

"Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech or of Press" — The Constitution of the United States.

The Dallas Post is a youthful, liberal, aggressive weekly, dedicated to the highest ideals of the journalistic tradition and concerned primarily with the development of the rich rural-suburban area about Dallas. It strives constantly to be more than a newspaper, a community institution.

Subscription, \$2.00 per Year, payable in advance. Subscribers who send us changes of address are requested to include both new and old addresses with the notice of change. Advertising rates on request.

More Than A Newspaper—A Community Institution

# The Dallas Post

Established 1889

A Liberal, Independent Newspaper Published Every Friday  
Morning At The Dallas Post Plant, Lehman Avenue,  
Dallas, Penna., By The Dallas Post, Inc.

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Dallas, Pa., under Act of March 3, 1879.

HOWARD W. RISLEY.....General Manager  
HOWELL E. REES.....Managing Editor

## THE POST'S CIVIC PROGRAM

1. A modern concrete highway leading from Dallas and connecting with the Sullivan Trail at Tunkhannock.
2. A greater development of community consciousness among residents of Dallas, Trucksville, Shavertown, and Fernbrook.
3. Centralization of local fire protection.
4. Sanitary sewage systems for local towns.
5. A centralized police force.
6. A consolidated high school eventually, and better co-operation between those that now exist.
7. Complete elimination of politics from local school affairs.
8. Construction of more sidewalks.

## EDITORIALS

### A Dream Is Born

Luzerne County took particular pride in the inauguration of Governor Arthur H. James this week but Luzerne County was not the only part of the State vitally interested in the turn of events at Harrisburg.

We think there have been very few inaugurations in the history of Pennsylvania which were anticipated so eagerly and with so much hope as this one. The spirit of the people has been much as it was just before President Roosevelt took office for his first term in the gloomy days of 1933. Everywhere, men and women have been looking toward the new Administration for a sign that will renew their hope and give them courage to meet the future.

Pennsylvania, once a mighty state, is beset with problems. Some of her industries have fled already from heavy taxes, and more are ready to go. The optimism created by the business improvement in 1937 has been destroyed by another fear-ridden slump. Mounting relief rolls keep the budget unbalanced and make it necessary to tax and tax so the State can spend and spend in its frightened effort to forestall starvation. Worst of all, there is evidence that moral integrity is cracking under the strain.

This, then, was the scene which was set for Governor James' entrance on Tuesday. From one side of the stage a sad group of New Dealers, bowed by the burden of the grave charges which blackened the dying days of their rule, made their sorrowful exit. Onto the other side strode the man who, in the opinion of more than 2,000,000 voters, can restore Pennsylvania to greatness. The Capitol has never seen anything more inspiring than the deep emotion which swept across the inaugural throngs as they hailed their new leader.

The cheers at Harrisburg were like a battle-cry, calling the men and women of Pennsylvania to rally behind an able, honest, courageous, hard-hitting leader in the crusade against social decay and economic disintegration. It was a soul-stirring cry which echoed across the State, so heartening that it almost made one forget that the battle must yet be fought, that the victory is still distant. But we have a new leader and he has given us a course to follow and with our help he cannot fail.

No man or woman in Pennsylvania can shirk his or her share of the responsibility for the immediate future of the State. Unless we recognize our duty, as individuals, to correct the abuses in our own spheres we cannot demand more of Governor James. The time has come to forget prejudices, to forget party affiliations, to study the parts we play in our every-day world and to conduct ourselves, as individuals, in the manner most helpful to society. Radicals and conservatives, we must be prepared to make and accept concessions that we may achieve a solidarity of purpose and a rededication to basic economic and moral laws.

Only so can we preserve the ideals of American democracy. Only so can we bring to fulfillment the hope which was born in the hearts of Pennsylvanians this week.

Many people, who probably have forgotten that not so many years ago they attached only a two-cent stamp to letters, probably have forgotten, too, that the three-cent postage is supposed to expire next June 30.

The three-cent postage was established as an "emergency" tax measure. Don't stock up on two-centers, however, for the budget submitted to Congress calls for a continuance of the three-cent rate.

