

POST SCRIPTS

A PROBLEM IN SOCIAL SECURITY

Somewhere-in-Pennsylvania: The name of the little town in which this week's column is being written is not important. Odds are you never even heard of it. We've withheld the name purposely, for reasons which will be obvious before we end.

It is not unlike hundreds of other villages in the hard coal region. Wedged in a narrow valley, between heavily-forested mountains, it retains a good bit of its original beauty, despite man's worst efforts to scar its mountain sides and rob it of its one-valuable coal deposits. On all sides stretch other rich valleys, dotted with the small farms of thrifty Pennsylvania Dutch.

We were a baby a few months old when we made our first visit to this town. Later we spent memorable, lazy, fun-packed summers here. Now and again we have come back and although our visits have been less and less frequent, we respect this old familiar house as one which offers a kind of contentment and relaxation we find nowhere else. All during the month we have been looking forward to days of swimming in streams which tumble down from mysterious mountains, of walks along roads where the dust lies inches deep, of standing on the high peak where, legend says, Indians kept watch from two seats still visible in the sheer rock wall.

All these things have been changed ever since we learned to appreciate them, but other factors influencing the lives of the people in this little village have changed in late years in a manner that challenges imagination.

Seventy-five years ago the discovery of rich coal deposits in the mountains here drew men and women as a magnet. Immigrants, especially, found this the spot they had dreamed of in the old country. Here they found jobs and freedom and adventure and a village intoxicated with prosperity coming from its God-given mineral deposits.

As years passed the town became known for its solid families, its neat homes, its consistent good time. Most of the thrifty folk owned their homes. There were a number of fine, well-kept churches. Stores sprung up on almost every corner, and their business made their owners actually wealthy. Anthracite rolled away in long trains of cars and came back in an endless flow of bright dollars.

It is not an exaggeration to say that the occasional accidents in the mines were about the only things that spoiled the brightness which hovered over the village. Sometimes the miners fought the operators, but each time they won higher wages and better conditions, and no one worried about the operators, as long as the union was winning new concessions and conditions kept getting better and better.

Then, one year or one month or one day, someone discovered that the market for anthracite had been ruined almost beyond repair by a combination of circumstances too far gone to recall. With a surplus of coal to sell, the company preferred to concentrate on production where mining was less expensive. Men were laid off in large numbers, machinery was silenced, the breaker closed and the mules were brought to the surface. At first the townsfolk, accustomed to occasional lay-offs, settled down to wait. Then the company began to ease the breaker and there was genuine alarm. Delegations waited on company officials, but brought home no hope. It became evident, as water rose in the abandoned slopes, that this was no bluff. This was the real thing, and something like panic ran through the town.

By this time there were no jobs elsewhere, because the nation was in a depression. Two banks closed, freezing the life savings of hundreds. A group of desperate civic leaders made a pathetic effort to have the mines opened on a profit-sharing basis, but their plan failed. Private charity was unable to meet the situation. People stared hopelessly into a future shadowed by want, starvation, illness and despair.

(Continued on Page 8)

Local Architect Chosen To Plan East End School

Verne L. Lacy of Pioneer avenue, Shavertown, was appointed by the Wilkes-Barre School Board to draw up the plans for the new East End school building. He was selected on the unanimous vote of the directors at their meeting Tuesday.

The contract tendered Mr. Lacy stipulates that he will receive 6 per cent of the contract price for new work, and 10 per cent for old work, if any.

Center Street Repairs Begun

Vigorous Complaint Of Tax Payers Gets Hasty State Action

State highway officials guaranteed Shavertown property holders an emergency job with completion in sixty days, and sent twenty men and machinery to East and West Center Streets this week in the latest development of the fight for improvement of the highway.

Fifty more men will be at work by next Tuesday. Machinery on the job this week included a roller, scarifier, and two trucks. Electric light and telephone poles were being moved further to the sides of the street today and yesterday.

