

# The Dallas Post,

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THE DALLAS POST, INC

THE DALLAS POST is a youthful weekly rural-suburban newspaper, owned, edited and operated by young men interested in the development of the great rural-suburban region of Luzerne County and in the attainment of the highest ideals of journalism. Thirty-one surrounding communities contribute weekly articles to THE POST and have an interest in its editorial policies. THE POST is truly "more than a newspaper, it is a community institution." Congress shall make no law \* \* \* abridging the freedom of speech, or of Press.—From the first amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

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### THE DALLAS POST PROGRAM

THE DALLAS POST Will lend its support and offers the use of its columns to all projects which will help this community and the great rural-suburban territory which it serves to attain the following major improvements:

1. Construction of more sidewalks for the protection of pedestrians in Kingston township and Dallas.
2. A free library located in the Dallas region.
3. Better and adequate street lighting in Trucksville, Shavertown, Fernbrook and Dallas.
4. Sanitary sewage disposal system for Dallas.
5. Closer co-operation between Dallas borough and surrounding townships.
6. Consolidated high schools and better co-operation between those that now exist.
7. Adequate water supply for fire protection.
8. The formation of a Back Mountain Club made up of business men and home owners interested in the development of a community consciousness in Dallas, Trucksville, Shavertown and Fernbrook.
9. A modern concrete highway leading from Dallas and connecting the Sullivan Trail at Tunkhannock.
10. The elimination of petty politics from all School Boards in the region covered by THE DALLAS POST.

The farmers of the country are naturally encouraged by the fact, that the present Administration, like the last, is giving every effort to stabilize their industry, raise prices, and broaden and improve markets.

### IN THE FARMER'S OWN HANDS

These efforts will doubtless meet with a degree of success. But the farmer should not take the attitude that the matter is now out of his hands. He should not seek to lean on the shoulders of the Administration and await results. As President Roosevelt has said, government farm relief is frankly experimental and is but temporary. It is an attempt to avert a crisis and to carry the farmer through an exceedingly difficult period. In the long run, permanent farm relief must come from the farmer himself.

It will come through organization, through mass effort — in brief, through development and extension of the co-operative plan. It will come through the buying and selling power that only collective action can give. The achievements of American industry in the past were largely due to intelligent co-operation, and business is co-operating now in the work of recovery. The farmer must adopt the same plan. If he produces and sells as an individual only, he will be forever at the mercy of those who buy from him. If he joins with his fellows in a strong, loyally supported co-operative, he can meet the middleman on his own ground.

The co-operative movement has done fine things. It is withstanding the acid test of depression with flying colors. Its future lies entirely in the hands of the individual farmer. He must give the answer, and give it now.

Facts concerning Muscle Shoals as a government electric project, recently published in Electrical World, should receive wider distribution than they have so far.

### UNDER THE HIDE OF MUSCLE SHOALS

The government has sunk \$150,000,000 in the project. The next proposed move is to put about \$50,000,000 more in Cove Creek, an adjacent and connected development. Complete development of the Tennessee River for power and navigation will require another \$250,000,000 or so.

Then add \$600,000,000 for the development of tributaries and the building of auxiliary steam plants, and the grand total is brought to about \$1,000,000,000.

The project would produce approximately 3,000,000 kilowatts of power at 50 per cent load factor, at a station cost of about 4.3 mills per kilowatt-hour, or an investment cost of \$340 per kilowatt, plus cost of bulding transmission lines.

In the Muscle Shoals area at present the capacity of existing producing and transmitting systems is well beyond demand. In that area there are great coal fields that make it possible to build fuel electric stations at an investment cost of less than \$80 per kilowatt, as compared with \$340. Potential increase in demand for power is small — industries, in spite of many inducements, have not looked on the territory with favor.

From a business standpoint, power development at Muscle Shoals would be a billion-dollar waste of taxpayer's money. The investments of thousands of citizens in private power developments no wserving the Muscle Shoals region would be wiped out or lowered by needless governmental duplications. Taxpayers in every section of the country would lose.

Should taxes be lowered at the expense of many of the so-called "frills" of education? Both sides of this popular question are brought to light in a debate which appears in the current Rotarian Magazine, between H. L. Menchen, editor of "The American Mercury," and John Dewey, professor of philosophy at Columbia University.

**MENCKEN, DEWEY DEBATE COSTS OF EDUCATION**  
THE MENCKEN ARGUMENTS. "There can be no doubt that educational reforms of recent years were urged in perfect good faith, and that they were all worth while. Unfortunately, some evils came in with these goods as is apparently inevitable in human affairs.

"The New Pedagogy, in fact, was mainly buncombe. There was, of course, some sense in it, but not very much. The psychological data upon which it was based were absurd, and the miracles that it was supposed to achieve were imaginary. Children came out of the new peragogical Taj Hahals no better perpared for life than their parents had come out of the little red schoolhouse, and the new Model A pedagogue, with his polychrome graphs and bold hypotheses, turned out to be scarcely as competent as the Model T ma'am of the last generation, with her dog's-eared speller and her ready rattan.

"Some of the more advanced pedagogues began to think of themselves, not only as scientists of a novel and subtle sort, but also as prophets. The chief prophets of the movement went to great lengths. They built larger and larger schoolhouses, with fewer and fewer classrooms and more and more gymnasias, laboratories, ateliers, and shops. They invented multitudinous new species of 'expert' and put them gloriously to work. They sweated the poor schoolma'ams during the hot summers with interminable courses in quack 'sciences.'

"They called for larger and larger contributions from the taxpayer, and damned him boldly whenever he cried for quarter. And in their topmost ranks they dreamed voluptuously of adding a secretary of education to the cabinet.