### The Battle Against Bang's Disease

Co-operation among farmers made Luzerne County an accredited area in the battle against tuberculosis in dairy herds. The benefits to dairymen and to the public as a result of that victory are obvious. Now farmers face the next battle, to rid their herds of the expensive scourge which is called Bang's Disease.

The opportunity to strike a decisive blow is presented in the government's offer to pay indemnities on cattle which react to Bang's Disease tests. The only thing necessary to take advantage of the opportunity is co-operation among the majority of the farmers in any township. We hope farmers in our section of the county will be quick to respond, and that the program will be carried through with dispatch so Bang's Disease can become as rare here as tuberculosis is now.

Candidly Speaking: Secretary Ickes, PWA administrator, has ordered a change in the familiar signs "Slow-Men Working." He says the change must be made to remove the implied aspersion.

### Reflection Of Confidence

The astounding growth of this section's Rural Building and Loan Association during a period when most businesses were either stagnating or sliding downward is a clear reflection of the confidence far-sighted persons have in the future of the Dallas area.

In 1934 the new Association had assets of about \$3,500. In four years those assets have grown to \$21,836. Accumulated earnings for 1938 exceeded the total for the earnings of the four previous years, and this record was achieved in a year marked by a decided business slump.

The high character of the men directing the Association has, naturally, been responsible to a great extent for the growth of the number of shareholders but we like to think, too, that the surprising response is another, and very sound, expression of faith in the progress and growth of the suburban area about Dallas.



## RIVES MATTHEWS

In Germany, returning travelers tell me, there are no billboards. There is no such thing, any more, as an outdoor advertising industry. To give the devil his due, when Adolph Hitler came to power, he issued a swift, sharp order and that was the end of billboards. Now you can drive for mile upon mile along Germany's new highways without risking life and limb and without having the scenery spoiled by blatant billboards. Germany, among other things, has scenery to sell, and is building a tourist industry, so Germany sees to it that her customers get scenery unadulterated by gigantic close-ups of Arrow-collar men grappling with bathing beauties in the name of romance and beer or cigars.

In our democratic country we can't make improvements simply by calling upon a public official to abolish a nuisance by the scratch of a pen. It takes a long time, and a lot of patience, to bring about reforms by means of what are called the democratic processes and thus evils are allowed to flourish in our country which would not be tolerated for a week in a totalitarian state.

For example, in starting off his new term a few weeks ago, Governor Herbert Lehman of New York went before the representatives of the people and among other reforms thumped for billboard control. I imagine Hitler snickered if he read these words: "For many years I have advocated appropriate measures to control the erection of billboards along highways. The uncontrolled construction of outdoor advertising signs seriously impairs the utility of highways upon which the State has expended large sums of money. Billboards and similar structures often constitute serious hazards to safety. They frequently despoil the scenic beauty. The great volume of traffic which may reasonably be expected to flow through the State because of the World's Fair and the prospective increase of billboard structures emphasize the need of immediate action. I renew my recommendation for an adequate system of State-wide control and regulation of outdoor advertising."

These are mild and temperate words, to say the least. Nowhere among them will you find any hint that Governor Lehman would like to see all billboards abolished. He speaks of control and regulation. He says that billboards "frequently despoil scenic beauty," even though only a billboard owner is the only one who would not agree that they always spoil scenery. Governor Lehman, apparently, believes in creeping up on things slowly. Maybe that is the best way, though it is not the frankest way.

Perhaps after "control" and "regulation" are achieved then we can hope to see all billboards abolished by the time our grandchildren have

grandchildren of their own. In a democratic state, we are told by the interpreters of democracy, progress and reform can't be expected to arrive any sooner than that and the advocates of gradualism claim that this is the best and safest way to get things done.

President Roosevelt and other students of affairs abroad, even though they do not like many of the features of totalitarian states, apparently admit that while much of what they do is bad and will lead to world disorder, one of the chief assets of a totalitarian state is that when it wants to act, it can act swiftly. With the same speed a Hitler can rid his country of billboards or thousands of members of a racial minority. He can provide work for thousands, or destroy a neighboring state overnight. He can give courage to millions who are cravens, and make cravens of the rest of the world.

