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Vol. 49

THE POST, FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1939

No. 29

POST SCRIPTS

THE BIRTH OF AN AMERICAN

SEVEN MILES DOWNSTREAM from the sandy little island where our snug little cabin awaits our return there is a clearing, and if you look closely you will see all that is left of the log home Colonel John Franklin built, more than 150 years ago.

We like to think that John Franklin kept his rendezvous with destiny at that lonely spot. We are sure it was there, beside the clear stream, underneath the stately hemlocks, that the bold Yankee dreamer experienced the emotions and conceived the dreams that made him great.

So often the circumstances which propel men into greatness are lost in the blinding glory of their achievement. In the bright, white flame of noble works, the tiny, clean spark which was the beginning is forgotten. In the exact moment when Fate, reaching down from the clouds, touches a life gently and deflects it toward nobility, there is far greater beauty, far greater power, than in the actual hour of achievement.

Historians have spread Colonel Franklin's contribution to the building of a new nation across many glowing pages, but it pleases us to think that when Franklin, the romantic failure, came to die he remembered most fondly the days when he swung his axe and tilled his fields along Huntington Creek and dreamed of courage and justice.

JUST WHAT HAPPENED to John Franklin down there remains a matter of conjecture, a blank space in the recorded history of his life. There were times, during the last month, when we thought we knew.

In the forest there is, between sunset and darkness, the time of the great silence. The last yellow sunbeam fades and disappears. The birds go away. No leaf moves. Deep purple shadows steal over the eastern sky and kiss the tree-tops.

Men who are alone then, or who have no human company to break the spell, know true solitude. It is almost as if the world had stopped rolling on its axis and were resting, as if the mind were suspended in a tremendous vacuum.

It is a time for brave, fine thoughts, a moment of exquisite beauty, and we have wondered if, experiencing it night after night, John Franklin might have felt the spark of greatness being fanned within him.

THE TIMBER ALONG Huntington Creek has thinned considerably in 150 years, but it was thick enough to suit us. Editorial desk work is poor training for clearing land.

We hacked and perspired and wore callouses on our palms and at the day's end we looked with sinking heart upon the poor progress we had made. We sunk a spade into soil which had never been broken and we strained the muscles of our back laboring to break the matted roots. Then one day the rich, black soil was ready, smooth and fine under the blazing sun, and we knelt and plunged our hand into it and felt the warm power of the earth.

What we did was a small thing, scarcely more than a new kind of vacation. But what Franklin did was important. And when we stood back and surveyed the pitiful thing that had cost us so much back-breaking labor we had a picture of John Franklin, standing before his lonely cabin at sunset, shading his eyes and gazing out over the fields he had won from the wilderness. That triumph, too, must have contributed to his character, must have added fuel to the fire which was growing within him.

WHEN JOHN FRANKLIN had finished his cabin and cleared his fields he went back over the mountains and brought his wife to their new home. It was a brave, lovely world

