

The Dallas Post

More Than A Newspaper, A Community Institution

Florida's Ship Canal Starts... Football Is Here... Great Britain Assembles Her Ships At Gibraltar... News Pictures From The Corners Of The World On The Post's Weekly Picture Page.

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POST SCRIPTS

VETERAN WORDS PHRASES EDITOR NOTE

A man we have always admired from a respectful distance is Father J. J. O'Leary, whose pretty little stone church juts out from the hillside over Shavertown.

Some years ago we managed to work our way for a while into the grace of a group of disabled World War veterans who had their headquarters in a loft on Public Square. There the men who had felt the weight of war's weapons gathered almost nightly to nourish the friendship that sprang from their common disability. It was a small organization, but an exclusive one. You had to have had a piece of shrapnel through your leg or a lungful of mustard gas before you were admitted. And these men, all of whom had learned war at its worst, had an almost worshipful admiration for Father O'Leary.

Father O'Leary had also seen war. He, too, had been severely, almost fatally wounded. When peace came he had become intensely interested in helping those men who had come back to civilian life with crippled legs, glazed eyes, weakened lungs and patched-up bodies. Officially, he was chaplain. Unofficially, he was a sort of spiritual guide who could understand ex-soldiers and win their lusty respect.

From the disabled vets we learned to have a wholesome regard for Father O'Leary. As a newspaper reporter, we had full opportunity to watch him moving among the veterans, joking with them, cheering them, inspiring them, and all without sacrificing any of the dignity of his office. We were especially glad when Father O'Leary came to be pastor of this section's most beautiful church, St. Therese's at Shavertown.

His Church, now benefitting by the addition of a new pipe organ, has one of the most loyal parishes we have ever known. Members of his congregation have the same sort of respect for him that our disabled veteran friends had. His sphere of influence spreads far beyond the boundaries of his parish. A short time ago illness forced him to go South for a time and the welcome received upon his return was an occasion in which people of all creeds participated. We like the way he has patterned his life, we hope he won't mind our mentioning it.

Most people, we suppose, have pet words and phrases. One of ours is "Questionable character of the community". It has a swing we like. The first time we heard it was when it was applied to some fellow who had blossomed out in a plaid sports cap. His wife told him he looked like one of the questionable characters of the community. A man we know loves to say that people are "eking out a precarious existence". Another friend of ours once discovered the word "mediocre" and abused it insistently until someone spoke to him sternly after he had commented that an accident had happened in the "mediocre" of the street.

We can never, we suppose, fathom the mental processes of people who believe they can, from the wealth of their experience selling bonds, performing surgical operations or designing ditches, run your newspaper better than you can. It is one of the worst curses of newspaper work.

An ordinary man would hesitate to teach history without studying it carefully. No sane person would try to build a house without knowing something about architecture and carpentering. Even a ditch digger has to have some experience before he wields his pick smartly. But everybody and his brother enjoys tossing off advice on how to write a story, pattern a magazine or headline a feature, pre-facing it, usually, with "I didn't know anything about it, but—"

It seems to be accepted generally that editing a newspaper is nothing more than a matter of common sense. A man, with ten or twenty years experience on newspapers is granted no more authority than the man who has written nothing since he left high school but who will, at the drop of a hat, instruct an editor in the proper way to conduct his job.

