the character of its food, the armadillo is hunted extensively for its flesh which is said to be wholesome and of excellent flavor.

## Remove Christmas Tree

Members of Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire company and street department employees of Dallas borough removed the Community Christmas tree on Tuesday. This year's tree was one of the most beautiful the borough has ever had which was in large measure due to the increased number of colored electric bulbs used in its decoration.

## School Board Lacks Funds, Teacher Pay May Be Tardy

### Board retrenches on short term loans--- Ten Mills tax increase likely

Unless \$822.40 is forthcoming from the borough tax collector before the February 1 pay day, Dallas borough school teachers will have to wait until the tax is collected before they will receive their pay. The borough school board at its meeting on Wednesday night refused to borrow any more money on short term notes to pay current expenses. The opposition to the borrowing of more money was led by director George K. Swartz who is set upon an economy program in the management of the local schools.

According to the best figures available there are still \$7,000 in taxes to be collected. Of this amount the school district can reasonably expect about \$3,000 since the remainder will be represented in land returns and abatements. Of the \$7,400, State appropriation a part will be due after February 1.

The board deemed it more advisable to wait until these funds are available than to increase the indebtedness of the district by borrowing money for a short term to meet the salaries and current expenses.

The report of the school treasurer was as follows: Balance on hand, December 2, \$3470.34; Receipts from F. M. Gordon, tax collector, \$371.84; Receipts, December 22, \$8.07; From Luzerne county, \$139.33; Receipts from F. M. Gordon on January 2, \$171.23, making a total of \$4160.36. Forty nine orders drawn on the above for \$3937.05 left a balance of \$223.31 in the treasury.

In the face of these figures the board paid out \$110.54 covering light and power bills from Luzerne County Gas and Electric company for two months, and telephone rental. All other bills were held for payment at a later date.

Commenting on his stand against the board's borrowing on short term notes, Dr. Swartz explained that the school tax in Dallas borough will have to be raised ten mills. This he said, is not to be confused in the minds of the taxpayers with ten dollars. Ten mills means an increase in taxation of ten cents on every hundred dollars. The present millage in Dallas borough is twenty-five mills with no municipal millage. Compared with surrounding communities this is low. Dal-

## Aid Society Will Elect New Officers

### Covered Dish Luncheon Will Also Be Part of Program Scheduled For January 14.

Members of the Ladies' Aid Society of Dallas M. E. church will hold their annual election of officers and a covered dish luncheon on Thursday, January 14, in the church parlors. Officers of the society and members of the committee urge that a large number be in attendance since this will be one of the most attractive and important meetings of the year.

Members are also urged to bring their own knife, fork, spoon, plate and cup, so that no one will have to do kitchen duty and everybody will have time to take part in the election, program and social activities of the meeting.

## Correct Error

Due to an oversight the name of J. F. Besecker Co., was omitted from the list of State Automobile Inspection Stations in Dallas, published in last week's issue of The Post.

## Appeal From Damage Award Is Denied Kingston Township School District

In a decision handed down Tuesday in Luzerne county court, Judge Benjamin R. Jones denied an appeal of Kingston township school board from the decision of State Compensation Referee Asa Lewis granting \$4832.67 damages to Mrs. Z. R. Howell, widow of the late Z. R. Howell, supervising principal of Kingston township schools.

In commenting on the appeal Judge Jones said "the finding of fact and conclusion of law are sustained and the appeal is dismissed."

This is the second appeal that has been denied the school board since it began its efforts to escape payment of the damages awarded. The first appeal was denied by the State Workman's Compensation Board sitting in

las township for example has a thirty mill school tax and a ten mill municipal tax; Kingston township has a 25 mill school tax and a twelve mill municipal tax; Lehman township has a twenty-seven mill school tax and a ten mill municipal tax. An increase in the borough school millage is absolutely essential if the district is to make any progress in reducing its debts.

Although financial matters held the attention of the school board for the most part. Other matters of importance came up for discussion. On motion by Roberts seconded by Culbert it was voted to accept the recently completed school audit.

William Niemeyer of McLeans Insurance agency presented the bond of the school secretary for \$500. Upon learning that the cost of a \$500 bond and a \$2,000 bond is the same the board voted to have the bond increased to the latter amount.

