

### "The Totem Pole"

Uncle Remus and the boys at the village pump are quite perturbed by what the soft coal strike might eventually mean to industry and the people as a whole. The possible ramifications, the boys conceded, are numerous.

In the first place, the entire affair was one of strategy—on the part of John L. Lewis, shaggy-browed leader of the powerful United Mine Workers of America. Indications are, via the now nearly frozen grapevine, that John L. wanted to get the affair over, settled and in the coal bucket before Congress convenes in January. Thus he would possibly avoid any legislation that might be directed at labor—if he got his cat in the bag in time.

It is doubtful if the UMW leader expected the coal strike to last as long as it has. When a matter starts to get out of control, as in the case of the coal strike, and the general public welfare becomes affected, trouble brews and fomentations, leaving nothing to be desired.

One interesting aspect of the uproar was Governor Martin's comments made at a press conference when reporters besieged the Commonwealth's Chief Executive with questions and comments regarding the coal strike.

**May Lose Markets**  
The Governor emphasized one point, which certainly carries considerable merit. He pointed out that a possible after-effect of the strike is a greater tendency of industry and the individual consumer to leave the field of coal as a fuel in favor of oil, gas or electricity where service is moderately sure, prices fairly constant and handling much simpler.

Already inquiries are being received from industrial concerns relative to the feasibility and ways and means of changing from coal. Railroads are switching to oil burners, as well as hotels, apartments and the like.

It will be recalled that the disastrous coal strike of the 1920's cost the anthracite industry a big chunk of its markets, including the New England area. Officials are fearful now that a similar trend will be followed which will see the coal industry slump into a morass of comparative inactivity.

The industrial aspects of the picture are critical for Pennsylvania—second largest producer of bituminous coal in the Nation. The ultimate results may sway the

State from its foremost position among the industrial States of the Country.

#### Political Aspects

Departing from the economic side of the strike, the political aspects of the whole affair are worth more than passing attention.

In the early days of the strike, when all was fuss and furor and matters in general were drastically uncertain, a fact stands out like a sore thumb that should concern everyone.

Pennsylvania was kept in the dark insofar as the plans of Washington were concerned. State officials had no more idea what to expect in the way of action or cooperation than a jack-rabbit sitting atop an iceberg.

All this, notwithstanding the fact that the soft coal strike placed Pennsylvania in the Number Two position. The Governor's office said that it had received no queries from Washington for aid and that there was no indication that any such request would be forthcoming.

No word was passed to alert the newly-organized National Guard for emergency duty. In fact nothing was said at all—until eventually after the strike was more than a week old, the Federal Government finally got around to asking all States to name a State Conservator to handle the distribution of coal.

Nothing was heard as to coping with any other phase of the emergency, in the early stages—when anything could have happened. The State and Federal administrations are of opposing political faiths.