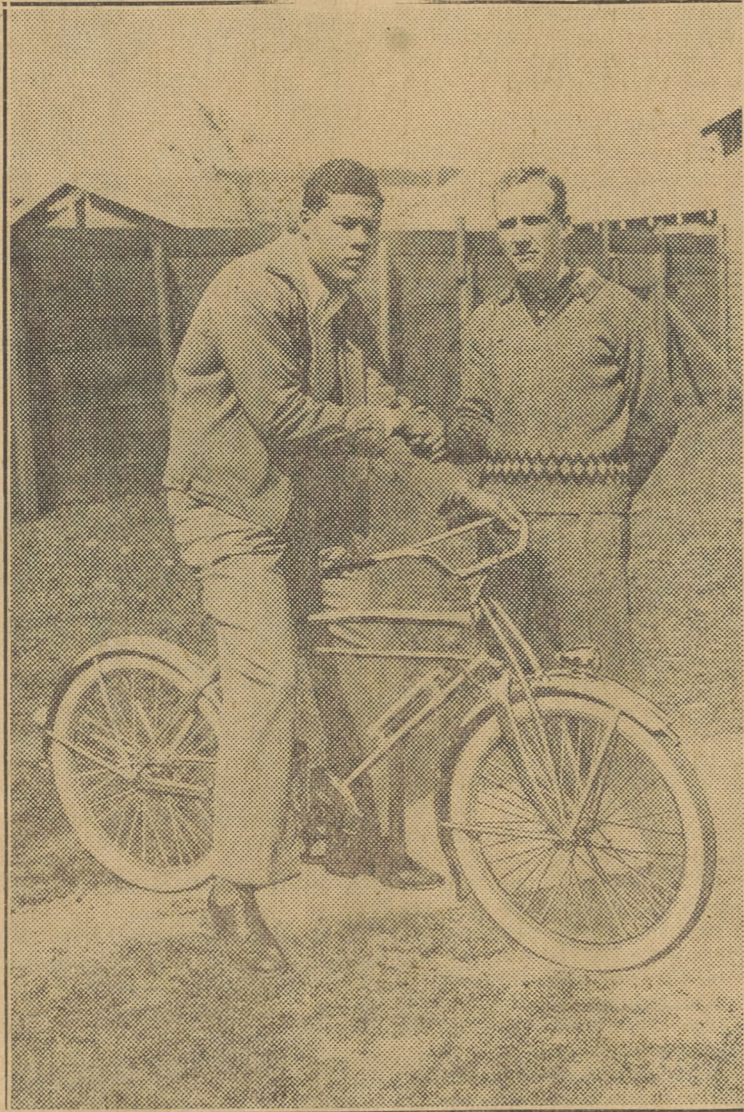
Actually—and of course no one will believe this—publishing a newspaper or a magazine, however humble, is a job full of subtleties and pitfalls which become known only after practical experience. We have proved that it takes no great brains, but experience does count. No one without experience can expect to co-relate all the details into a complete, polished, finished result—an interesting newspaper. Given unlimited resources, any intelligent person can hire the experienced department heads but even then the plan sometimes fails because of faulty policies.

As we say, no one will believe us. But if any enthusiastic critic of ours would like to edit this newspaper for a week he can reach us at Dallas 300.

While we are on the subject, we would like to write something about people who telephone newspapers to tell them what they can't print, a favorite peeve of ours. We hope no story of ours ever harms any person unjustly. We never use stories of juvenile delinquency. We could count five or ten sensations which have occurred in Dallas in the last several years which were never published because they might have embarrassed someone

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THE BROWN BOMBER TAKES IT EASY



While he awaits arrangements for his match with Max Schmeling, German heavyweight, Joe Louis, Detroit brown bomber, relaxes and enjoys the novelty of the marital state. But Joe, who has said he will fight as often as his manager can find opponents, takes no chance on getting out of shape. Here he is preparing to take a brisk bit of exercise on the shiny new bicycle which Willie Honeman, American bicycle champion, has just presented to him.

Local Townships Offered Share Of Funds For Road Maintenance

Supervisors of second-class townships in the vicinity of Dallas yesterday received from the county Works Progress Administration office invitation to take advantage of the opportunity to receive Highway Department funds on local WPA projects.

The letters indicate that requests for use of Parkinson Act maintenance funds on projects can be made by a township upon adoption of a resolution by its board of supervisors. It is likely that a number of the second-class townships near Dallas will avail themselves of the opportunity.

Where a township advances funds for a project, either from its own treasury or by borrowing, the Highway Department cannot reimburse the municipality, because the expenditure of the money must be directed by the department. Applications for projects, therefore, must be made to the local Highway Department office for approval by the Harrisburg Central office.

The Department is responsible for the expenditure of funds under the Parkinson Act, and WPA officials have agreed that projects involving this money will be superintended by district officials and specifications for road projects shall be in accordance with Department standards.