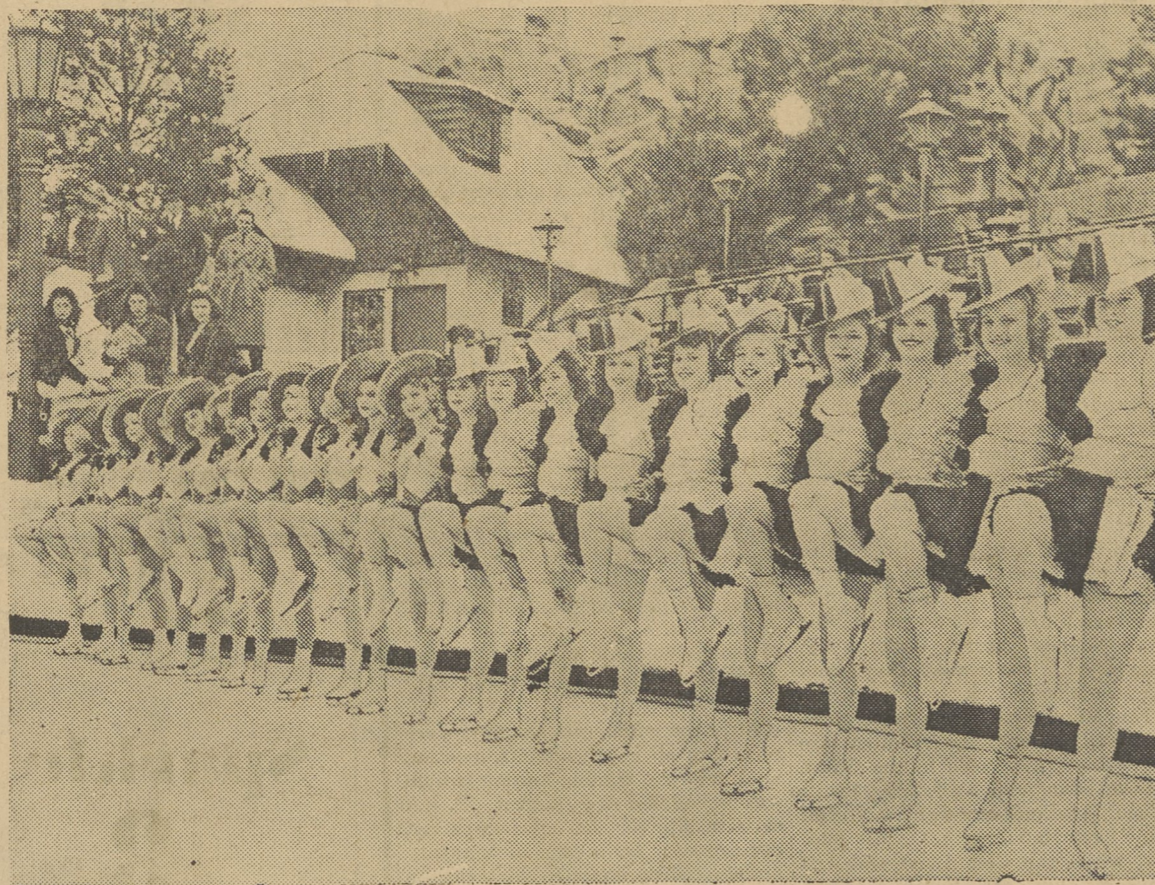
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TRUCKSVILLE CHILD IS NEW MEMBER OF STAFF OF NANTICOKE TABLOID

Faith Hope Charity Harding, precocious daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harding of Trucksville, and whose strange predictions of coming events have excited considerable controversy during the last four years, has become a feature writer on the Nanticoke Daily Press.

This week The Press, under a two column photograph of the local child, credits Miss Harding with an "unusual power" which it calls "Occult Suasion." Miss Harding's duties as a staff member, presumably, is to advise readers of the Press on personal matters.

BALLET ON ICE DEFIES SUMMER'S SIZZLING HEAT



Mid-summer heat and two-month drought have no meaning for these beauties who skate at the Alpine Village at New York's World Fair. They

perform their gyrations amidst peaks capped with artificial snow. In between shows, the artificially frozen surface is slid back into a cooling chamber and replaced by a dance floor. Like 'em?

ELAINE LATE FOR HER CUE BUT IT WAS WELL WORTH IT

A flying trip to New York City almost deprived the Harvey's Lake summer theatre of Elaine Barrie's services on Tuesday night but it was worth \$4,562.50 in back wages and \$500 a week to the estranged wife of John Barrymore.

New Road Ready By Mid-October

Big Machinery Speeds Work On Concrete Link

The new \$220,000 concrete link along Bowman's Creek on Route 92, which connects Dallas and Tunkhannock, will be completed by mid-October according to estimates made this week by Banks Construction Co., which has construction well ahead of schedule.

The 3 1/2-mile stretch, 42 feet wide, cuts through some of the loveliest scenic beauty in this section and strengthens local claims that Route 92 would, if completely concreted, be one of the most popular roads in Eastern Pennsylvania.

Four miles of the concrete south of Tunkhannock to Evans' Falls was completed earlier. The link now under construction will be graded and ready for concrete foundations within another month, barring unfavorable conditions.

The project is unique among construction jobs of the kind because of the methods and machinery adopted for the work by Joseph Banks, president of the contracting company. Some of the huge machines are being used for the first time in this part of the state and the operations themselves attract many curious visitors.

