

POST SCRIPTS

AUTHORS
DRIVERS
POSTMEN
HIGHWAY
TOLL

This column is especially proud to lead off this week with two unusual pieces of poetry appropriate to the twentieth anniversary of this nation's entry into the war which was to have ended all wars and save the world for Democracy.

We are grateful to Miss Ruth Howell, daughter of Dr. G. L. Howell of Trucksville, for permission to use these original poems, and to Mrs. Hugh G. Murray, who knew we would want to publish them this week. We have seldom been privileged to publish anything better written than these:

HOKKU

Red radiant blood,
It will not be so bright,
When it is dry and dark.

HEXAMETERS

Our God is merciful and Christ we adore,
And human sacrifices we piously abhor.
"Thou shalt not kill"; therefore in retribution just
Who kills a man is to electrocution
rushed.

But mass production is our aim and end
in life;
Heroic is he who kills a thousand men
in strife.

Thank you, Miss Howell, for expressing so well what many people have been unable to say this week.

One of our most fervent prayers is that some day either Kenneth Roberts or Walter Edmonds, who, in our opinion, write better stories of Colonial America than any other authors, will decide to write a novel about the early days of Wyoming Valley.

Frequently, both show interest in the colorful events which took place in this section 150 years ago. In Edmonds' latest novel, "Drums Along the Mohawk," there are two or three paragraphs about the Battle of Wyoming, and in several of his Saturday Evening Post stories he has mentioned local events casually. Roberts, too, has referred to the significance of incidents along the Susquehanna in relation to the guerrilla warfare of the Revolution. It is apparent they know something of the valley's history.

That history, we believe, could be the background for a story as gripping as Roberts' "Arundel" or "Rabble in Arms" or as quiet as Edmonds' "Eric Water" or "Drums Along the Mohawk."

It seems unlikely that any episode in the valley's history could hold enough hardship and pain to appeal to the man who wrote "Rogers Rangers" yet we suspect that Mr. Roberts could find in General Sullivan's vengeful conquest after the massacre ample material for a story comparable to that of the Rangers' heart-breaking march back from Canada, or Arnold's retreat from Quebec.

When Sullivan marched across the Poconos on his way to burn the villages of the Indians who had aided the British he made his own roads. Rough Indian trails criss-crossed near villages but since the red men who lived hereabouts had little traffic with other tribes they had no need for a complicated system of trails. In their opinion a road was only useful at the time they wanted to get somewhere and when they had accomplished that purpose there was no further use for the road. The savage built neither house, bridge, nor road for future use. Every traveler was expected to do his own engineering.

Sullivan had wagons, cattle and cannon to bring over the mountains from Easton. Even today, with broad concrete highways cutting through the Poconos it is not difficult to understand what obstacles he must have encountered. It was even more difficult after he had headed up the Susquehanna from Wilkes-Barre. At "Breakneck," a few miles above Towanda, cattle tumbled from a difficult trail along a mountain ridge and were killed.

The heavy timber, the steep gorges, the narrow ledges high in the hard rock were a constant threat to the men of Sullivan's expedition and the hardships they must have faced inciting their way through virgin wilderness where blood-thirsty Indians awaited their chance to drive an arrow deep into a buff and blue figure deserve a place in literature.

Both Edmonds and Roberts delight in creating rough, bawdy, earthy characters and they would find no dearth of them in local history.

There were, for example, the stage drivers. It is one of the nicest points in our history to determine of the tree which was the greatest man—the stage driver, writing master or singing-school teacher. There is a wealth of evidence in favor of the man who drove the four-horse stage coach.

The typical stage driver knew everything, loved his horses, and was the idol of all the cooks along his route. It took fire and steam to conquer him.

Generally he wore a broad-brimmed hat, a broad leather belt, and a homespun shirt and his cheek bulged wonderfully with his cud of tobacco. Watching him come totting into the village, throwing his lines disdainfully to the hostlers, and swaggering into the tavern, you could appreciate that he was more than a great man, a great institution.