The sudden activity in repairs grew out of two insistent conferences which a citizens' committee headed by Harold Lloyd held with the highway officials last week.

"We were determined that the shocking condition of the road must not be neglected, and when the department realized how angry residents along the street were becoming, they saw reason and guaranteed us an emergency job right away," Mr. Lloyd said. Charges that the road was being ignored for political reasons had been made by several Shavertown residents.

The committee was formed spontaneously by the Center Street property owners when they assembled at Shavertown grade school last week to find that the responsible persons who had called an indignation meeting were not present. Mr. Lloyd was chosen unanimously as chairman, and with his committee members held a meeting with the highway men immediately. At a second meeting last week, he was able to promise definite action.

Further conferences resulted in the renewed activity on the thoroughfare. All machinery assigned to the job is new, Mr. Lloyd explained, which should add to the rapidity with which the work is to be completed.

Hotel Manager Is Fined For Conduct

Silkworth Man Jailed For Disorderliness; Three Are Indicted On Sewage

Andrew Malbach, manager of a Lake Silkworth hotel, was jailed Tuesday night at the Harvey's Lake police station at the request of his wife on charges of disorderly conduct, according to Chief Ira C. Stevenson of the Lake police force.

He was fined \$5 and costs at a hearing before Squire Ralph Davis Wednesday morning. He was given until tomorrow afternoon to pay the fine.

Three Harvey's Lake business establishments operators were indicted for public nuisance on charges of unlawful sewage disposal by the Grand Jury Monday, on the petition of Chief Stevenson. Frank Devlin, Estelle Benethum, and Edward Duffy, all of whom operate business places in the Sunset section of the Lake, will have to answer to the charges before County Court in the near future.

Two arrests were made by the Lake police force this week for unsanitary disposal of garbage. Chester Puterbaugh of Luzerne and James Hahn of Oak Street, Wilkes-Barre were arraigned before Squire Davis and fined for dumping garbage unlawfully. Chief Stevenson expects to arrest two more offenders before the end of the week.

Two more cases of unlawful sewage disposal were discovered by Chief Stevenson and his aides this week, but the people involved will be given a chance to clean up their faulty systems before public nuisance charges are preferred.

"We intend to clean up the sewage and garbage disposal situation at the Lake before the summer season is over," said Stevenson, "and I wish to warn all lake residents who are violating health regulations that they will be met with due course of law unless they make necessary corrections." In his drive for sanitation, Stevenson will make scientific tests of all sewage systems fronting on the lake.

Sordoni Glass Barn Featured Over Air

Under the title of "What's New In Barn Building", the all-glass barn on Senator A. J. Sordoni's Harvey's Lake estate was featured on the Farm Radio program broadcast over 60 prominent stations, recently. The program will be repeated by the Newark station today, Schenectady and Cincinnati on Sunday.

Firemen May Ask Taxation Increase

Lapp To Move Taxation Support As Drive Proves Failure

Disgusted with charity methods, members of the Henry M. Laing Fire department will probably ask for an increase in the Dallas Borough tax rate of one mill, Clyde Lapp, chairman of the drive for funds, announced yesterday.

The resolution will be presented at the meeting of the company tonight, and will probably be acted upon, Mr. Lapp stated. If the resolution is approved, a petition will be circulated among Dallas property owners, asking for the increase.

"This increase would mean an addition to the borough's tax revenues of \$500," Mr. Lapp estimated, "and that should be sufficient to maintain our equipment. We have to have the money, or we can't give adequate fire protection, and we can't supply the expenses ourselves."

"After all, we are a volunteer fire unit, giving protection to every citizen of Dallas, and in return we have to depend upon the contributions that the more generous residents feel like making. There is no way at present of having every Dallas citizen assume his rightful share of the burden."

"From now on we want to have the affairs of this community project on a businesslike basis. The failure of our drive for money has convinced us that we can no longer depend on that method."

The drive closed today with less than \$900 received. Needs of the company had totalled \$1,500. Still to be found are the \$600 which were not contributed, and which are necessary to keep the fire company going.