Instead of the usual steam-shovels, dump-trucks and similar equipment so familiar on construction work of the kind in this section, Contractor Banks has in operation four 80-horse power "caterpillar" driven machines which not only excavate the rough ground, but smooth it, collect and dump the earth, rocks, tree-stumps and the like and carry these to the points required for filling.

The new roadway will include a twenty-two foot wide strip of concrete with "black-top" berms of ten-foot widths on either side.

Two new bridges, several giant culverts, deep "fills," one of them an eighty-foot deep gully, and the installation of two or three 36-inch pipes for drainage are all a part of the undertaking, as well as the diverting of two mountain streams and the actually changing at one point of the course of Bowman's creek.

LITTLE SLEEP FOR CREWS BATTLING BLAZE NEAR HERE

A chain of woods fires west of Evans Falls, just off the Dallas-Tunkhannock Highway, defied fire fighters this week and destroyed hundreds of acres of timber.

Apparently started by huckleberry pickers, the blaze reached alarming proportions last Saturday and on Sunday a crew of men recruited in Dallas spent 21 sleepless hours battling the stubborn blaze.

Throughout the week the local crew, which is led by Grover Jones,

Sometimes It Gets Monotonous

Youths' Bad Luck Gives Police A Busy Evening

When a policeman resolves somebody from trouble once in an evening that's duty, but when he has to play Good Samaritan to the same fellows three times in an hour that's monotony.

The other night Patrolman Fred Swanson and Harry Jones of the Harvey's Lake police force were cruising about, keeping their eyes open for evil, when they spotted a car in a ditch at Warden Place. The two young men in the car explained that they were stuck. Patrolmen Swanson and Jones turned to with a will and pulled the car out.

Gratefully, the two y. m. drove away in a flurry of farewells. Patrolmen Swanson and Jones resumed their regular patrol. They were headed toward Sunset when they spotted a car stalled on the road. It was, the patrolmen discovered, the same two young men. Now they were out of gas.

Still helpful, Swanson graciously siphoned a gallon of fuel from his car and donated it to the youths and for the second time they drove away after thanking the policemen.

It was half an hour or so later that Swanson and Jones, cruising along near Sunset, saw a car ablaze dangerously close to the Grotto. When they tried to move the flaming automobile they found it was in gear. They found, too, that it was the same automobile and the same two young men. One of them, it seems, had lit a match while the other was pouring in gasoline.

While the two policemen struggled to move the car, flames licked against the fence and porch of The Grotto. Jack Nothoff, the proprietor, and his wife rushed out. One of the young men grabbed a can and ran for water, but only managed to fall head-first into two-and-one-half feet of some filthy liquid in a six-foot hole nearby. Swanson and Jones finally moved the car and extinguished the blaze.

That time the weary patrolmen made sure the unfortunate young men were leaving the lake. The policemen stood and watched until the car disappeared along the road toward Dallas. Then they breathed a deep, relieved sigh.

Summer Enrollment At College Exceeds 350

More than 350 students are enrolled in the summer session of College Misericordia, which has been in session since June. This is the largest enrollment in the summer school history of the institution.

A total of 52 courses are being offered by members of the regular faculty and by a number of visiting professors from other institutions of higher learning. A faculty of 25 is available for the summer work. The school will close August 1.

Booster Association Will Meet Tuesday

The I. O. O. F. Booster Association of the Fourth District of Luzerne County will meet with Toby's Creek Lodge, No. 1078, on Tuesday night, July 25. All Odd Fellows are invited.

Space Testifies At Hearing On Milk Prices

Dairymen Seek Higher Prices; Claim They Are Operating At A Loss

A crowd of determined dairymen who jammed a room in Lackawanna County Court House on Tuesday heard Clifford W. Space of Dallas testify that milk prices paid to farmers now do not even meet the costs of production.

Mr. Space was the first witness to appear before the State Milk Control Board, which called the hearing in response to a militant protest among farmers against a price reduction ordered last April. dmv-af

He presented a long and detailed statement to support the contention of Attorney Harry W. Mumford, counsel for Northeastern Pennsylvania Milk Producers' Association, that dairymen deserve a better price for their products.

