

A DARK HORSE PRESSES THE LEADERS

The speech of Governor Arthur H. James at Grand Rapids, Mich., Monday night—his first sally into national politics in a good many months—may be taken as a clear indication that our neighbor, the Governor, has heard the voices which, in mounting volume, are appealing to him to be a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination.

If there was anything more needed to qualify Governor James as a candidate it came promptly in the critical editorials which appeared in leading Democratic newspapers on the morning after his speech. If his own party is slow to recognize his strength, the opposition is determined not to be caught napping. That worthy assault, alone, was a fair measure of Governor James' new stature in the national political arena.

As neighbors of the Governor, we are apt to be guilty of wishful thinking with regard to his chances for the nomination. We are reluctant to admit that among the voters of the nation our favorite son actually is behind Dewey, Taft and Vandenberg in the G. O. P. race. The idea of having a summer White House at Harvey's Lake is exciting, naturally. But it is also true that our admiration has a base more solid than community pride.

Although he still ranks high in public opinion polls, Mr. Vandenberg, we believe, will have as little chance as Mr. Hoover when the delegates begin to ballot. The real race will be between Dewey and Taft, and it will be beside them that Governor James will have to stand for comparison.

All three are men of moderate views. Governor James is probably the most conservative of the three, and that may work to his disadvantage, for there is a feeling among Republican voters that their party needs more liberal policies if it is to regain its hold on the electorate. Dewey is better known nationally, but that is an advantage which either James or Taft can overcome easily. All three stand for essentially the same things, so far as national policies are concerned.

Governor James has had far more experience in public life than either Dewey or Taft. It is interesting to note that since Lincoln the most effective Presidents have been men who had experience as a chief executive, usually as Governor of a State, before they became President. Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Calvin Coolidge and Franklin D. Roosevelt all had that advantage. The value of Governor James' experience as chief executive of the nation's second biggest state cannot be dismissed. Able and willing the Messrs. Dewey and Taft may be, but they are untested.

More than either of the other two, Governor James has, too, a native political shrewdness, a quality possessed in abundance by Mr. Roosevelt and extremely valuable to a President. James has been trained in a hard political school. His steady political rise since he was District Attorney of Luzerne County marks him as a leader of men, a sensitive, sympathetic, understanding politician whose talents are not unlike those of Al Smith, LaGuardia or Lloyd George.

Above everything else, though, Governor James is the kind of an American that Americans like, and vote for. Of humble, middle-class parents, like the majority of Americans, he founded his career upon his own efforts and character. He numbers among his friends many of the nation's most impressive figures, yet he has a Lincoln-like preference for old friends at home. He carries burdens heavy enough to destroy the ordinary man, yet he has time to stop at some rural crossroads for a friendly exchange of homely opinion with some new-found friend. He does more than make speeches about democracy, he lives it.

POST SCRIPTS

In one of the columns Rives Matthews sent to The Post while he was vacationing in La Jolla, Cal., in July, 1938, he wrote about a young friend he'd just met. The column was an especially good one, so you may remember it.

Rives had been walking along the sea-gnawed cliffs when he saw a boy and a dog climb to a ledge 12 feet above a pool. "The dog sank, panting, to his paws, while the boy stood against the sun, took off his sweat shirt and became a lithe line of gold before he disappeared below me."

Alarmed, Rives scrambled down, and saw the boy, safe and whole, standing in water up to his chest. "That took nerve," Rives remarked, with admiration dawning. "It's all in knowing how," the boy flashed back, as he plummeted again into the bright blue water.

There was a lot more. Rives and the boy's friend, Bill, found bicycles and pedaled up La Jolla canyon and to a ranch called Boramar. Bill and the boy, whose name turned out to be Emmons, were Rives' guests once, dining grandly on ham and egg sandwiches. They were together quite a bit until Rives came back East. That was all we knew of the story until this week.

Last week, in a letter, Rives spoke to us about the promising young man who is working for him on the Somerset News down at Princess Anne, Md. No connection yet. We read the piece Rives mentioned and we agreed with him heartily. It was called "Footnotes" and we wanted it immediately for The Post.

