

The Dallas Post

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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. 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 Truckville, 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.

A THOUGHT FOR THIS WEEK

TO AN ATHLETE DYING YOUNG
Smart lad, to slip betimes away
From fields where glory does not stay,
And early though the laurel grows
It withers quicker than the rose.

Eyes that shady night has shut
Cannot see the record cut,
And silence sounds no worse than cheers
After earth has stopped the ears!

A. E. HOUSEMAN

Since death must come to all men it should be most welcome when it comes in the manner of the fiddle string that snaps while it is playing the master melody. That was the way death came last Thursday to Wiley Post and Will Rogers. A gay, glorious crescendo, and then . . . Crash!

Both men were famous—Post for his daring in the air and Rogers for his sharp wit and homely philosophy. Perhaps Rogers will be missed more, because, although there are other great aviators, there is no American who has touched the lives of so many people through as many different media as had the beloved Oklahoma comedian.

The memory of the man will live as newspaper readers catch themselves looking for his daily comment boxed in the corner of their front pages, as they listen to the entertainer who will have the difficult job of filling Will's spot on the Sunday night radio program, as they watch his image flickering on the screen . . . in a score of ways his unique hold upon the hearts and imagination of millions will live to remind us of him.

For Wiley Post and Will Rogers there will be no slow dimming of fame's bright lights. The world will remember them as they were when death suddenly took them . . . brave, famous men, possessing friends in every corner of the globe . . . not as enfeebled oldsters basking in the glow of forgotten triumphs.

Perhaps, since they both were sensible men who had accepted their fame as its face value, they would have died this way by choice. The sorrow the nation feels today is softened somewhat by the thought.

"Eyes that shady night has shut, cannot see the record cut, and silence sounds no worse than cheers, after earth has stopped the ears!"

Most of us, knowingly or otherwise, take chances with fire. And that's a game in which the player always loses. He can't win.

CAN YOU ANSWER "YES"?

Here's a simple little question that may aid you in eliminating common fire risks—and may also give you an inkling into the unnecessary chances you have been taking:
Have your furnace, its pipes, and other heating devices and equipment been recently inspected and approved by an expert? Has your electric wiring likewise been checked by an approved electrician—not by an amateur? Do you make it a practice to keep your basement, attic and unused rooms free from accumulations of paper, rags, and other waste? Do you keep your property free from dry grass? Do you store explosive and inflammable liquids in safe places, and in approved metal containers? Do you take constant care with matches, tobacco and smoking materials? If you have done any building or remodeling, have you conformed to an up-to-date building code calling for the most approved construction and the more fire-resistive materials? And, finally, do you take advantage of expert inspection services offered by fire marshals, insurance organizations and other bodies?

Most of all do you support your local volunteer fire companies? Dallas has had its carnival but this Saturday the residents of Kingston Township will have an opportunity to help their company by spending some money at the Community Day celebration on the Shavertown school grounds?
If your answer to any of the questions above is "No," you are taking chances. You are imperiling your property and that of your neighbors—and imperiling lives as well. Most fire hazards can be eliminated with but a small expenditure of either time or money—and whatever investment you make will pay big dividends in safety and security.

Ask any business man, investor, property owner or thinking worker what is most needed to give the nation the confidence, the spirit and the optimism that will break depression.

You might get the same answer from each: "Tax reduction, plus a determined policy that will balance the budget as soon as possible, and gradually reduce and eventually eliminate the vast national debt."

IN THE BALANCE

Real, permanent and sound recovery cannot arrive so long as industry faces the prospect of confiscatory taxes that will seize whatever profits it is able to make. We cannot have a wave of home-building so long as our citizens realize that increasing taxes may soon make it impossible for them to keep their property. We cannot have re-employment of the jobless so long as investors are afraid to put their money into productive enterprises—because rising taxes imperil both principal and income.
The national debt is approaching the \$35,000,000,000 mark. Hundreds of millions of dollars a year are required to meet the interest. More hundreds of millions are required for sinking funds with which to pay off the bonds when they fall due. Long after the money has been spent, and the things it bought have disappeared, we and our children will be paying the bill.
The Federal government has attempted to "spend us back to prosperity." In the view of many unbiased commentators we would have gone a long way farther toward recovery had spending been held down—in other words, the government's policy, in their belief, has hindered and not helped the nation. Yet more spending is in prospect—and more taxes.

The people want tax reduction. Business wants tax reduction. Investors and workers want tax reduction. Unless it is achieved, the nation's economic future is in the balance.

JUST HUMANS

BY GENE CARR



"Aw, He Can't Add! His Father's a Waiter"

Washington Snapshots

Maybe you are not familiar with the word "chemurgic." It is the latest creation to stir Washington, and you will hear more about it. For it is a coined word symbolic of the most recent effort to bring some sort of economic equilibrium to the farmer. Much will be written about it in the next few months.