A director of the Milk Producers' Association, Mr. Space, has been active in organizing dairymen throughout the Dallas section. The growth of interest in the movement was evidenced by the crowd at Tuesday's hearing. Only standing room was available in the court room when the hearing opened.

Howard Eisaman, chairman of the Milk Control Board, presided. His associates were John M. McKee and J. J. Snyder.

In reviewing the dairymen's case, Attorney Mumford charged that farmers in Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties are the victims of an experiment to determine whether low price milk will increase the consumption of bottled milk.

After Mr. Space testified, Attorney Mumford said he was prepared to call several hundred farmers to give cost figures similar to Mr. Space's. He asked that the new base price of \$2.05 per hundredweight be increased to \$3 and that the four per cent butterfat requirement be reduced to 3.5 per cent.

Speaking for a group of milk dealers, Attorney Leo White said that retailers have been forced to operate on a close margin and that the reduction in price from 12 to 10 cents caused them a loss of about \$200,000.

Mrs. Frank Hontz Taken By Death

Funeral To Be Held Today At Sweet Valley

Mrs. Minnie Hontz, 52, wife of Frank Hontz, Sweet Valley, died at Nanticoke Hospital on Monday night. The funeral will be held at the home today (Friday) at 1:30 with services in First Christian Church, Sweet Valley, at 2.

Interment will be in Sweet Valley Cemetery. Rev. Ira Button will officiate.

Surviving Mrs. Hontz are her husband; daughter, Mrs. Mildred Krostag and Mrs. Ethel Kusma of Sweet Valley; Mrs. Cathleen Heinz of Trucksville and Geraldine at home; also two brothers, Rex and Reuben of New Jersey.

Sometime It Might Not Be So Funny!

It was a very good thing there was not a fire in Shavertown at 10:30 Wednesday morning. When The Post telephoned Shavertown Fire Co. at that time a receiver was down somewhere on the line and the operator was unable to ring the fire company.

A few minutes later the alert young lady at the switchboard remedied the situation, cleared the line, and it was alright to have a fire.

POSSE COMBS KUNKLE WILDS TO BRING 'BECKY' BACK

Frankie Kuehn's "Becky," a hound dog of doubtless lineage, but an impotent member of the Kuehn household, nonetheless, kept the Kuehns, from grandsons to grandmother, in a dither for a few days this week.

It began when Grandpa Kuehn and Harold Thompson drove out to A. C. Leven's home at Kunkle to deliver some medicine. "Becky" rode along by, somewhere along the way she disappeared and her absence threw a shadow over the Kuehn home.

After supper a posse went out Kunkle-way looking for "Becky" but

Governor Invites Civic Club Group To Conference On New Dallas Road

Crew Begins Survey At Trucksville On New Route To Follow Abandoned Street Car Right-Of-Way

Governor Arthur H. James has invited representatives of Mt. Greenwood Kiwanis Club and Greater Dallas Rotary Club to confer with him soon at his Harvey's Lake summer home to discuss the possibility of constructing a new highway between Trucksville and Dallas along the abandoned right-of-way of Wilkes-Barre Railway Corp.

Encouraged by the Governor's interest, a joint committee from the two service clubs is planning to meet with him as soon as enough data to justify discussion has been compiled.

NOXEN AND TUNKHANNOCK AMONG TOWNS TO BALLOT ON LOCAL OPTION ISSUE

Two boroughs and seven townships in Wyoming County will vote on Local Option this year.

Noxen, where the question was defeated by a 10-vote majority in 1935, will thrash out the question again in September. Tunkhannock Borough also will vote on the issue.

Other communities which have asked that the question be placed on the ballot are Meshoppen, Braintrim, Lemon, Meshoppen Township, Northmoreland, Tunkhannock and Washington Township.

In three Wyoming County communities the sale of beer and liquor already is barred.

Local Option Is To Be On Ballot

Lehman And Ross Drys Fight Liquor And Beer

The voters of Lehman and Sweet Valley will decide in September if the sale of liquor and beer is to be permitted in the future in the two communities.

Formal petitions have been filed asking that the local option question be placed on the ballots. Two other Luzerne County municipalities, Huntington Township and New Columbus Borough also will be among the 200 communities in Pennsylvania which will vote on the issue.