Second Class Townships of the county receive about \$32 per mile of Parkinson funds for road maintenance, and as the county's total mileage of this type of highway is 597.26 miles this means that approximately \$22,804 will be available if all townships desire to set up projects for the coming year.

Townships with largest mileage of this type of road are as follows: Fairmont, 58.21; Huntington, 55.80; Salem, 33.50; Butler, 24.6; Kingston, 25.54; Jackson, 22.01; Black Creek, 29.1; Lake 32.80; Lehman, 27.70; Union, 28.68; Hunlock, 24.90; Nescopeck, 25.80; Dorrance, 24.40; Hollenback, 23.30; Hazle, 21.40; Sugarloaf, 22.10; Franklin, 17.24; Dallas, 15.72; Exeter, 16.72, 16.79; Plymouth, 20.01; Foster, 24; Denison, 18.32; Fairview, 7.60; Ross, 38.90; Rice, 4.90; Bear Creek, 3.5; Wright, 1.90; Buck is the only Second Class Township in the county without locally maintained roads.

BACK MOUNTAIN BIOGRAPHIES: NO. 8

George Reith

From all parts of the world came the men and women who wrested this section from the wilderness. George Reith, a Carverton farmer who was one of this region's outstanding citizens in the middle of the Nineteenth Century, first saw the light of day in Kincardineshire, Scotland, on the banks of the River Dee, in a territory steeped in traditions dating back to the Norman Conquest. His father, George, Sr., was overseer on the estate of a large landowner in Scotland, a man versed in the most forward methods of farming. He and his wife and his son, George, Jr., came to the new world on a boat that took six weeks to cross the Atlantic. They settled in Wilkes-Barre in 1852. Later they moved to the John Dorrance estate, where George, Sr., was employed. Upon his death, George, Jr., worked for five years on the Dorrance farm, then moved to Franklin Township, where he purchased the D. H. Frantz farm of 125 acres. In 1865 he was married to Miss Eliza J. LaBar, and a son, George, was born to them on October 3, 1866. Later the Reiths moved to Carverton. Until his death George, Sr., was a progressive farmer, informed in civil and social matters, a man of influence in his neighborhood.

Death Driver Gets 4 Years, \$150 In Fines

Had Been Drinking Before Accident In Which Boys Were Killed

VERDICT SURPRISE

Stewart Waters of Wilkes-Barre, who fled after the car he was driving while under the influence of liquor had figured in an accident in the Luzerne-Dallas road which resulted in the death of two of his youthful passengers, was sentenced to four years in jail and \$150 in fines by Judge Benjamin R. Jones this week.

In consideration of the circumstances of the case and in view of the feeling here as a result of four automobile fatalities in one month, the sentence was considered by most persons as a mild one, and inconsistent with Judge Jones's statement at the hearing when he told Waters "I don't believe you realize what you have done. One dead and three others likely to die as the result of your drunken act."

At the hearing, when Waters pleaded guilty to a charge of involuntary manslaughter and driving while intoxicated, it was recalled that Judge Jones had revoked Waters' license two years before.

On the involuntary manslaughter charge Waters was sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and the costs and to serve two years in the county jail. On a charge of driving while intoxicated he was sentenced to pay an additional two years in the county jail, making the total imprisonment four years.

The accident occurred on September 3 on the broad, concrete highway, outside of Luzerne. Two Huntsville boys, Harold Morgan, 7, and his brother, Warren, 12, died as a result of injuries they received in the crash.

There were three deaths near the same spot last month and about fifteen injured.

Councilmen Study Zoning Ordinance

Committee Named To Suggest Changes In Borough's Rules

A committee has been named by Dallas Borough council to study present zoning regulations here with the idea of making changes to protect property owners and assure the borough of safe and sightly buildings.

Members of the committee are Clyde Vietch, Wesley Himmier and Morgan Wilcox. They were appointed on Tuesday night after councilmen had discussed the present building ordinance and expressed doubt whether its provisions are adequate.

Borough Engineer John Jeter was instructed to present the Fernbrook-Dallas sidewalk project to proper authorities for approval and was also instructed to report on costs of a sidewalk on Huntsville Street from Franklin to Parrish Street, also suggested as a WPA project for the borough.