Compulsory School Age Raised To 17

Age Limit Raised One Year; Football Out At High School

Changes in the school attendance laws which are effective this year, were outlined this week by Supervising Principal T. A. Williamme, in preparation for the opening of Dallas Borough schools September 6.

All children who will be six years old before Feb. 1, may enter the school at the beginning of the year. Otherwise, they must wait until Sept., 1939. There will be no first grade entries in the middle of the year.

Parents may elect to send their children when they are six years old. They are not required to be started until 8 years old, by state law. However, once a child has been entered, regardless of whether he is 8 years old or younger, he is subject from then on to compulsory attendance until he is 17 years old. This is an increase in the required attendance of one year over the 16 year limit which was set until last year.

Children who dropped out last year, and were 16 before Feb. 1, will not be required to return. But the restrictions will hold from now on, except for those who graduate from high school before they are 17.

There has been no change in the decision to drop football from the school's athletic schedule. "There will be," Mr. Williamme added, "both basketball and baseball. And I hope that there will also be track." It may be possible to return football sometime in the future.

Fifteen educational and historical moving pictures were ordered by the school board at its meeting Monday night. These pictures will be paid for by the school district, and the students will see them free of charge. A WPA project for matron service in the schools was approved, and the purchase of textbooks and other items necessary to the maintenance of the schools was ordered.

Sister Of Dallas Woman Died Tuesday At Sayre

Marie Schade of Dallas mourns the passing away of her sister, Mrs. George Gibbs of New Albany, a former Wilkes-Barre resident, who died Tuesday morning at Sayre. Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon at 2 from the Maryott Funeral Home, To-wanda.

Mrs. Gibbs was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William F. Schade of Gilligan Street, city. In addition to Miss Schade, the deceased is survived by the following brothers and sisters: Joseph Schade of Philadelphia; William Schade of Detroit; Frank and Martin Schade of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Elizabeth Reed of Rochester, and Miss Ann Schade of Rochester, and Mrs. Michael Ryman of Wilkes-Barre.

BEVERLY E. NOLL



Miss Beverly E. Noll of Leighton, who was named this week to the commercial teaching post in Dallas Borough High School. She has been termed well fitted for her new position by Supervising Principal T. A. Williamme.

Truck Crashes At Fernbrook

Hay Truck Overturns On Sharp Curve Friday

Early morning excitement was furnished Fernbrook residents last Friday when a hay truck operated by George M. Willauer of Nazareth, Pa., overturned on the sharp curve just below the park.

According to the proprietor of the Pen-Fern service station located at the corner, the truck overturned when Willauer, sensing that his load was shifting as he attempted to negotiate the turn on the heavily crowned road, righted the wheels too abruptly. The seven and one-half tons of baled hay which the truck was carrying shifted, overturning the trailer, and taking it to the cab.

Willauer climbed from the cab unhurt, as the proprietor of the gas station rushed forth with a fire extinguisher in case the gasoline flowing from the tank of the truck should ignite and fire the load. Three WPA workers, who were sitting on the steps of a store fronting on the corner, left hastily when they saw that the truck was crashing. They and the proprietor of the service station were the only witnesses of the accident, it is believed.

A large crowd gathered soon after the crash. The driver of the truck, an independent trucker who was carrying the load of hay to the Harvey's Lake farm of Senator A. J. Sordoni, called the Senator's superintendent, John Dersheimer, who sent out two smaller trucks to convey the load to its destination.

A rope was tied to the trailer of the overturned truck, and the machine was righted by leverage when one of the Sordoni trucks was hitched to the rope and driven east along the road. The accident occurred shortly after 6 in the morning, and Willauer was on his way back home by 3 in the afternoon, after repairing the truck, which was damaged very slightly, and cleaning up the debris from the turn.