F. M. Gordon will be bonded for \$7,000, the amount of taxes still due, instead of for \$20,000 which is the full amount of the tax duplicate.

In discussing the matter of hiring a solicitor, the board instructed the finance committee to consult Attorney Arthur Turner with regard to fees if subject to call rather than retain a solicitor for the entire year at an expense of approximately \$150.

Discussing the schedule of studies in the high school the board instructed Professor George Bowen to make provision in the schedule to care for students now being tutored in higher Latin by Mr. Edwards.

Since the school tax must be levied about the last of April of first of May, the financial committee was taken to work out the school budget for the coming year and present it at an early meeting.

Visitors who attended the meeting in the interest of the local troop of Boy Scouts were: John Hewitt, scout executive of Wilkes-Barre, Theodore Dix, Captain C. N. Booth, Eugene Fiske, William Niemeyer, Leonard Machell, Rev. F. D. Hartsock, Ralph Van Nortwick and Russell Weaver scoutmaster. The scouts were given permission to use the school building for a meeting place every Monday night.

## Held Under Bail

Frank Starr, aged 53 of Dallas is being held under \$1,000 bail awaiting the outcome of injuries received by Rachel Bowen of Durea, during the early hours of January 1, when Starr's automobile crashed into a machine driven by William Creasy, at Mercer avenue and Union street, Kingston.

The Bowen girl who was riding in Creasy's machine was admitted to Nesbitt Memorial hospital suffering from a broken leg and other injuries. Starr is charged with operating an automobile while intoxicated.

## Schools To Open

Following a week during which all local teachers attended County Institute sessions at Irem Temple, Wilkes-Barre, schools of the rural region will reopen on Monday. Institute sessions following a two weeks Christmas vacation gave pupils a three week mid-winter vacation.

Wilkes-Barre. The second appeal is now dismissed by Luzerne County Court. The school board can, however, carry its appeal to the higher State courts, if the appeal is made within the ten day period allowed by law.

The attempt of the school board to escape payment of the damages awarded comes as the result of a lapsed insurance policy carried by the school district. According to the findings of the Compensation Referee the deceased supervising principal of Kingston township schools was engaged in the work of the schools when he was killed in a motor accident. Damages were awarded the widow with the resultant litigation over the payment.

## Kingston Seniors To Present Play

### Funds From Detective Thriller To Be Used For Wash- ington Trip

Members of the senior class of Kingston township high school are practicing diligently for the senior class play, "Lady Lilac" which will be presented at the high school on the evening of January 25. The play will also be given in Shavertown M. E. church on January 27.

In selecting "Lady Lilac" as the senior play for this year, the class departed from its usual custom and picked a real detective thriller. There are many exciting situations throughout the play which from all indications should make it one of the most entertaining yet presented by a Kingston township senior class.

Miss Emma Shaver, teacher in the township schools, is directing the cast. Miss Shaver has a wealth of good material to select from in choosing the cast. Among those who have had part in previous high school productions and who are members of the "Lady Lilac" cast are: June Palmer, Earl Crop, Eleanor Staub, Luther Hontz and Howard Isaacs.

Proceeds from the play will be devoted to the Washington Trip Fund. There are about twenty-six members in this year's senior class. Earl Crop is president.

## Man, Well Known Here, Dies At Tunkhannock

### A. M. Shoemaker, formerly had charge of Maintenance Work for Dallas- Shavertown Water Co.

The following item from The Tunkhannock Republican gives an account of the death of A. M. Shoemaker of Tunkhannock. Mr. Shoemaker was well known in Dallas where for a time he had charge of maintenance work for the Dallas-Shavertown Water company.

Alexander Mitchell Shoemaker, who resided on the farm just across the river formerly owned by the late Dr. C. H. Dana, passed away quite suddenly at about 1:30 Saturday morning last. He had not been feeling well for some time, and Friday evening went to the office of Dr. W. W. Lazarus for treatment. As he was about to leave for home at about 11 p. m., he complained of numbness, and not considering it safe for him to return home alone, Dr. Lazarus and son Thomas went with him. He rapidly grew worse and died within about two hours.