The stage driver was at his best when he could coax some impressionable travelers up to the driver's seat to serve as subjects for the coachman's conversation, which often soared on fantastic flights of imagination. Conrad Peter, one noted Wilkes-Barre whip, was famous for entertaining his passengers. An innocent

(Continued on Page 5)

G. O. P. Is Slow To Oppose New Rural District

Much Comment But Very Little Opposition To Zappala Measure

SUCCESS ASSURED

A disclosure of plans at Harrisburg for consolidating the rural districts of Western Luzerne County into one vast Legislative District which would strengthen the position of the Democratic party in Luzerne County brought many comments but very little opposition and it seemed certain this week that the measure would become law.

The plan was discussed comprehensively in an exclusive story in The Post last week, the first detailed disclosure of the move to be published in this section.

The plan, embodied in the Zappala Bill, would combine parts of the Sixth, Second and Fourth Legislative Districts into one large district which would elect one representative to the Legislature. The other half of the county, divided into seven smaller districts, would have eight representatives at Harrisburg.

An interesting discussion of the move appeared in Thomas F. Heffernan's column of political comment in The Independent. Mr. Heffernan wrote:

"That feature of the reapportionment measure calling for a legislative district that will be composed entirely of the rural municipalities in the present Sixth and Fourth districts will be little different in result than the old Second district, which previous to the reapportionment of thirty years ago covered practically the same territory. The old Second, out of which was carved the greater part of the present Sixth and Fourth districts, extended from the Lackawanna and Wyoming county borders on the East to the Columbia county border on the West. It's worth recalling that this old rural district sent several representatives to Harrisburg who left their impress on the legislation enacted during the sessions in which they served. It sent Elisha A. Coray to the legislature for five sessions, though not consecutively. Mr. Coray was one of the leaders in the Wanamaker drive against the Quay-Penrose dynasty. Wonder of wonders, he is now an expounder of the Gospel and has been doing good work in this role for a quarter of a century. He is remembered at Harrisburg as the legislator who spent his spare time in the House reading the Bible and never ate more for his lunch than a ginger snap and cup of black coffee. The same district also sent to the legislature J. Crawford Harvey for two terms. He was then a resident of Harveyville. For many years he has been a resident of Wilkes-Barre, being the representative for Northeastern Pennsylvania of the Girard Life Insurance Company. Another capable legislator from the same old district was the late George Ross, Luzerne druggist."

I. O. O. F. Installation

Odd Fellows of the Dallas Lodge will hold their installation of officers at the Dallas Lodge Rooms Monday evening. Dr. Robert Bodycomb will have charge of the Installation Services.

Board In Session Over Four Hours

No More Washington Trips For Kingston Township Seniors

At a session which lasted from 8 p. m. until 12:30—part of that time behind closed doors—the directors of Kingston Township schools decided on Monday night that this year's Senior Class will be the last to make a trip to Washington, D. C.

In the future, the board agreed, the Senior Classes will be permitted to make only a one-day trip, possibly to the State Capitol at Harrisburg. The objections of parents to having their children away overnight and the added expense arising from the increasing size of Senior classes in the township were given as reasons for the action.

Mrs. Kent Chairman At State Conference

Mrs. Edward H. Kent of Huntsville was chairman of the sponsoring committee for the Pennsylvania Conference on Social Work held on Monday and Tuesday in Wilkes-Barre. Mrs. Kent presided at the general session on Monday night when Hon. Brien McMahon, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, spoke on crime control.