It will be the second attempt of Lehman dries to banish intoxicants. In 1934 the township voted on the question and defeated it, 200 to 198. Local option in Lehman would hit the night clubs near Sunset, Harvey's Lake, especially hard. That section of the Lake is within Lehman's borders.

The petitioners from Sweet Valley (Ross Township) carried 393 signatures, according to Rev. Ira Button, one of the leaders in the movement. There are about 751 voters in the township, he estimated. The petitions were sponsored by the W. C. T. U.'s of the section, with the support of church congregations.

The questions, as they will appear on the ballots in Lehman and Ross Townships, follow:

"We favor granting of malt and brew beverage retail dispensing licenses for consumption on the premises when sold in—"

"Do you favor granting of liquor licenses for sale of liquor in—"

Spaces for "Yes" and "No" will be provided back of this question. On the other question voters will pull the lever for "Yes" or "No."

Townsend Club Is Organized In Dallas

A Townsend Club was organized at a meeting in the Odd Fellows' Hall, Main Street, Dallas, on Tuesday night. Temporary officers selected are: William Elston, president; James Franklin, secretary; treasurer. A second meeting will be held next Tuesday night.

As a result of a conference several days ago, between the Rotarians, Kiwanians, representatives of the State Highway Department and officials of the traction company, a crew from the Highway Department began a preliminary survey this week along the proposed route.

Tentative plans are that the new highway would connect with the concrete at the Trucksville "Y" and follow the present route as far as the Mt. Greenwood street car station, where it would continue along the traction company's roadbed through Shavertown and Fernbrook, entering Dallas below the present main street.

Besides deflecting traffic from the winding Shavertown road and the hilly Mt. Greenwood route, too narrow for modern traffic, proposed highway would be an important mid-way link in the long-anticipated short-cut from Wilkes-Barre to Tunkhannock and it is logical to assume that if the Dallas link were paved it would not be long until the other sections of the Tunkhannock road would be completed.

At the conference of the Rotary-Kiwanis committee and the officials interested, John Jones of Wilkes-Barre Railway Corporation outlined the procedure which would have to be followed by the county commissions in acquiring the right-of-way of the street car company.

John L. Herbert, district engineer of the State Highway Department, told the committee he could begin a survey to collect information which can be used as a basis for discussion. He could give no assurance how soon such a highway could be built, he said, but he indicated that the plan was a sound one.

The proposal is not entirely new. A year or so ago the county commissioners studied a plan to use the right-of-way, which was abandoned when construction of the by-pass cut the traction company's lines at Luzerne. It was proposed then that the road be continued through Dallas, following the right-of-way as far as Ide's Corner.

Theoretically the traction company did not abandon its right-of-way when it suspended operation of street cars several months ago and substituted buses. Except at Luzerne, where the new road is laid along the street car line, no tracks have been removed. Actual abandonment of the right-of-way would mean that the property would revert to its original owners, except on such stretches as are owned outright by the traction company.

Tumbleweeds Appear At Kunkle July 28

The Texas Tumbleweeds will appear in a floor show at a dance to be held at Kunkle Community Hall on Friday night, July 28. The affair will be sponsored by the auxiliary of Daddow-Isaacs Post, American Legion, of Dallas.

Irem Caddies Triumph

A team of caddies from Irem Country Club defeated the caddies of Fox Hill for the fourth consecutive triumph on Monday. The Irem ladies already have victories over Glenbrook, Wolf Hollow and Hollenback.

W. C. T. U. Picnics Here

Members of Wilkes-Barre W. C. T. U. held a basket lunch on Tuesday afternoon at the home of Dr. Sarah D. Wyckoff, Center Hill Road.

FALL ELECTION CONTEST TO BEGIN MONDAY; LAST DAY TO FILE PETITIONS

Officially, the Primary Election campaign will begin next Monday, the last day on which candidates for office can file their petitions at the Court House.

Other important election dates: July 29, last day to withdraw; August 12, last regular registration day; August 14, last day to change party registration; September 12, Primary Election day.

The week-end will be a busy one for political leaders in this section as they labor to complete slates.