

Editorials Letters To The Editor Comment Discussion

EDITORIAL

The wheels of justice grind slowly—and while they stutter slowly toward their goals the taxpayers pay, wittnesses escape, and investigations start.

INNOCENT UNTIL CONVICTED Emerson Jennings may be innocent or he may be guilty of bombing Judge Valentine's automobile. In either case he deserves a prompt trial. The frequent postponements in his case, following, as they do, such things as the mysterious escape of the State's star witness, reflect no credit upon the District Attorney's office.

By his past actions, however well-intentioned, Mr. Jennings has invited public suspicion. He and his lawyer, Arthur Garfield Hays, have pleaded for a quick trial, on the grounds that they have sensational evidence effecting their case. We have no comprehensive knowledge of that evidence but from sources which we have never doubted we have learned that the information is of such importance that it deserves to be made public—and quickly.

A few weeks ago the case was postponed again. When next it comes before the court we see no reason why additional concessions should be made to the District Attorney's office. Innocent or guilty, Jennings deserves a right to defend himself in court.

Despite widespread educational campaigns, scientific traffic surveys, mechanical safety devices, elaborate signals, stricter automobile laws and increased police vigilance, slaughter on the highway continues without abatement.

A NEED FOR NEW MEASURES So common have these slayings become that it is almost impossible to get a grand jury that will indict the slayer. Our courts are cluttered up with all types of automobile cases.

Not many months ago a young man was killed on the streets of Dallas. The driver who figured in the killing had previously been involved in two automobile killings. His license had once been suspended. In the Dallas killing his victim had been hurled eighty feet before the lifeless body crushed down on the hard concrete pavement. Yet, months later, a Luzerne county grand jury failed to indict that driver.

Heavy fines or short terms of imprisonment will not bring back life or prevent future accidents. For the most part the highway slayer gets more sympathy than the driver who parks in a restricted area. There is one cure for the highway killer. A cure that will remove him as a menace on the highway and at the same time act as a deterrent for other careless drivers. That cure is revocation of his driver's license for life, severe punishment which might be unjust in some cases, but the problem is one that requires stern measures.

Barring death drivers from the highways for life will do two things: Act as a deterrent to other wild drivers and remove from the highways forever a driver who has proved himself incompetent to handle an automobile in time of emergency.

Because we have a deep respect for The Wyoming Democrat we are prompt to extend our felicitations to B. M. Van Dyke as his highly interesting Tunkhannock weekly begins its seventy-fifth year.

SEVENTY-FIFTH YEAR We have not always agreed with Mr. Van Dyke's editorial arguments, and on at least one occasion we were so angered by an item in his paper that we considered challenging him to a duel, with printers' ink, at twenty paces.

On the whole, though, our feeling for our neighboring weekly has been one of admiration. While many country editors have been content to follow policies and traditions laid down years ago and long since out-dated, Mr. Van Dyke has been quick to incorporate the new ideas in journalism and has employed them in ways that might give highly-efficient city newspapermen reasons for envy. Even a casual glance at The Democrat gives evidence of the initiative, aggressiveness and news sense of its editor.

Tunkhannock is fortunate in having two such papers as The Democrat and The Republican. From our mere forty-odd years, we join with the Republican in congratulating our contemporary and wish Mr. Van Dyke and his newspaper many, many more years of high service to their community.

The expense of maintaining constant vigilance along a line as little used as the Dallas-Luzerne spur of Wilkes-Barre Railway Corp. would probably be prohibitive but some arrangement should be made to protect passengers from the danger of derailment from landslides during extended rains. Two landslides recently have caused near-catastrophes and should be taken by the street car company as a warning to have watchmen along the right-of-way in the future.

WEEKLY BOOST

Dr. G. K. Swartz

for the noteworthy example of diplomacy and fairness which he gave to the community during the conduct of his first meeting as president of Dallas Borough School Board.

The Dallas Post ESTABLISHED 1889 TELEPHONE DALLAS 300 A LIBERAL, INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING AT THE DALLAS POST PLANT LEHMAN AVENUE, DALLAS, PA. BY THE DALLAS POST, INC.

HOWARD RISLEY General Manager HOWELL REES Managing Editor TRUMAN STEWART Mechanical Superintendent The Dallas Post is on sale at the local news stands. Subscription price by mail \$2.00 payable in advance. Single copies five cents each. Entered as second-class matter at the Dallas Post Office.