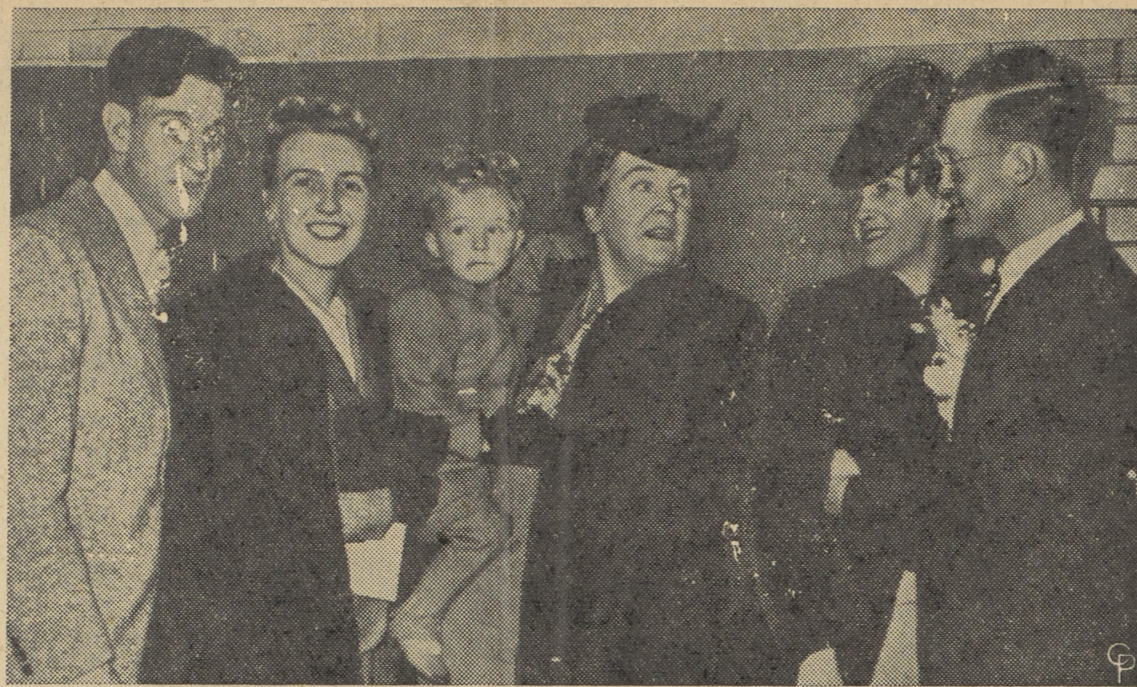
#### Pledged At Bucknell

Albert G. Williams of R.D. 3, Dallas, has been pledged to Sigma Phi Epsilon social fraternity at Bucknell University where he is a junior.

He was one of more than 270 Bucknell men and women who pledged to the University's Greek-letter societies recently.

Williams, one of the University's 1,200 student veterans, is enrolled in the chemical engineering course. A graduate of Easton High School, he is the brother of Mrs. R. M. Rudy.

### ENGLISH WAR BRIDES BRING ALONG MOTHER



TWO VETERANS IN ST. LOUIS, MO., greet English sisters they married during the war, but who have just come to America. They brought their mother, Mrs. Rita Peacock (center), shown holding her grandson, Duane Swafford. Left, is Horace Browner and wife, Maerita. Right, is Samuel Swafford and wife, Pamela. The couples, and the mother-in-law, will make their residence in St. Louis. (International Soundphoto)

### SAFETY VALVE . . .

#### Hits Nail Squarely

The Editor of The Dallas Post:

Your editorial "Let's Look at the Record" hits the nail squarely on the head. I wish every one could read it. I have lived in many parts of the country; they all need it. There is too much lack of home training. Too much of "Let the child express himself." Growing juvenile delinquency calls for thoughtful correction.

We train horses and dogs. Why not growing men?  
M. L. Todd,  
Major Medical Corps,  
U. S. Army, retired  
Charleston, S. C.

#### In Fairness To All

In the interest of fairness to all concerned, will you kindly publish the enclosed letter sent to Lehman Township School Board by the parents of the boys who were recently suspended from school.

Respectfully,  
J. H.  
Lehman Township.  
● We will be glad to comply with your request and also ask a

question: do you ever remember an instance where we were unwilling to publish the other side of an argument or difference of opinion, even when it opposed our own editorial opinions? —Editor.

#### The Letter

November 30, 1946  
Board of Directors  
Lehman Township School District  
Lehman, Luzerne County  
Pennsylvania  
Gentlemen:

The undersigned parents acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 27, 1946, informing them of the lifting of the suspension against their respective children upon the subscription by the said students of a statement as to their future conduct.

Since the statement contains only a promise of gentlemanly conduct and obedience to the duly constituted authorities, our student sons are willing to sign the same and we have consented that they do so since we expect and believe they will, at all times, conduct themselves in such manner and further expect that any breach of proper decorum or violation of the School Regulations will be promptly brought to our attention by the School authorities.

In view of the matters that have been brought to your attention by us in the course of your investigation of the conduct of three of the

District teachers, we shall likewise expect that proper steps have been taken by the Board to prevent a recurrence of the attacks upon pupils that have marred the decorum of the schools in the past several years, and we trust that pledges of proper gentlemanly conduct have been exacted from the three teachers whose conduct is now under investigation.

We are returning our children to school upon advice of counsel and with the assurance that the rights and safety of our children will be safeguarded. Our student sons have been instructed to give complete cooperation to the school faculty and we trust that any breaches of school regulations, if any occur, either on the part of teachers or students, may be taken up more freely and promptly directly with the School Board than has been possible in the past.

Your notice to us in reference to the suspension of our children was accompanied by a letter from the Supervising Principal suggesting an appointment with him in reference to the students re-entry into School but in view of the fact that the conduct of the Supervising Principal is itself the subject of investigation we believe that no useful purpose can be served by meeting with him at this time or at least until the result of your present investigation of the administration of discipline in the schools has been determined.

Upon the presentation by our student sons of the signed statement as requested by the Board, we trust that they will be received into the School without discrimination and that you will have made necessary arrangements so that they will receive the proper protection we as parents have the right to expect they will receive.

