

BASKETBALL ECHOES

By Larry

Tonight's the night! Scholastic basketball swings into league play with every team in the Back Mountain Basketball League scheduled to go on the waxed boards.

The Rural Church League has been playing for several weeks, displaying some fine basketball and drawing quite a crowd of enthusiasts but it's the schoolboys who create the most interest and play to standees. Judging from the crowds attending the few games we squeezed in last season, basketball rose in popularity in the Back Mountain region during the war years.

Anything can happen in this evening's openers. Laketon and Lehman had the most ambitious warm-up schedules, but along with Dallas Township, they don't brag about their trips to Tunkhannock. The Borough is picked by all but the most optimistic, including its usually reticent coach, Caddie LaBar, to hold the top spot all through the season. Dallas Township, last year's Champion, lost its high-scoring squad to a man, and KT finds itself in the same unenviable position. Lehman and Laketon are waiting for results before talking and no news has leaked up from Harter.

1947 SCHEDULE

Here's something to tack up on the wall. The 1947 schedule of the Back Mountain Basketball League.

- January 10 (Friday)
Harter at Lehman
Dallas Twp. at Kingston Twp.
 - January 17 (Friday)
Lehman at Dallas Borough
Laketon at Dallas Twp.
Kingston Twp. at Harter
 - January 21 (Tuesday)
Harter at Dallas Borough
Laketon at Kingston Twp.
Dallas Twp. at Lehman
 - January 24 (Friday)
Lehman at Laketon
Harter at Dallas Twp.
Dallas Borough at Kingston Twp.
 - January 31 (Friday)
Laketon at Harter
Dallas Twp. at Dallas Borough
Kingston Twp. at Lehman
- SECOND HALF
- February 7 (Friday)
Lehman at Harter
Kingston Twp. at Dallas Twp.
Laketon at Dallas Borough
 - February 11 (Tuesday)
Dallas Borough at Lehman
Dallas Twp. at Laketon
Harter at Kingston Twp.

February 14 (Friday)

Lehman at Dallas Twp.
Kingston Twp. at Laketon
Dallas Borough at Harter

February 21 (Friday)

Lehman at Kingston Twp.
Dallas Borough at Dallas Twp.
Harter at Laketon

February 28 (Friday)

Laketon at Lehman
Dallas Township at Harter
Kingston Twp. at Dallas Borough
Church League

The Rural Church League, under the guidance of its president, Jack Roberts and a group of far-seeing men working with him, has got off to a fine start. Ten teams have been registered and the floors of the five local high schools have been placed at the disposal of the League for Saturday evenings. Harter came through with a proposal for a spot in the league and use of its school gymnasium, but was too late to be included in this year's registration. Plans are under way to enlarge the league next season.

Three weeks of the schedule have been played and five teams, Trucksville Methodist, St. Therese's, East Dallas Methodist, Dallas Methodist, and Huntsville Christian are tied for first place. Only other spot definitely claimed is bottom position held by Harvey's Lake Triple Christian with three losses.

Games to be played tomorrow night at Lehman gymnasium are: Kunkle vs Lehman, Huntsville vs Mt. Zion and Shavertown vs Harvey's Lake.

At Dallas Borough gymnasium: St. Therese's vs Trucksville Methodist, and Dallas vs East Dallas. Both games at Dallas will see undefeated teams clashing. Games start at seven o'clock.

Legion Team

The American Legion team, playing in the Luzerne County League, bounced back from three early season losses to defeat its two latest opponents. A one-point loss to Plymouth early in the season was discouraging and the Legion fell easy victim to Luzerne and Nanticoke. It bucked up to defeat Newtown 85-77 in a free scoring game and then went on to defeat Holy Rosary 62-51. Coach Mickey Insalaco's boys are showing ability to win but miss the practice necessary to weld them into consistent team of winners.

Important Islands

Hawaii, Fiji, New Hebrides, New Caledonia, Solomon, Tahiti, Carolina and Marshall islands are the most important of the South Sea Island Group.