We got it, and with it we got a letter from its author. He—so help us—is the same boy who was in

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BALLOT CUMBERSOME DESPITE ABSENCE OF LOCAL CONTESTS

Only two parties—Republican and Democratic—have been certified to have places on the voting machines here at the primary election next April 23. None of the minor parties which have appeared on the machines in recent years have qualified for positions.

Voters in this section will have no campaigns for municipal offices this year. The only local contests will be the district battles for positions on the Republican and Democratic county committees and the nomi-

nation of Republican and Democratic candidates for Representative to the State Legislature from the Sixth Legislative District, of which Dallas and Luzerne are a part.

Other candidates which will be on local ballots will include: U. S. Senator, Attorney-General, State Treasurer, Representative in Congress, State Committeemen, four; delegates and alternates to the National Conventions.

Although the 21st District (Wilkes-Barre) will elect a State Senator this year, Dallas voters will not vote on any candidates for that office.

THE DALLAS POST

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER, A COMMUNITY INSTITUTION

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SLEEPLESS CREWS BATTLE 10-FOOT DRIFTS

Blizzard Rides 40-Mile Wind

14 1/2-Inch Snowfall Halts Traffic, Stalls Plows, Downs Kunkle Phone Lines And Closes Schools

Under sunny-blue skies which were in sharp contrast to the snow-laden clouds of the day before, Dallas and its vicinity labored tirelessly yesterday to dig its way out of the drifted 14 1/2-inch snowfall which rode into Northeastern Pennsylvania on the wings of a 40-mile-an-hour wind Wednesday.

By last night traffic was able to move carefully along the lanes which had been cut between five-foot drifts bordering main highways, but it was apparent that it will be several days before normal motor traffic will be possible on side roads. A warm sun yesterday and a prediction of clear weather held hope for farmers who were still isolated on back roads last night.

Although the lashing gale piled drifts 10 feet high in some sections, the snowfall was set officially at 14 1/2 inches at the Huntsville filter plant of Scranton-Spring Brook Water Co., where accurate records are kept. Attaches there said the fall equaled a precipitation of 1.58 inches.

On Wednesday night the wind attained a velocity of 29 plus miles an hour, according to measurements at Wilkes-Barre-Wyoming Valley Airport, but gusts reached a peak of 40 miles an hour.

Communities from Luzerne west were virtually isolated from Wednesday night until after dawn yesterday. Bus service, the last link with Wyoming Valley, was suspended about 10 p. m., after several futile efforts to reach Dallas.

Buses came as far as Fernbrook early Thursday morning but it was noon before a bus reached Dallas and a semblance of service was restored. Hundreds of persons were unable to report for their jobs in Wilkes-Barre and Wyoming Valley until mid-afternoon.

Worst Storm In 20 Years

E. A. Hoffman, general manager of Wilkes-Barre Railway Corp., which operates the local bus line, said conditions were the worst his company had faced in 20 years.

A check-up of hospitals and police stations yesterday uncovered no injuries or exposures cases caused by the storm, a situation resulting probably from the fact that the blizzard was not accompanied by severe cold. The temperature did not drop lower than 18 degrees, whereas this winter temperatures as low as 10 below were recorded in this section.

Yesterday the mercury hovered close to the 40's in mid-day, and the snow was already beginning to melt. The fury of the storm was in the howling gale which rocked trees and built great drifts. Some idea of the ferocity of the wind was given at the barn of R. W. Brickel on Mill Street, Dallas, where strips of metal roofing were torn up by the whistling blasts and rolled back in a circular tube.

Reports of serious damage were few. A silo owned by Charles Martin at Kunkle fell on a telephone line and disrupted service in the Kunkle section during the most of yesterday. Since the road to Kunkle from Dallas was impassable, a crew from Commonwealth Telephone Co., which left in the morning had to make the trip on foot. Service had been restored last evening.

Schools were dismissed early on Tuesday when it became apparent that the blizzard was blocking highways. All suspended classes yesterday. Some schools in the built-up areas will have sessions today, but in the outlying communities there will be no school until Monday.

Ended Record-Making Drought

The only redeeming factor of the storm was the fact that it broke the history-making drought which has drained wells and allowed the frost to penetrate the bare ground to a depth of three feet. The inevitable thaw will be welcomed by farmers, many of whom have had

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GOOD WILL OFFER ON BOOKS WILL EXPIRE MONDAY NIGHT

The opportunity for subscribers to secure a five-volume "History of the World" for 98c will expire next Monday night.