Quietly for months an expanding effort has been going forward to form a new economic trinity—agriculture, industry and science—dedicated to the time-honored farm problem. Behind the movement are hard-headed business men who prefer to deal with facts rather than fancies, who seek to help the farmer without resorting to alluring panaceas, by appeals to Washington for legislation or by parading glittering generalities which usually have as their goal votes rather than real and lasting aid to the farmer. Briefly the movement is intended to advance the industrial use of farm products through applied science. Farm and factory are to be hitched together, with science as the connecting link, to make the farm something more than a food factory. It seeks to increase farm income not by tricky schemes which always break down in the end, but by making profitable use of surplus acreage and surplus crops.

"Chemurgic" is a coined word from "chemistry" and "ergon," meaning work. When combined it literally means chemistry at work. The word was known only to a small group of scientists until a remarkable meeting of 300 prominent business men and industrialists who met a few weeks ago to seek a way out for the farmer without resorting to politics. The Farm Chemurgic Council was formed and practical business men gave themselves to the advancement of the interests of the farmer. Industrialists gave their full cooperation to use farm products as science developed practical means.

The striking manner in which industry went about the task of trying to raise the buying of the farmer with a recognition of the farmer's problem has made this word "chemurgic" one which you will see more and more in the headlines as the Council moves ahead.

The decision of President Roosevelt to open his campaign for re-election immediately after the session of Congress closes has few, if any, parallels in this country. Perhaps nothing is more indicative of the change in atmosphere which the Democratic National Committee has sensed. With the president going to the country almost a year ahead of conventions, there are accumulating evidences that the next campaign will be a humdinger.

If Congress adjourns in time the President will open his political swing in Milwaukee and continue through to the Coast. After a rest there, he will swing back, possibly through the south. If this latter plan eventuates, it will be the first time that a Democratic president has been forced to campaign in the South. However, indicative of sentiment there is the fight being waged against Senator Jimmy Byrnes, one of the President's closest friends in the Senate.

After the President had suggested a Constitutional amendment to give the Federal government rather than the states power to control commerce, Senator Byrnes expressed himself as believing such a course necessary. Since then he has announced that \$25,000,000 will be spent in his state of South Carolina for a dam project. Which caused one local newspaper to remark: "We would like the project. But \$25,000,000 is too small a price for our glorious heritage of State's Rights." It all adds up into a question mark for 1936.

Nowhere is the growth of harmonious relations between employees and employers, without outside influences, better illustrated than in the steel industry where recent elections have shown 90 per cent of the workers actively participating in employee representation plans.

A survey by the American Iron and Steel Institute shows that of 213,806 employees available and eligible to vote, ballots were cast by 192,699. All of the representatives elected were employees, with no outsiders able to gain a winning margin.

A sharp warning against Congress "passing the buck" to the courts when constitutional questions are involved was given by the Presiding Judge of the Western District of Missouri in granting an injunction to the Washburn Crosby Company against collection by the government of processing taxes.

"Every statute enacted by the Congress and approved by the President is presumed to be constitutional," the judge said, and he added:

"The chief reason for the presumption that a statute regularly enacted and approved is constitutional is the assumption that members of Congress before they voted for it and the chief executive before he gave it his approval carefully considered whether it was within the powers conferred on Congress by the Constitution.

"Members of Congress have sworn that they will support the constitution and the President solemnly has sworn that he will preserve, protect and defend the Constitution. The courts have rejected as unthinkable the suggestion some times made that the President and Congressmen might disregard their oaths, that they might seek to shift from their shoulders to the shoulders of the judges the responsibility imposed thereby. Any such course is not only unthinkable, it would be quite as indefensible as that of a witness, sworn to tell the truth, who should commit perjury on the theory that the jury would perceive it and disregard it."

No more soundly enunciated principle has come from any source that this statement coincident with a demand that Congress enact bills now pending and let the courts pass upon their legality.



POLITICS

The political front in Dallas is quiet. Like the lull before a big military engagement it may mean both sides are laying in ammunition and drafting plans for a major offensive. Few would expect less after the rancors and deep-seated antagonisms stirred up last spring with the dismissal of Calvin McHose as supervising principal of the borough schools.

Every one knows that there are two district sides in the present borough political set-up with as clearly defined lines and as much loyalty to leaders as any opposing armies. With two such groups eager to test their strength and no other candidates in the field to get in their way nothing less than an intensive campaign can be expected during the next few weeks. Only complete capitulation on the part of one side or the other could prevent it, and there is nothing in the cards like capitulation although many expected that county leaders would take little interest in the local contests in order to further the cause of the organization's county candidates.