Mrs. John Isaacs Celebrates Birthday

A covered dish supper celebrating the 62nd birthday of Mrs. John Isaacs of Kunkle was held recently at the home of Mrs. Ralph Elston of Kunkle. Present at the affair were Mrs. Lillian Kunkle, Mrs. Elizabeth Hess, Mrs. Elizabeth Heidenreich of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. Jane Isaacs, Mrs. Margaret Woolbert, Mrs. Marietta Warden, Mrs. Mildred Malkemes, Margaret Ann and Freddie Malkemes, Mrs. Margaret Fischer, Laura Jean Perrin, Mrs. Mary Dymond, Mrs. Margaret Kunkle, Mrs. Edith Shoemaker, Mrs. Irene Devens, Mrs. Armada Herdman, Mrs. Julia Kunkle, Mrs. Jennie Kunkle, Mrs. Anna Landon, Mrs. Amy Miers, Mrs. Anna Richards, Mrs. Lena Elston, Mrs. John Isaacs, and Mrs. Ralph Kunkle.

Senator Sordoni Buys Guernsey From Reynolds

Senator A. J. Sordoni added a new prize-winner to his Guernsey cow herd this week with the purchase of Edna, Mapleton 288143 from Dorrance Reynolds. The sale of the cow was announced by the American Guernsey Cattle Club, Peterborough, N. H.

TO RESUME MEETINGS

The Ladies of St. Luke's Lutheran Church of Noxen will resume their regular meetings next Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 in the parish house.

Township Residents Indignant At Condition Of Goss School

MOHAMMED AND THE MOUNTAIN RE-ENACTED FOR DALLAS OFFICER

"If a man makes superior rat traps, the world will beat a path to his door." Officer Walter Co-bert, Sr., was jerked from a sound sleep at 1 a. m. Wednesday morning by the sound of a crash squarely in front of his house, on Huntsville Road.

He dashed down the stairs and out the front door, to find that two cars had collided, one driven by Robert Seirstrer, of Sweet Valley, and the other by Stanley Narozny, of Nanticoke. Both drivers agreed on a settlement of the damages on the spot, and Officer Co-bert went wearily back to bed.

"This is the second accident I've had all summer," he stated to the Post. "I feel that's a pretty good record. Now that the season is closing, however, and the roads are becoming less crowded, I'm afraid that the rate will go up. Drivers will have to be more careful from now on."

Board Names New Teacher

Beverly E. Noll Declared Outstanding By T. A. Williamme

When Dallas Borough schools opened next Tuesday, students in the high school commercial classes will be greeted by smiling Miss Beverly E. Noll, of Leighton. She was hired by telephone at the school board meeting last Monday, at a salary of \$1,170 a year.

Miss Noll has just completed a five year course to prepare her for this position. The first four years she spent at East Stroudsburg State Teachers College, where she took an academic course which qualified her to teach French, and other subjects. The last year of her education, she took an all commercial course at Elizabethton College, from which she graduated last Spring.

Until she received the offer of the Dallas board, she had been working as a secretary in an office at Leighton, according to Board Secretary Dan Waters, which adds practical experience to her training. "The thoroughness of Miss Noll's training makes her outstanding among prospective teachers," Supervising Principal T. A. Williamme explained, "and Dallas is very lucky to secure her services."

Miss Noll has many interests in addition to her teaching. Her avocations are collecting poetry, writing short plays, and doing cross word puzzles.

Arrows Reach Semi-Finals

Defeated Jenks 7-6 Last Week-end; Will Play Carverton Sunday

The Dallas Arrows, crack local team in the Bi-County League, will play the second place Carverton boys in the semi-finals of the League championship this Sunday. Announcement of the game, which will be played on the Dallas Township High School field at 2:30, was made by League officials.

In a fast ten-inning game last Sunday on the neutral Beaumont field, the Arrows defeated Jenks by a score of 7-6 for fourth place in the League and an opportunity to play in the semi-final series. The game was one of the best played in the league this season and was marked by the stellar pitching and batting by Chet Sutton of Lehman who has been playing with the Arrows this year. In the first half of the tenth with the score 5-5, Sutton drove in two runs to give the Arrows a two-point lead. In the last half of the tenth Carverton scored one on an error and had two men on base when the game ended.