History, itself, shows that states made their greatest strides forward under benevolent tyrannies. Even the word, tyrant, once had a respectable meaning before the world finally learned that one man rule, rabbit-like, is as prolific of evils as it is of benefits.

But just because a dictator can do away with such obvious festers as billboards practically overnight is no reason why we should subscribe to a belief in the totalitarian principle. Nor is it any reason for any of us to defend billboards as proud escutcheons of democracy, even though the billboard owners may one day ask us to regard them as such.

Everyone knows that evils flourish at public expense because those evils produce large rewards for the minorities responsible for them. It is often claimed that the abolition of billboards will throw great numbers of people out of work. The fact of the matter is the more profitable any racket is the fewer are its employees, and so it is with billboards. The same money that is spent on billboards, if spent in advertising media which permits the public to make its own decision as to whether it will be given attention or not, will employ more men than are now engaged in erecting and servicing billboards.

So let us not hear of anyone defending billboards on the grounds that to abolish them would put us in a class with Hitler's Germany, but rather let us advocate their abolishment on the grounds that the longer they remain standing the longer they are symbols of the stagnation which produces that dry-rot of democracy which leads to its final dissolution. If democratic states are incapable of reforms, then we are doomed to the days of a dictator who may quickly restore our scenery to us and take away our freedom because we were not strong enough, as free men, to handle our own affairs.

## The Mail Bag

To the Editor:

Italy continues to be made to appear an aggressor nation on account of Ethiopia and Spain; Britain, France and other countries that have vast colonial possessions, acquired by conquest, are given a clean bill simply because the booty was acquired before the signing of the Briand-Kellogg pact.

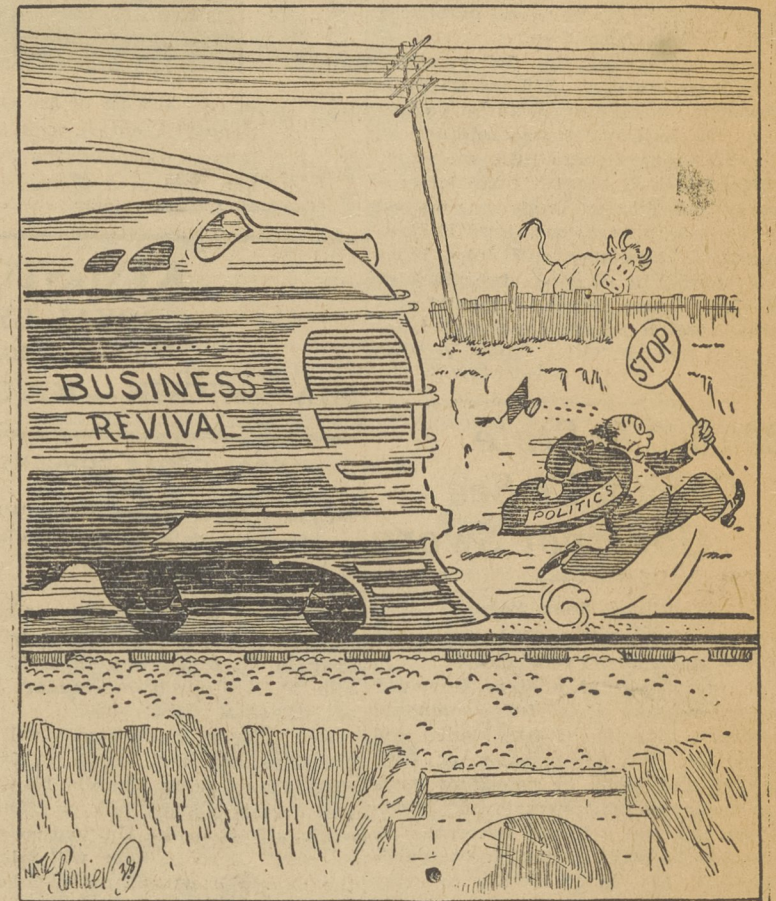
Italy is condemned for making an alliance with Hitler, which many true friends of Italy deplore, but newspapers do not remind their readers that the original sin of the Versailles treaty is mainly responsible for the chaos in Europe today. If Italy had

received the treatment that was warranted by her sacrifices in the Great War, there would never have been any reason for the revolution that led to the fascist dictatorship under Mussolini, nor would Hitler have been able to copy the fascist ideology and begin to eclipse his teacher on the European political scene.