Councilmen denied several oil lamps which it no longer uses to the Outlet Bible Tabernacle. Several residents of Pineview Avenue asked that a street light be installed on that avenue, which is without illumination. Attorney A. L. Turner, borough solicitor, will prepare releases which Mr. Davidson of Pineview Avenue will have signed.

J. F. Besecker, chief of Henry M. Laing Fire Co., asked that council install a fire hydrant at Machell Street and Lehman Avenue, where the new six-inch main ends. Council promised to install the hydrant if the cost is not exorbitant.

The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$1,313.11. Bills amounting to \$78.65 were ordered paid from the general fund, including a note for \$250 due October 3. A bill for \$139.40 was ordered paid from the light fund.

Senator Is Chief Of Firemen Again

Allen Also Re-Elected As President Of Lake Company

Senator Andrew J. Sordani has been re-elected chief of Daniel C. Roberts Fire Company of Harvey's Lake. At the same election Otis A. Allen was re-elected as president.

Other officers are: I. C. Stevenson, vice-president; M. E. Kuchta, recording secretary; W. E. Myers, assistant secretary; F. A. Williams, financial secretary, and A. L. Stull, treasurer.

The meeting was held on Friday night, when committee reports were received and plans for the ensuing year were discussed. Senator Sordani, who is also chairman of the board of trustees, reviewed the philanthropies of Daniel C. Roberts, who financed the erection of the new fire building and the purchase of a new truck complete with hose, boots, coats, hats, etc., and expressed the company's gratitude to Mr. Roberts.

Special attention is called to the request that persons reporting fires in the vicinity of Harvey's Lake telephone the Dallas operator.

HORSE DRAGS BOY TO DEATH

Eustis, Neb.—Stacy Jack, 11, was fatally injured when a horse he kicked bolted and dragged him over a mile.

\$22,000 Contract Signed For New Township School

ANNEX TO BE COMPLETED BY FEBRUARY 1

The contract for construction of the annex to Dallas Township High School was signed this week and work will be started within the next ten days, Chris Eipper, president of the board, announced yesterday.

Cost of the addition will be about \$22,000, Mr. Eipper said. The general contract was awarded to W. F. Sutter of Nescopeck.

Provides Needed Space

The annex will solve Dallas Township's school congestion problem by providing two additional classrooms for use about February 1. As funds are available, the district will finish additional classrooms and the auditorium which will be completed in the rough under the present contract.

The sound condition of the district's finances permitted the directors to borrow on their assessed valuation and did not necessitate the use of the \$25,000 bond issue approved by township voters at the election last year. The district still has a margin on the two per cent limit allowed, a sharp contrast to many districts which have been financially pressed.

The plans for adding to the building as funds are available has been approved by the State. The construction to be completed under the present contract will be of frame, with a brick veneer, in harmony with the present structure.

Tap Water Supply

Coincident with the start of construction on the new annex, the Dallas Township School District will have water company mains disconnected and begin use of its own water supply, a move calculated to bring an appreciable saving to the township taxpayers.

The supply will come from a well on school property from which, years ago, the Highland Mineral Springs water, the first bottled water to be sold in this section of the State, was drawn. The well has not been used for years and underwent a thorough cleaning under the direction of R. B. Shaver before tests were made.

Careful tests by the State indicate that the quality of the water is high and tests for volume show that there will be a supply of water more than adequate for the district's needs. The well equipment is being installed now by Ralph Hallock, local plumber, and it is expected that the water will be used by the school within two weeks.

The grade school will continue to use the water supplied by Dallas-Shavertown Water Co.

Beloved Blind Man Called By Death

Peter Brong Dies In Sleep In Home At Evans Falls

Quietly, like the benediction to a beautiful life, death came last Sunday morning to "Uncle" Peter Brong as he slept in the humble home behind his little store at Evans Falls.

Only a few hours before he had announced to friends that he had sold the store which had been his for nearly forty years. His ruddy, youthful face was bright as he invited them to visit him in the rooms back of the store, where he would live.

But in the evening he suffered a heart attack. He seemed to recover and at 3 a. m. his wife carefully covered him and went to her room to sleep. When she awoke at 8 a. m. her husband had not moved. He was dead—nearly eighty-seven years after his birth in a mountainside home—dead close by, forty years after a delayed well explosion had blasted away his sight.