At the urgent request of a number of persons who want the set but have lost the coupons they clipped in the five weeks since the offer was first made. The Post is printing today a Special Good Will Coupon, equivalent in value to three of the previous coupons.

In the three days remaining those who have not clipped three coupons can obtain a set by bringing in or mailing the Special Good Will Coupon and 98c. The supply is limited and those who are late may have to wait until additional sets arrive.

You pay nothing except the 98c, you are not required to sell a subscription or write a slogan or enter any contest. Many subscribers already have their histories and all have expressed delight with them.

Want Two Towns To Share Expense Of Fire Company

Supervisors To Confer With Council Tonight At Firemen's Request

The supervisors of Dallas Township and the councilmen of Dallas Borough will meet tonight at 8 in the borough building to discuss the possibility of assuming some financial responsibility for fire protection in the two communities.

Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Company, which has provided protection for homes in the borough and township for the last 13 years, is financed now by public subscription. The borough provides the old building in which the fire engine is kept and pays the premium on insurance on the firemen while they are on duty but neither the township nor the borough have ever shared the cost of maintaining the company.

A committee from the fire company, headed by Harry T. Ohlman, asked councilmen recently to consider the possibility of appropriating enough each year to pay a share of the maintenance, and to ask Dallas Township to contribute a like share. Mr. Ohlman's request will be discussed at the conference tonight.

The firemen point out that fire protection is as essential as police protection, which is already financed by tax money. They argue that the present method of depending upon the generosity of civic-minded people is unfair, since it places a burden upon those who are willing to give and fixes no responsibility upon those who refuse to donate.

Since the company was organized in 1927, the firemen have raised between \$15,000 and \$20,000 through solicitation and the sponsoring of entertainments, carnivals, etc. The equipment itself cost about \$12,000, and the remainder has been spent in developing and maintaining the company. In that time property valued at many times the amount raised by the firemen has been saved.

The firemen have been paid for their services and are not asking such payment now. They feel that \$600 or \$700 a year from the township and the borough, divided among all the taxpayers who benefit by the protection, would not be a hardship to anyone. In many communities the taxpayers not only pay for the equipment and maintain it but also pay volunteer firemen an hourly wage when they are fighting a blaze.

Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Co. which is showing new spirit these days, is anxious to acquire a better building, with club rooms, and if the burden of maintenance were lessened, the volunteer company could, through such affairs as the play it will sponsor next month, raise funds to build a hall which would be a credit to the community.

A conference of Dallas Borough council and Robert Hall Craig, general manager of Dallas-Shavertown Water Co., scheduled to have been held yesterday afternoon to discuss fire protection as it depends upon the supply of Dallas Water Co., was postponed.

Drafts Doctors For School Work

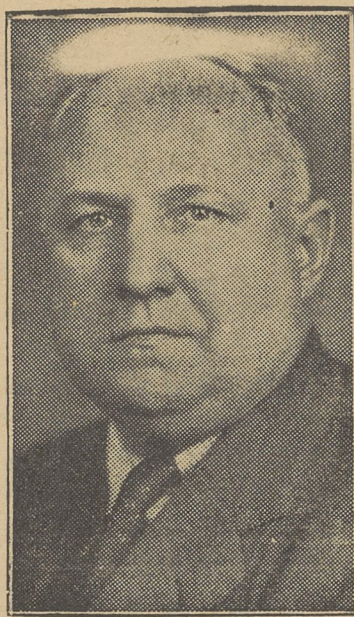
Shaw Appoints Local Physicians Inspectors

Four local physicians were named as school medical inspectors this week in the Health Department's plan to change its system of safeguarding pupils' health.

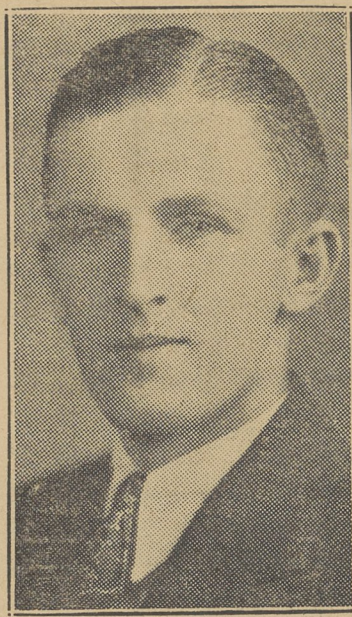
Heretofore Luzerne County has been divided into seven districts. Beginning this week, the work of examining pupils will be turned over to 21 physicians, each of whom will be responsible for one district.