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.

Subscription, \$2.00 Per Year (Payable in Advance). Subscribers who send us changes of address are requested to include both new and old addresses when they submit their notice of change.

THE DALLAS POST PROGRAM THE DALLAS POST will lend its support and offer 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 with the Sullivan Trail at Tunkhannock.

THE MAIL-BAG

In this department, The Post presents letters from its readers on current problems—suggestions, criticisms, bouquets. The Post need not indorse any sentiment or criticisms expressed here, neither can it vouch for the accuracy of any statements made. It recognizes only that in this country people have, within reason, the right to express themselves.

The Dallas Post, Dallas, Pa., Gentlemen:

The official Body of our church wishes to go on record as expressing our sincere appreciation to your paper for the very excellent publicity given us during our re-opening services. We are very grateful for the special page giving the history and outstanding events concerning our church.

The Official Board Dallas M. E. Church

The Dallas Post, Dallas, Pa., Gentlemen:

I, personally, wish to second the above statement by our Board. I am deeply conscious of the value accruing to us as a result of your write-ups. I am cognizant of the fact that your splendid co-operation has been of material assistance to us.

Further, I wish to commend your paper for the excellent advertisements and editorials concerning World Peace. In these days of perplexity we need sturdy voices which dare to speak out for the principles of Christian Brotherhood.

Sincerely yours, Francis Freeman.

Dallas, Pa., Gentlemen:

As Colonel of the Non-Soliciting Division, I personally want to express to you the sincere thanks of the Non-Soliciting Division for the splendid co-operation which we received from you

and your newspaper during this campaign. Naturally enough, we feel that newspaper publicity is of tremendous value in a community effort of this sort.

Again thanking you, I am Very sincerely yours, Bernard F. Burgunder, Colonel, Non-Soliciting Division Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Editor,

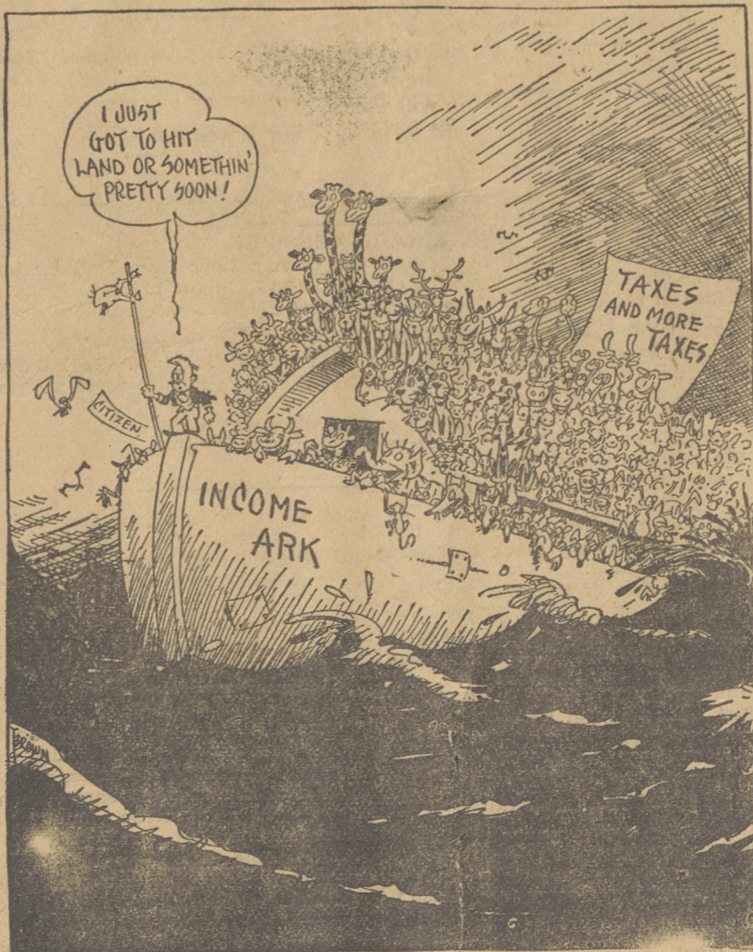
The splendid way you have used the peace material we sent you in your campaign for peace has made a great impression upon us here. I have displayed your issue of November 8th with your splendid ad "For Thirty Pieces of Silver". All of our executives and many important people outside of our organization have been very enthusiastic about it.