Yours Truly,  
Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Major, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kern, Mr. and Mrs. John Nulton Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Swan, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kleban, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mazer, Mr. and Mrs. Corey Mead, Mr. and Mrs. Evan Brown, Mr. and Mrs. William Naugle.

One Out of Ten Thinks  
Harris Hill Road  
Trucksville, Penna.  
December 2, 1946

The Editor  
The Dallas Post  
Dallas, Penna.

Dear Sir:  
Under an economic system in which profit is king—in which profit is the primary consideration—the abolition of price control is the only alternative to continued scarcity and resultant black markets. I only wish it were possible for me to share in the ostrich-like optimism which many editors are

expressing now that we have returned to what is called, "the free, competitive market of pre-war days."

What do they mean, "the free, competitive market"? Does that mean that America is ready to start on another merry-go-round of "Coolidge boom," "Hoover depression," Roosevelt "alphabetical soup" and war—this time to end civilization?

Many writers would have us believe that we have no choice except totalitarian communism or "boom and dust" capitalism, which means that we have a choice between drowning in three feet of water or in eight! Fortunately, however, that is not the case, since there is a Christian alternative to chaos which our most advanced liberal thought has been advocating for over a decade. Norman Thomas, for example, who is a man and a writer of such moral integrity and unusual honesty that there are but a few Americans even worthy to pick up his pen, has for long been insisting upon the social-democratic control of our commanding heights of industry. The operation of the mines, heavy industry, public utilities, etc. to be managed locally, wherever possible, by and for the people. He has been advocating that course as an alternative to boom and dust; to industrial strife and strikes; to starvation in the midst of plenty and all the other evils which must inevitably lead to the one thing which capitalism most fears: Totalitarianism!

It is not planning, as Frederick Hyack so fallaciously argues, that leads to serfdom, but on the contrary, the lack of it. The Germans and Russians did not "plan" themselves into a dictatorship. It was their lack of planning; their failure to solve the economic problems which lead to chaos, which in turn lead to dictatorship.

The only thing which is required today is more thinking and planning. But as Bertrand Russell has said, "nine out of ten men would rather die than think," which means that as long as nine out of ten men prefer death to thought, they must expect the inevitable "blood, sweat, toil and tears" as the only compensation for stupidity.

Sincerely yours,  
Franklin D. Marrow

● While this has little bearing on the subject matter of your letter, it is interesting to note the figures of the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the week ending November 16. It is now possible to see some of the impact of the general price decontrol order. The general

### Schedule Program For Christmas Eve

At a meeting of the Board of Education of the Methodist Church Tuesday evening it was decided to hold the annual Christmas program at the church at 7 o'clock Christmas eve.

Program will be in charge of the superintendents of the different departments, with the pupils of the departments putting on the program.

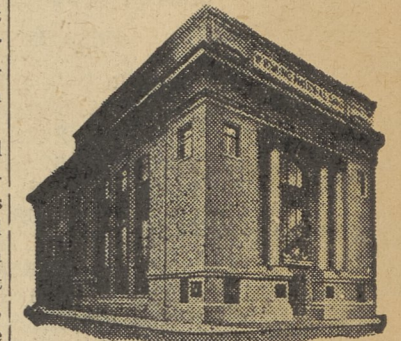
### Committee To Meet

Dallas Borough Parent Teacher Association Executive Committee will meet in the school Monday evening at 7:30.

price average for wholesale commodities had reached on November 16, a level only one-half of one per cent above the average of mid-October. Textile prices dropped. There were gains of less than one per cent on farm products, fuel, building materials and housefurnishings. The only real sharp rise in prices came in chemicals and allied products where the wholesale level was up eleven points.

—Editor.

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### THE DALLAS POST

"More than a newspaper, a community institution"  
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A non-partisan liberal progressive newspaper published every Friday morning at the Dallas Post plant Lehman Avenue, Dallas Pennsylvania.

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Dallas, Pa., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates: \$2.50 a year; \$1.50 six months. No subscriptions accepted for less than six months. Out-of-state subscriptions: \$3.00 a year; \$2.00 six months or less. Back issues, more than one week old, the single copies, at a rate of 5c each, can be obtained every Friday morning at the following newsstands: Dallas—Tally-Ho Grille, LeGrand's Restaurant; Shavertown, Evans' Drug Store; Trucksville—Leonard's Store; Idetown—Cave Store; Huntsville—Barnes Store; Alderson—Deater's Store

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Allow two weeks for changes of address or new subscription to be placed on mailing list.

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