Withdrawal of Eugene Lazarus as a candidate for re-election to school board appears to have put courage in the breasts of school leaders who handle this end of the county organization's campaigns and has at once set at rest any rumors that those leaders would put up little or no fight in the borough. Lazarus would have been a pretty problem for any leader to handle after the failure of last spring. His withdrawal from the fight is the nearest thing to capitulation that impartial observers have seen hereabouts. But capitulation or not, there was enough encouragement in it to stimulate the county boys to put an entire slate in the borough fight. Can they put it across without Lazarus? That's the question. Or would their chances be better without Disque—there's another question.

Under ordinary circumstances Grant Shaner would be the strongest man on the slate. Everybody who knows him, likes him, but that won't make them vote for him when he has the support of the county organization. He could pick almost any borough office, run for it independently and make it—BUT not so long as he plays with the county wing and especially when it's the school director berth he is seeking. That will be the hottest spot in the local campaign. Opposing him is Clyde Lapp, who ranks way up front in popularity in any man's town, and who Leader Disque is so anxious to whip that he will hurt whatever slim chance Shaner has for the berth. As for the Democratic candidate—he'll never realize how few votes there are in Dallas until it's all over.

The contests for council present another picture, Warden Kunkle, who is seeking re-election and James Ayre who is seeking the position for the first time, look like outstanding candidates. Kunkle has made a fine record on council and the borough can point with pride to many improvements that have come about since his tenure of office. James Ayre is thoroughly liked throughout the community and is the type citizen who should be seen more often entering into the management of community affairs. John Durbin and William Davis, running mates of Kunkle and Ayre, are apt to be strong candidates, although neither are as well known generally throughout the town as many of their running mates and opponents. That, however, can be an advantage sometimes. Durbin has learned a lot about garnering votes since the time he ran for school director and he has also made a lot of new friends who will be thoroughly loyal to him but who did not know him at the time he last ran. William Davis will be expected to poll a good vote on the Heights and with the assistance of Leonard O'Kane should carry that district. In the other district, stronghold of the borough faction, he should have no difficulty in making a good showing.

Opposing these men for council are J. Robert Moore, Harvey D. McCarthy, Donald Frantz, and Thomas Him. Robert Moore is the surprise candidate of the lot and the strongest. Differences have evidently been patched up between him and Chairman Disque or he would never have appeared in the line-up. Disque supplanted him as local leader some time ago. Moore has good political sense and has a way of accomplishing his objectives without losing the friendship of the entire community. Bob doesn't have to depend on organization votes alone. He can garner in a lot of votes on his personal friendships that ordinarily would be dead-set against any organization candidate.

The other three candidates on the organization slate appear to be of about equal strength. Independently they would have difficulty in capturing any of the offices they seek. With the organization back of them any one of them may have a chance, but all three never. Even at this early date it hardly looks as though the organization can muster enough strength to put any of them across the finish line a winner. The strong organization candidates in this fight will be the men who have a strong personal following capable of electing them without organization support.

In the contest for Overseer of the Poor it looks like a toss up with William Baker and Mrs. Harry Garrahan having slight advantages.

Justice of the Peace might just as well take office now. Here it is Jack Jeter and Ira Cooke.

Leonard O'Kane with plenty of votes to spare will be the next constable with Clarence Esser and David Jenkins on the ballot.

It looks like Joseph Jewell will take care of the dead dogs after the village election with maybe Scott Van Horn looking after the cats.

On no other basis than as a sharp and calculated rebuke to the New Deal can the trend of The Post's straw vote be regarded. The issue has been clear cut: For the Roosevelt policies, or against them.

Both Republicans and Democrats in the county are watching the straw vote here as an unofficial test. True, one swallow does not make a summer, but in another sense one swallow can leave a prodigiously bad taste in the mouth.

We are a little bit surprised this week during a conversation with a county candidate who seems to have a Republican nomination cinched to hear that he is very much worried about the General Election. He seems honestly afraid that the strength of the Democratic party in Luzerne County has been under-stated and expects, even if he gains a Republican nomination, to have a hard battle in November.

Undoubtedly the force of the advantages the Democrats have in the Federal and State governments has strengthened their position in Luzerne County. Many pessimistic Republicans say that you cannot defeat an administration with four billions to spend.

Maybe you can! At least those Rhode Island voters showed their "Santa Claus" scant reverence.

Personally, we cannot see how George E. Gwilliam can be defeated, but, win or lose, he will succeed in having his campaign remembered as one of the cleanest, fairest, most friendly campaigns this county has seen in years.

Dallas and its vicinity will give Mr. Gwilliam an overwhelming majority because, although he is a life-long resident of Plymouth, Mr. Gwilliam has spent many summers at Harvey's Lake and during these vacation periods has made friends of thousands of men and women throughout the Back Mountain Section. It is surprising to see how many men who disagree on other candidates, unite behind Mr. Gwilliam.

If we were to pick the second choice of Back Mountain voters for the Commissioner candidate we would guess that it will be John MacGuffie, who also has a number of loyal friends working for him.