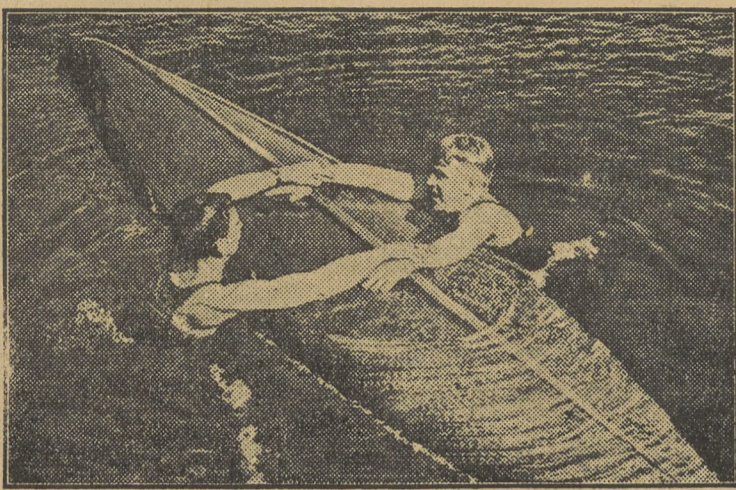
Valley Thespians Will Appear Here

Kingston League Gives Play In Township School Tonight

A farce comedy in three acts, "The Blue Bag," by J. D. McMullen, will be given in Kingston Township High School tonight (Friday) by the Brotherhood of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The group to give the play is from the Luther League of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Kingston, and will be directed by Mrs. William Shewan, Jr.

Members of the cast: Arthur Plieskatt, Fritz Ellis, Arlene Glass, Amelia Noss, Jack Alworth, Arthur Parker, Audrey Miller, Donald Kersten, Elsie Koup, Gladys Gessner, Charles Jacobson.

RED CROSS TRAINING SAVES LIVES



One of the 800,000 persons who have received training by the Red Cross in safety and rescue methods goes to the rescue of a frightened canoeist. To train more local people in water safety, the Red Cross will conduct a three-day course in Wilkes-Barre next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Zubrod Will Head Swimmers' School

Red Cross Aquatic Experts Will Conduct Classes In Life-Saving

"Every American a swimmer and every swimmer a life saver."

This slogan of the first aid and life saving service of the American Red Cross is emphasized by the local chapter in announcing a three-day campaign to be conducted at Wilkes-Barre Y. M. C. A. on next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, under the direction of Robert G. Zubrod, former National Swimming Champion and water safety instructor of national repute.

Figures that indicate the need for this instruction are cited by John R. Collins, chairman of the local chapter's life saving service: "Thirty million Americans went swimming last summer," he says, "while millions more found recreation in boating and canoeing, leaving no doubt that aquatic sports rank first in the number of participants and diversity of interest and activity. An average of 5,000 persons drowned every year indicates the danger for those not properly qualified for such sports. Experts tell us that most drownings are caused by not knowing how to swim, by swimming alone, by swimming too soon after eating, by attempting to swim to shore from a capsized boat or canoe, or by diving in shallow water. The Red Cross redeems that danger be kept at a minimum."

The life saving course next week will give those who are already examiners a chance to renew their appointments and to obtain the latest information on water safety. It is extended to give Senior Red Cross life savers the necessary training to secure a position as an examiner. The course will be open to all senior life savers, 20 years of age or over, with a definite place to instruct in the near future.

Summerhill Wins Cards' Contract

Will Play Through Season, Probably With Columbus Nine

Stephen Summerhill, who resigned from the faculty of Lehman High School several weeks ago for a tryout with the St. Louis Cardinals, has clinched a berth for the season with one of the team's "farms" according to advice received here this week.

Summerhill hit a slump shortly after he reached Albany, Ga., and got off to a slow start but his big break came on the day Branch Rickie, manager of the Cards, stopped by to look over the crop of rookies. On that day Summerhill clouted the ball so often and so furiously that Rickie called him over and complimented him.

It was Rickie who noticed that Summerhill, who has always played in the outfield, possessed all the qualities of a catcher and since the Cards are known to be short on catching material Summerhill was ordered to change positions and is now on the lineup as a catcher.

He has been sent to Columbus, O., where the Cards have a team which is used for the development of Big League material. Summerhill informed friends here this week that he is not certain of where he will be playing this year until after April 14, when the season opens. He has, however, been assured of a berth for the season.

PTA Will Honor School Athletes

Letters Will Be Awarded At Dinner Wednesday Night

Boys and girls from the athletic teams of Dallas Borough High School will be guests of honor at a dinner to be sponsored by Dallas Borough Parent-Teacher Association in Dallas M. E. Church next Wednesday night at 6:30.

A limited number of reservations for the affair will be available to the public, with friends and members of the families of the pupils on the teams having first choice. Reservations may be made by telephoning the high school or Mrs. Arthur Dungey.

Clyde Lapp, a member of the school board, will be toastmaster. The speakers will include Ernest Line, coach of football and basketball, Dorothy Gardner, coach of girls' basketball, and Harry L. Tennyson, supervising principal.