As the league goes into the semi-finals it finds four teams in the following order: Vernon, Carverton, Noxen, Dallas. Noxen and Vernon will start a three game series and Carverton and Dallas are paired for the big attractions this Sunday.

Objections To Uncleanliness Of Goss School Keynoted By Mrs. Chamberlain

"Conditions at the Goss schoolhouse are a positive disgrace to the community and the Dallas Township School District. I would never think of allowing a child of mine to attend school amid such unsanitary conditions," stated Mrs. Floyd W. Chamberlain of Grand View Avenue this week. "The building itself is dirty enough, but the toilets outside are un-speakably filthy."

"I felt sure that conditions at the schoolhouse would be remedied before the beginning of the Fall term, or I would have objected long before now. Why, two of the members of the Township school board pass that building every day on their way to work, and I am surprised that they have done nothing to improve it."

Mrs. Chamberlain said that she and many other land owners in the Goss Manor section have been indignant over allegedly unsanitary conditions at the old building for some time. Believing, however, that the school board would take steps to improve the building before the opening of the Fall term on its own initiative, none of them has appeared before the board to make objections in person, she stated.

Mrs. Chamberlain was especially forceful in her denunciation of the outdoor toilets in the school yard, which have been used by WPA workers throughout the summer. She declared that she, and many of her neighbors, believed them to be a menace to the health of the school children. Post reporters investigated the toilets and the schoolhouse itself, and found conditions much in keeping with those described by Mrs. Chamberlain.

She said she had written to state officials at Harrisburg on the conditions as she saw them, and that she also intended to appear before the Dallas Township School Board to state her objections to the old school house.

In deference to objections of parents last year in regards to allowing smaller children to use the outdoor toilets in winter weather, Dallas Township school board this year has moved the elementary grades into the high school building and has relegated older pupils from the grade school to the Goss building.

As plans now stand, 140 pupils will have classes in the old building, which is a four room, two story affair. Heating facilities in the building consist

(Continued To Page 5)

Two Local Men Flirt With Dynamite Truck

Russell V. Lahr of Lehigh Street, Trucksville, and Chester Sheppelman of Dallas contemplated nervous breakdowns Tuesday afternoon after a little injudicious flirting with the verticles.

Both men were operating machines in a slow and tedious line of traffic proceeding westerly along Pierce Street, Kingston, last Tuesday afternoon, when Lahr, apparently unable to slow down sufficiently, crashed into the rear of a machine just ahead of him, which, in turn, crashed into the rear of a truck just ahead, operated by Clarence Renfer of Avoca, which crashed into the rear of Sheppelman's automobile.

What Lahr and Sheppelman didn't realize at the time, and what Renfer knew only too well, was that the truck was carrying a full load of dynamite. The men involved, shaking from fright, were taken to the Kingston Police Station. Said Renfer, "Gee, I had a full load of dynamite... If it ever went off..."

Laahr's worries are not over yet, however, for he is being held at the station to answer to several violations of the Motor Code.

Beaumont Schools To Open Next Wednesday

Children from Beaumont will troop into school Wednesday morning, September 7, at 9 o'clock, when the fall term opens. Announcement of the opening date was made this week by supervising principal William A. Austin.

Beginners in the first grade will be enrolled, providing that the entering youngster will be six years of age before Feb. 1, 1939, and has a vaccination certificate. According to the law, the beginners must enroll within the first two weeks of school.

Wadell Woodchopper Sits On Rattlesnake's Head

"Whew! I'm tired," said Seymour Rogers of Wadell, and he stopped wood chopping and sat down on the ground. There was a rattle, and he jumped hastily away, just as a snake's fangs lashed at him. He had been sitting on the rattlesnake's head.