Dr. F. Budd Schooley was appointed by the Dallas Borough and Dallas Township districts by Dr. John J. Shaw, secretary of Health. Dr. Sherman Schooley will examine pupils in Jackson and Kingston Township, Dr. H. A. Brown will have Lake and Lehman Townships and Dr. H. B. Sunday will have Franklin Town-

DIRECTOR AND END MAN IN KIWANIS MINSTREL



David Joseph, Director



John Miles, End Man

David Joseph, veteran minstrel man, is assured another hit when Mt. Greenwood Kiwanis Club stages its minstrel show in Kingston Township High School on Thursday and Friday nights, February 29 and March 1. John Miles, who is an end man, is well known for his rib-splitting humorous portrayals. The Kiwanis Club is producing the minstrel to raise money for its work among underprivileged children.

Frank Bulford Is Last Of 52 Leaders Who Signed Dallas Borough's Charter

Father's Farmhouse Was On Site Of Present Railroad Station; Recalls Scenes 70 Years Ago

By MARY KOEHLER

(Mr. Bulford, the subject of Miss Koehler's interview, has been ill for about a week. The Post joins his many friends in wishing him a speedy recovery.)

He knew Dallas when people still referred to it occasionally as Bedford Township.

He drove a wagon along Main Street when the mud was axle-deep in the spring, and when a return trip to Wilkes-Barre took the best part of a day.

As a boy of 12, he admired the local reserves drilling after Abe Lincoln had called for volunteers, and he watched men march off to the Civil War.

Farm Bureau Has Annual Meeting

Bittenbender Retained As Association Chief

The constantly-expanding activity of Luzerne County Agricultural Extension Association is reflected in the annual reports which were given at the 25th yearly meeting of farmers from all sections of Luzerne County in Wilkes-Barre Y. M. C. A. on Wednesday.

Nineteen thirty nine, one of the busiest years in the farm bureau's quarter century, saw the staff of the Agricultural Extension Association establish a new mark for cooperation with farm families in the county, and the spirit evidenced at Wednesday's meeting promised an even more progressive year ahead.

Fred E. Bittenbender of Huntington Township was reelected president. Other officers named are: Nelson Y. Lewis, Exeter, vice-president, and Arthur Gay, Orange, secretary-treasurer.

In his annual report, Mr. Bittenbender reviewed the year's activities. Among the most important accomplishments was the co-operation of the farm bureau in reducing the surplus of apples which followed 1939's bumper crop. Assisted by Harold Brace, secretary-treasurer of the Horticultural Association, the Association arranged for the sale of 83 car loads, averaging about 523 bushels per acre, to the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation.

The association also was instrumental in securing improvements at the Wilkes-Barre farmers' market, including the paving of that market and plans for providing sheds.

Other activities of the association were in the field of agricultural economics, rural sociology, farm management, agricultural engineering agronomy, animal husbandry, dairy husbandry, horticulture, poultry, apiculture and forestry.

Local Herds Rank High

Farms in Dallas and its vicinity received a good bit of attention in the report, but no local aspect was more notable than the record made by dairymen in this section. Four dairy herds in the Dallas area were among the 12 highest in the report of the Columbia-Luzerne County

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Driver Arrested After Crash Here

Brown Swears Warrant For Pittston Motorist

Warren Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brown of Parrish Street, and his aunt, Mrs. F. D. Roese, Luzerne, who was a passenger in his car, narrowly escaped serious injury on Tuesday night when their car tipped over following a collision at Center Hill Road and Kunkle highway.

Yesterday Brown swore out a warrant for the arrest of Albert McCaiga of Pittston, the driver of the other car. A hearing will be held on Saturday night at 7 before Justice of the Peace John Q. Yaple of Dallas.

Brown was driving toward Dallas when the other car came onto the main highway from Center Hill. The youth, who is a member of the Dallas Borough high school team, played in the game several hours after the collision.