The committee arranging the affair has as members officers and committee chairman of the Parent-Teacher Association.

"Blue and Gold" In Contest At Lehigh

"The Blue and Gold" student publication of Dallas Borough High School, is entered in the fourth annual Lehigh Scholastic Press Conference to be held on Saturday, May 8, at Lehigh University. The paper is entered in Class C, consisting of schools with an enrollment of 491 or less.

LAST CHANCE! CONTEST ENDS TUESDAY

The Dallas Post, Inc.
Dallas, Penna.

I enclose \$..... as payment for

year's subscription. This is a (State whether renewal in advance, a past due subscription or a new subscription. I understand \$1 of this will go to Boys' Town. Here is my slogan in the \$2,100 contest ten words or less, See Page Two.)

SLOGAN

NAME

ADDRESS

Allied Groups Find Way To Overcome Opposition

By-Bass Proponents Working On New Plan Which Will Eliminate Necessity For Luzerne's Sanction; Indorsements of Plan Accumulate; Rotarians Hopeful

LUZERNE BUSINESS MEN TO MEET TUESDAY

Faced with the possibility of continued opposition in Luzerne to any attempt to construct a highway which will avoid that borough's Main Street, proponents of the long-delayed by-pass this week were studying a new plan to skirt the borough, thus removing the job from Luzerne's jurisdiction.

Until something definite can be reported, the allied groups working for the by-pass have requested a minimum of publicity, but it can be announced that a way to overcome any possible opposition from Luzerne council, which blocked the plan last year, has been discovered.

Informed sources told The Post this week that important developments may be expected soon.

Meanwhile, Dallas Rotary Club continued to accumulate indorsements indicative of the wide-spread interest in the revived movement for a Luzerne by-pass.

By this week sixteen civic groups, business men's organizations and other institutions had adopted formal resolutions supporting the drive. United with Dallas Rotary Club now are Harvey's Lake Protective Association, Dallas Business Men's Association, College Misericordia, Mt. Greenwood Kiwanis Club, Irem Temple Country Club, West Side Lions Club, Wilkes-Barre Y. M. C. A., Wyoming Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Executive Sales Council of Wilkes-Barre, Wyoming Valley Motor Club and Wilkes-Barre Y. W. C. A., which has a summer camp at Harvey's Lake.

More determined than ever to carry their fight to a finish, Dallas Rotarians were optimistic this week that the plans will be successful and, despite the lack of definite commitments, were still hopeful that construction might be started this summer.

"We find that all of the newspapers and nearly every individual are strongly in favor of this project," said C. L. Albert, chairman of the Rotary Club's committee. "We have passed petitions in various sections of the community and have found, to the best of my knowledge, no one who is not anxious to sign."

"However, we feel that we have only made a beginning and are very determined that we shall have a new highway in some form, either through Luzerne or around Luzerne, to give us a better artery of travel between the metropolitan area and Routes 115 and 92, which lead to Benton, Williamsport, Eagles Mere, Dallas, Harvey's Lake, Tunkhannock and all points north."

Before he left on a trip to Arkansas, Norman Johnstone, secretary of Wyoming Valley Motor Club, expressed deep satisfaction with the progress made so far.

A conference of representatives of groups interested in the plans at Hotel Sterling last Friday night bore valuable fruit.

Senator Leo C. Mundy, who attended the meeting, expressed himself as being wholeheartedly for the plan and is understood to have made valuable suggestions.

Senator Mundy informed the conference last Friday night that the State Highway Department is preparing to expend a million dollars in highway construction this year. Most of this construction is scheduled for other parts of the county and none has been definitely allotted for the by-pass, although Secretary of Highways Warren Van Dyke has informed the local Rotary committee he is in favor of that proposal.

One of the developments at the conference with Senator Mundy was the complete squashing of an alternate proposal to construct a road past Schooley's dam in Luzerne to join with Main street in Luzerne, a short distance past the present junction with that thoroughfare. A majority of the men present plainly indicated their disapproval of any plan which does not eliminate the Luzerne "bottle-neck."