Mr. Shoemaker was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shoemaker, and was born at Forty Fort about forty-seven years ago. He married Miss Mabel D. Lewis, daughter of the late Attorney Bradley W. Lewis and Mrs. Lewis. He followed farming and dairying for several years and was also superintendent for the Tunkhannock Water Company for some time. He leaves the widow and following children: Robert, Mary and Helen, also one brother, William Shoemaker, of Essex, New York.

The funeral was held at his late home at 3 p. m., Monday, conducted by Rev. Fred B. Newman, with burial at Sunnyside cemetery.

## Purchased Stock of Harness

Gay-Murray Co., Inc., of Tunkhannock have purchased of Andrew Schaffer the entire harness stock and equipment of Schaffer and Betz, of Honesdale, and will move it to Tunkhannock, where they will open an up-to-date harness department in their Bridge street store.—Wayne Independent.

## Very Heavy Bus Traffic

Sixty-five buses, carrying holiday visitors to their homes, went through town on Sunday—some in one direction and some the other. Fifty of them were Greyhound buses and fifteen belonged to the Martz line. They carried over fifteen hundred passengers. The railroad also had heavy traffic.—Tunkhannock Republican.

## Have You This Issue?

Our files for the year 1929 are complete with the exception of the issue for March 23. We will deeply appreciate it if any one having a copy of this issue will mail it to us so that we can send the complete file to the bin tery.

## Suburbanites Cited As Church Problem

### Hard To Move From Former Parishes, Clergyman Says

The tendency of the new suburban resident to "let down" in religion was called the greatest problem of the home missionary by the Rev. Elson Ruff, of Shavertown, who spoke Wednesday at a meeting of missionaries of the Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Philadelphia.

"Clinging to their former parishes, no matter how slim the connection, the suburbanite is hard to move. The pastor must spend much time building up a tradition in his congregation," said the missionary.

## White Christmas Tree Displaces Evergreens

### Novel Form of Christmas Tree Decor- ation Is Shown Here For The First Time

Christmas trees change but little from year to year, but Mrs. Margaret Hildebrandt of Norton avenue has a tree this year that is a departure from the traditional spruce, hemlock, or evergreen tree so long associated with Christmas.

In the first place the tree is of sassafras variety and is entirely white, covered with glittering artificial snow, icicles and hundreds of colored blown glass decorations and electric lights.

To give the impression of a snow covered tree, cotton is wound around every limb of the tree covering the limbs completely. Hours of painstaking work were required to complete this part of the decoration. After the limbs were prepared with cotton, artificial snow was scattered over them and icicles hung on them. The whole effect of this novel form of Christmas tree is one of beauty and of art.

This type of Christmas tree is increasing in popularity throughout the country, but the white Christmas tree which Mrs. Hildebrandt has on display is one of the first to be so decorated in this section. Since there are no needles to drop off the tree can be kept for a long period of time. This alone will make it popular with members of the younger generation.

## Wins Radio With Slogan

A hastily submitted slogan advertising a drug syndicate won a handsome new Wal-Tone radio for Mrs. G. Harold Wagner last week. The American Guggests Syndicate through its local representatives is giving away a new radio for the best slogan submitted at any of its participating stores.

While shopping at Stapleton's drug store in Kingston, Mrs. Wagner presented the following slogan: "A. D. S. stands for any drug store, but only for the best in drugs." About two weeks later Mrs. Wagner was told that hers was the best slogan submitted and that she had won the radio and, of course no one was more surprised than the slogan writer.

## OBITUARY

### Frank Davis

Frank Davis, 63, died Monday morning at his home near Hunlock Creek. He was a member of Baptist church. Surviving are his wife, Ellen J. Davis; a sister, Mrs. R. D. Cragle of Hunlock Creek, and two brothers, E. E. Davis of Alderson and E. L. Davis of Hunlock Creek. The funeral was held Thursday afternoon from the home. Interment was in Oakdale cemetery. tery.

## Leaves Appear

Warm weather of the past few weeks has stimulated the leaf growth on many trees in this vicinity. Lhas bushes are in full bud, and many of the larger and older trees give a delicate green appearance as buds appear.

## 500 DEER

District Forester Henry B. Phillips, of the Buchanan Forest District, with headquarters at McConnellsburg, reports that 500 deer were killed in the State forests in the Buchanan District, and at least 150 of them were killed on the opening day of the deer season. The Buchanan District comprises the counties of Bedford, Fulton, and a portion of Franklin.