Italy's attitude on Tunisia may be selfish but it is the result of French ingratitude for Italy's neutrality in the first year of the Great War, which has never had sufficient appreciation either from France or her allies, or from the American press.

Luigi Criscuolo.

## HEY! GET OFF THE TRACK!



## City Symphony

By Edna Blex

The older I become the more I realize we literally make our own faces. I know we are born with our countenances and we all realize there isn't much we can do about them. As long as we remain children and live in our own small world of innocence our faces change very little. But after the glow and radiance and beauty of youth is a thing of the past, then our faces begin to reflect what we really are, and try as we may to conceal our thoughts, and hide our ways from the rest of the world it can't be done because it is all written on our faces for everyone to see!

Just last week I happened on an old man who had one of the pleasantest faces I have ever seen. He was poor and shabby and evidently had very little to be happy about. His teeth were gone and there wasn't a hair on his head but his kind old face was truly beautiful. It was as radiant as the dew on an early Spring morning. I know he wondered why I kept him talking so long but I hated to let him go because there was so much joy and kindness and zest for living in that wrinkled old face I wanted to look, and look at him.

We grow accustomed to people's faces. We see the same faces each day and most of the time are not very conscious of the familiar ones. Some day look into the faces of your daily companions. You will be amazed at what you see. Look closely into the faces of the people you think you know the best. Have they changed over a period of years? Has time taken it toll? Have some of the faces suddenly become old or do you seem to be seeing them for the first time?

Many times it has literally taken my breath when I have really looked into the face of some one I thought I knew. Faces I have always taken for granted suddenly are different. Slowly it dawns on me I haven't really seen that face sometime. I have been blind, I have forgotten the familiar faces and it is a shock to know that some of the faces I thought I knew have changed so much. There are young people who seem old, and old people who seem to stay forever young. It seems to matter very little what a person talks about and what sort of act he puts on. What he thinks and what he has done seem to be deeply etched in his smile and in the lines of his face. His face tells the story, his tongue would never dare utter!

I realize there are people who have poker faces people whose faces seem always to remain unchanged, but

most of us are not successful enough to keep ourselves so safely hidden behind a mask. Haven't you seen old people who were lovely to look at and faces of old people who were not so pleasant? I have seen faces which have frightened me, not that they were grotesque but they frightened me because their bitterness and defeat were so sad to behold, wronged individuals who have forgotten how to smile, martyrs whose disappointment is written all over their forlorn faces, wretched individuals who refuse to look at life and be unafraid, people who are forever fighting against "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune". Little do we realize how much we have to do with the making of our own faces!

### PRIVATE LIFE

The prayer I say out loud at night,  
Beside my little bed,  
Is one that Mama used to say,  
And one her Mama said.

The prayer I say inside myself  
As off to sleep I go,  
Is all about the things I've done,  
That Mama doesn't know!

By Ada May Holmes  
77 S. Goodwin Ave.,  
Kingston, Pa.

## THE LOW DOWN from HICKORY GROVE

This feller, Arthur, James, is quite a person. He is the feller who rode to Harrisburg on an elephant. That's why they was so much excitement down there last Tuesday. Down there, they'd forgot what an elephant looked like.

They was plenty of people down there cheerin' this feller James and it must have made him feel mighty good but that night everybody went home and next morning there he was facin' a big job all alone.

They tell me this feller was awful fast with his fists when he was a kid. Maybe he'll have to go in trainin' again before he gets them Democratic Senators votin' with him.

Yours, with the low down,  
JO SERRA.