Living, his stalwart courage and the inspiring example of his cheerfulness had made him one of Northeastern Pennsylvania's best-loved characters. Dead, he left as a memorial, friends in greater numbers than any quiet-living man in this section.

He was born on November 16, 1848, in a mountain home which still stands near Evans Falls. When he was an old man he spoke frequently of the hardships which were characteristic of his early life.

In his middle years the accident occurred which cost him his sight. A dynamite charge in a well he was sinking failed to fire. Impatiently, he climbed into the hole—in time to receive the full force of the belated blast in the face. It blinded him.

The store to which he turned to make his living brought him most of the friends who grew to respect him highly during the declining years of his life. Sightless, he managed the store with the alacrity and keenness of a seeing man. He knew the feel of every coin and could make change accurately, except when bills were involved. Only once—when a friend tested him with a new \$20 gold piece milled edges—did he fail to call the denomination of the piece, and even then he guessed it was gold. He knew his stock accurately, and customers, especially strangers, were dumfounded.

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Skull Is Fractured In Motor Accident

The condition of Mrs. Edith Hankey, 26, of Mt. Airy, Shavertown, who suffered a fractured skull in a motor crash this week, has improved considerably. She is at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Hankey was riding in the car with her husband when they collided with a truck operated by Walter Benich, 126 West Main Street, Glen Lyon, on Union Street, Luzerne. The truck is said to have crowded Hankey's car from the road.

Post Sends Magazines To Six Local High Schools

Following a custom established some years ago, The Dallas Post this week forwarded one year subscriptions to the American Boy and Youth's Companion to each of the following six local school libraries: Dallas Borough, Dallas Township, Kingston Township, Lehman Township, Monroe Township, and Noxen Township.

Forefather Was In Boston Tea Party

Former Luzerne Police Chief Was Descendant Of Roger Williams

A descendant of Roger Williams, English colonist and founder of Rhode Island, Asa Rush Pemberton, 86, retired Shavertown merchant was buried yesterday afternoon in Trucksville Cemetery.

He died on Sunday morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. S. Bosart, Harvey's Lake, of a heart ailment. Mr. Pemberton was born at Lockville on February 8, 1849, the son of Rev. Asa and Anne (Dymond) Pemberton. His great great grandfather was Captain Brian Pemberton, one of the leaders in the Boston Tea Party, and his great great grandmother was Esther Williams, a daughter of the English clergyman whose name became a historic symbol for religious liberty and uniform justice.

Mr. Pemberton was for about fifteen years chief of police and high constable in Luzerne Borough. He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Gosart of Harvey's Lake and Mrs. Griffith Lloyd of Kingston; sixteen grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at 2 from the Nelson Funeral Home, at Beagmont with services at Trucksville M. E. Church, Rev. Joshua Brundick and Rev. J. Roland Crompton officiating.

Two More Projects For This Section

Laketon And Shavertown In WPA Appropriations From U. S.

Two more WPA projects were granted to local communities this week when President Roosevelt approved expenditure of more than \$700,000 for PWA and WPA jobs in Luzerne County.

Laketon will receive a Federal appropriation of 11,696 for work on the hill road on Route No. 415 and Shavertown will receive \$3,443 from the government to repair a grade school.

MISERICORDIA BIDS FAREWELL TO TEN GUANA-BOUND NUNS

Ten nuns who left yesterday for hot, moist, unhealthy British Guiana, in South America, were given a ceremonial farewell at College Misericordia on Sunday afternoon.

Four of the sisters will go to Charlestown in Demerara to teach and six will take over a leper colony where the danger of infection will be a constant menace.

The group includes nuns from Iowa, Cresson, Baltimore, Plains, Freeland, Johnston, Scranton and Washington, D. C.

The ceremony on Sunday included a pageant, illustrative of the heroism of the nuns who have offered their services to the lepers and the children of all races to be found among the present pupils at St. Mary's, Charlestown. The climate of Guiana is unhealthy to North Americans. A British colony, its interior is covered with dense forests.