"All this went on until the depression struck the country, and budgets began to go unbalanced. There ensued a somewhat bilious inquiry into the whole pedagogical hocuspocus. It was found that the brethren were getting away with nearly three billions annually (or maybe even four billions), and that they were planning to demand much more.

"It was found that the cost of 'educating' a pupil a year, which had been \$15.00 in 1880, had soared to nearly \$100, and that it was still going up. It was found that this vast outpouring of money had already reduced hundreds of American counties and towns to bankruptcy, and was resolutely imperilling the solvency of whole states."

THE DEWEY ARGUMENTS. "It is proposed to eliminate from the schools such things as health service, work with wood, metal, tools, domestic arts, music, drawing, and dramatics, on the ground that they are 'frills' and costly frills at that. I do not question the desirability of every legitimate economy in the conduct of the schools. I deny a solutely that saving money at the expense of the lives of young people, now and in the future, is economy.

"Economy is something more than reducing expenditure of funds. If it were not, it would be economy to save the money now spent in buying food, shelter and clothing for the millions of unemployed. It is as heartless and as foolish to starve the minds and characters of the young as it is to starve the bodies of their parents. The real question is not economy waste but whether things scornfully named frills are or are not important things in the education of mind and brain; whether they are luxuries or whether they are necessities in the present state of society.

"Early in its history the United State committed itself to a system of education for all, conducted at public expense. This was not accidental but was a manifestation of our fundamental national faith. Our educational system has always had enemies but they have been those who had no faith in any of our democratic social experiment.

"The economic crisis has encouraged these people to come back to the attack. They make a great fuss about 'frills.' Their real opposition is to the belief in human capacity, the belief in the right of every human to have a chance to develop, the desire of parents that their children shall have better opportunities than they enjoyed — the beliefs that created the tax-supported American public-school system. Show me a man who is active in attacking our schools because of their 'frills' and I will show you either a large tax-payer who sends his own children to a private school or else one who disbelieves in the whole democratic endeavor.

"Imagine every study, every activity, every piece of equipment an dfacility, that is today condemned as a fr eliminated from schools. Imagine that the schools have gone back to what their critics still believe to be the essentials. How attractive would these schools be?

"It is as absurd to suppose that schools could remain unchanged during the tremendous social expansions and reorganizations of th elast forty years, as it is to suppose that the old local grist-mills, saw-mills, and blacksmith shops could continue to serve new conditions, or that the old dirt roads could meet the needs of an automobileage. There is no measure, fixed and unchanging from age to age, by which to decide what is a frill and what an essential in education. The only true gauge is social conditions and needs.

"Teachers and schools must indeed do what they can to rescue communities from the dangers of bankruptcy through excessive taxation. But the expense of even the excrescenes that could be lopped enough is nothing compared with political frills in job-holding and in complication of taxing agencies. Let the gentlemen who are making a drive on the schools turn toward extravagances and corruption in politics, and not take it out on helpless children."

## Letters

April 28, 1933

Editor Post:

to call to the attention of your club The Rotary Club of San Juan desires and to the attention of the community in which you live, certain fundamental facts concerning Puerto Rico which are not fully grasped by a conlack of knowledge in regard to Puerto Rico considerable number of Americans. This Rico has had an amusing side, as for example: when Rotary Clubs in the States request us for specimens of our national stamps or of our national flag; but it also has its serious side, as for example: during the lat few months several firms in the States have cancelled orders sent to Puerto Rico for the purchase of our products under the erroneous impression that Puerto Rico was a foreign country. The campaign in the States in favor of "Buy American" places Puerto Rico in the same classification as a foreign country, and has proved detrimental to our island.

Puerto Rico is a territory of the United States of America. The chief executive and judicial officers of our Insular Government are appointed by the President of the United States, and all branches of the Federal Government function here in the same manner as they do in the States.

Puerto Ricans are American citizens in the fullest sense of the word; they are loyal to the American flag, and support the American Constitution. Consequently, goods shipped from Puerto Rico are made by American labor, financed with American capital, and transported to the States in American ships.

Due to the fact that Puerto Rico is an island separated physically from continental United States, its exports and imports are officially recorded by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, and these records show that Puerto Rico is second only to Canada in the purchase of products from continental United States. As purchaser of goods from continental United States, Puerto Rico ranks seventh in all the world.

In justice to your fellow citizens and

## -Alderson-

fellow Rotarians in the island of Puerto Rico. Among those from Alderson who attended the annual May Day festival at Bloomsburg State Teachers' College on Wednesday, were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jackson, Mrs. Harvey Kitchen, Mrs. George Armitage and Mrs. O. A. Allen.

Lillian York went to Harrisburg on Sunday evening. She will be away for an indefinite period.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Kitchen and daughter Mildred left on Thursday to spend the week end in Philadelphia. They will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Panzia.

Among those locally who viewed the quilt exhibit at the Wilkes-Barre Record Office were Mrs. Lucy Altemus, Mrs. Estella Enders, Phyllis and Elliot Enders, Emma Odenkirchen and Adda Garinger. Mrs. A. Mayer and Mrs. Arthur Kocher of Laketon also attended.

Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Thomas have returned after having spent the winter in Forty Fort. They will reside here for the summer. Mrs. Thomas will entertain the Ladies' Aid society on May 25th.

A number of local members attended the W. C. T. U. meeting at Mrs. Charles Herdman at Kunkle on Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Mary Thompson is spending several days with Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Thompson in Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Rescorla and daughter Betty of Wilkes-Barre spent the week end at their cottage here.

To Rico, we earnestly request that you give the widest publicity to this letter; such as reading it before your Club, and publishing it in your local press and trade journals; so that the truth may be known about Puerto Rico, its people, and its products.

Rotarily yours,  
L. L. Lindstrom,  
President.

(Continued on Page 3)

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