Even in Luzerne sentiment was said to be swinging in favor of a by-pass. Many merchants who opposed the plan originally have come to the conclusion that such opposition is not creating good-will among the thousands of motorists who are compelled to use the scarred highway and that Luzerne will lose more by trying to block the popular movement than it would by encouraging the construction of a by-pass, which would certainly result in a growth of Luzerne's major market back of the mountain.

On Tuesday night the Luzerne Borough Civic Association will meet at 8 in the firemen's building to discuss problems pertaining to the by-pass.

Firemen Abandon Latest Proposal

Will Consider Entirely New Plan At Meeting On Monday Night

Having abandoned two plans for acquiring a new home, members of Shavertown Volunteer Fire Company will have a third proposal presented to them at their meeting next Monday night in the Shavertown School House and a final decision on the matter is expected.

The movement to buy or build a home for the Shavertown company has been under consideration for some time and early in February, with \$2,700 already in their treasury, the firemen agreed to look over properties with the view of acquiring a home.

The first proposal adopted was to purchase the building now occupied by Albert Bush's garage on Main Street, Shavertown, and to remodel it. A committee secured a price and estimates on the remodeling and the firemen considered the proposal seriously for a time, but then tabled it in favor of a plan to build.

Last month the trustees were authorized to get an option on a lot on Main Street, Shavertown, owned by Warden Kunkle, with the intention of building there. The cost of the building was estimated at \$5,000. It was believed that the plan would go through without a hitch.

After consideration, however, many of the firemen felt that the building suggested would be too small and that a building large enough to contain bowling alleys, quiet courts, pool tables, a reading room, a card room and an auditorium would bring many new members into the company and provide revenue which would be helpful in financing the building.

As a result, the second set of plans were temporarily laid aside and it is understood the trustees will report on Monday night on an entirely new proposal, and that a vote will be taken to decide if the company is to build or to buy a home, such as the Bush building. A prominent member of the company said this week he expects the matter will be settled finally on Monday night.

Three-Act Comedy At Lehman School

Juniors To Present "That's The Ticket" On Friday, April 10

The Junior Class of Lehman High School will present a three-act farce comedy, "That's The Ticket," by Franklin Gilson and Kenneth Scott, in the high school on Friday night, April 16, at 8 p. m. The production is being coached by H. A. Snyder, supervising principal.

The cast includes Robert Parks, as Mr. Betterly, a moderately rich, small town business man; Dorothy Whitesell as Mrs. Betterly, his talkative wife; Donald Boice as Nick Barnes, John Betterly's up-to-date business partner; Jean Howell as Peggy Betterly, the attractive daughter of John; Harold Brown as Harkaway Boggs, a small town lawyer, stiff, formal and important; Howard Johnson, as the ambulance attendant; and Charles Kinsman as Godivar, the Betterly's genial negro servant.

The plot centers about John Betterly, who conceals his modest race track speculations from his wife until he draws a winner. About \$550,000 is at stake and he can't locate the ticket. Nick and John comb the house. Finally, after many complications, the ticket is found but there is another surprise in the romance of Peggy and Nick. The early ticket sale indicates that a large crowd will be present to enjoy the production.

Alumni Presents Comedy Tonight

Katherine Stolarick Directs Play At Lehman High Tonight

The Lehman High School Alumni Association will give a two-act comedy, "School Day" in the Lehman High School auditorium tonight (Friday) at 8.

Members of the cast are Edna Sutton, Stella Johnson, Florence Weintz, Jean Elston, Ruth Simms, Helen Mierns, Fern Howell, Mrs. Lewis Ide, Sheldon Ehret, Arthur Mierns, Michael Scopic, Ralph Mierns, Lewis Ide, George Stolarick, and Arden Steele. Miss Katherine Stolarick is directing the play.

Local Fire Tower Open For Season

Warden Urges Extreme Care Because Of Dryness Of Woods

The Harvey Fire Tower, on the knoll above Irem Country Club, has been opened for the season, with Jacob Gossart, Jr., of West Dallas as the warden in charge.

Because of the number of forest fires in this section recently, Mr. Gossart urges that extreme care be taken, especially by farmers who are burning brush, who should notify the warden before they burn over any land. The phone number is Dallas 153-R-16.

Balmy weather has brought a number of people to the tower since it opened and as many as eighteen hikers have visited the forest fire station since the first of the month.