I have been asked if it would be possible to secure about fifty mats of this page for distribution to other newspapers in various parts of the country. Such a contribution to World Peaceways and the cause of peace would be highly appreciated and very effective. We are so completely pleased with this page that we are making this rather unusual request of you.

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon, in the hope that you may find it possible to aid further in the cause of peace as suggested herein.

Sincerely, J. H. Winans, Advertising Manager, World Peaceways

NEARING THE CAPACITY LIMIT



Washington Snapshots

Reports from within the Administration that President Roosevelt has instructed the budget bureau and government agencies to cut overhead during the coming year will probably bring the most unanimous approval of any move he has made during the past year, if carried through. With business steadily improving and unemployment decreasing since the NRA decision, many economists believe that a definite move to halt unnecessary spending would add a fresh stimulus for recovery. Particularly would this be true, it is pointed out, if the "breathing spell" decreed during the summer by President Roosevelt is carried through the coming session of Congress without new business control legislation enacted.

Whether this course will be followed has the closest political observers guessing. The Supreme Court is expected to overturn some of the New Deal legislation during the winter, and the attitude of officials in this event will be an important factor in recovery. If the decrees of the high court are accepted and any new measures are written within the bounds of the Constitution, it will be an incentive to industry to speed re-employment with new confidence.

That the "breathing spell" is to be lasting and that the Administration has realized that too much legislation already has blocked recovery is indicated by the speech which Secretary Roper made before the Associated Grocery Manufacturers recently. At the same time the Secretary of Commerce's speech was widely interpreted as being a direct challenge to young members of the Brain Trust who have lashed out at business. Whether the Secretary was speaking with the blessing of the President, as many inferred, is not known. But he said:

"Business profits cannot be penalized, or the profit-and-loss system will suffer with a bad case of angina pectoris. Businesses making profits during the depression have been held up to censure because it was pointed out that millions were unemployed, while companies were actually paying dividends. This contrast is unfair.

"As long as we maintain our present capatilistic system—and it will be maintained—no obstructions or deterrents must be permanently set up to prevent fair and reasonable profits."

Secretary Roper, referring to the President's breathing spell letter, said "this declaration of the President is clear-cut and concrete. It means that business no longer needs to feel any uncertainty as to what may come in the future with respect to governmental measures."

Undoubtedly this statement by the Cabinet officer has had wide repercussions, and official Washington is watching to see the extent to which it will be followed. Probably the first actual yardstick will be provided when President Roosevelt sends his message to Congress in January.

Before that, however, the observers are keeping their eye on the conference called for early in December to consider new NRA legislation. These conferences to which several thousand business men have been invited will be used as a sounding board for sentiment upon the question. Meeting four days earlier on December 4, the Congress of American Industry, in conjunction with the annual convention of the National Association of Manufacturers, will speak industry's mind on the question.

The Federal Government, as the biggest banker and spender in the country, was disclosed today to be in a fair way of becoming the nation's largest real estate owner and operator. Through the 21 agencies that it wholly finances, and the ten others that it helps to finance, it has written down on the Treasury books \$94,582,194 of "real estate and other property held for sale." Most of this came from loans that were not repaid.

"The semicolon boys are simply a boil on the neck of this administration. They are the fellows, you know, who, after they have graduated from some law school, get jobs here, and then sit down and look for semicolons and hold up the works. They have not contributed a single thing and yet they are one of the causes of the delay in a great deal of the important work in the relief program"—Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia of New York City, at a Washington conference of mayors called to discuss problems of relief administration.

Living costs of wage earners in the United States continued upward, rising 0.5 per cent from September to October, according to studies of the National Industrial Conference Board. Advances were noted in food prices, rents, clothing, coal, and sundries.

"I am convinced that if we are to be motivated primarily by the assumption that bigness must be penalized and restricted merely because of its size broad and penetrating recovery will be impossible"—Secretary of Commerce Roper. But, asks the Washington Post, how it is possible to defend a graduated tax upon corporate incomes, levied in accordance with size, except as a discriminatory tax upon bigness as such?