FROM PILLAR TO POST

By Mrs. T. M. B. Hicks, Jr.

Now we know how the ardent fisherman estimates his catch. Those three-inch trout, weighed prayerfully on the fish scales, register three pounds per. Viewed through a rosy daze induced by unaccustomed fresh air, a day spent from sunrise to sunset in the open, and doubtless the comfort of a small brown jug, a microscopic trout takes on the size and general appearance of a dolphin.

But nobody will ever fool us again with tall tales about fish. We, too, have weighed something on the fish scales, and we are still staggering around in a state of happy disbelief.

When the twins arrived, kicking vigorously and yelling like pirates, one of them weighed a trifle over four pounds, the larger a trifle over six, totalling nearly eleven pounds of squirming, squalling wild-life.

During their sojourn in the hospital, they lost the classic six ounces apiece, thus reducing the gross tonnage to ten pounds. One week after their arrival at the Pump House, they had gained six pounds, three pounds apiece.

It wasn't done with mirrors, it was done with fish-scales.

We hefted the little darlings suspiciously, but they preserved a dense silence when interviewed in regard to their phenomenal gain in weight. Their clothing, designed for a much larger child, in fact for an elephant among children, still hung on their tiny frames with all the grace of a burlap sack. Their small feet curled cunningly beneath a flat white package of diapers, their hands remained ensnared in extra length kimona sleeves; their necks showed no sudden wrinkles of fat, they had sprouted no triple chins.

We weighed them again, suspending them in midair by means of a folded diaper, a pair of anxious hands beneath to cushion a possible fall. The scales once more insisted that the smaller twin weighed seven pounds, the larger one ten.

Any prospective fisherman who wants a pair of spring scales may call for them at a time convenient to himself. We have invested in a pair of baby scales, complete with pan and dial, a pair of scales which tells us the bitter truth about the twins and explains the lack of triple chins, one which gives us the real lowdown on the situation.

It isn't as much fun to weigh the twins on the baby scales as on the fish scales, but we are realists. We prefer a bona fide gain of eight ounces apiece to a problematical three-pound jump. It seems more human, somehow, and it relieves us of the burden of communicating

STATE POLICE SAY:
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Farm Show To Have Rural Talent Festival

Encouraged by last year's success, a second rural talent festival is scheduled for Tuesday evening, January 14, of Farm Show Week. Written and directed by W. R. Gordon, extension rural sociologist of the Pennsylvania State College, it will be staged in the large arena of the Farm Show Building.

The program will be bigger and different from last year's musical revue, "Dedication to Peace," by the same author, which was presented to a thrilled audience in the Forum of the Education Building. Plans call for a chorus of 300 voices, the Pennsylvania State Future Farmers of America Band of 100 pieces, Dr. Henry S. Brunner, of Penn State, directing, and other entertainment features. William Cupp, of New Bloomfield and Bangor, Me., ex-GI vocalist and choral leader who instructed last year's chorus, will serve again in similar capacity.

Talent is now being recruited in all parts of the State. Members of choirs and other musical organizations are urged to make application at once through their county agent who has full particulars and will furnish them upon request. The program will be open to the public, with no admission charges.

Appointed Auditors

Henry Peterson and John Corliss have been appointed to audit the books of Back Mountain Memorial Library in preparation for the annual meeting of directors which will be held this month.

with Mr. Ripley and pressing upon him a choice item for his column.

IDETOWN

Mr. George Casterline left on Friday to spend the winter with his daughters, Mrs. Sherwood McKenna and Mrs. Claude Lapp of Washington, D.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dungey of Forty Fort spent Christmas Day with the latter's father, James Kreiger and Mr. and Mrs. James Casterline.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Harris announce the birth of a daughter, Ellen Jane, on Friday, December 27, at General Hospital. Mrs. Harris is the former Ida Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Evans. Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Sutton and daughter Patsy, of Harvey's Lake, spent Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Heck. Mrs. Florence Struthers of Forty Fort spent Sunday with the Hecks.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sutton of Endicott, N.Y., spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sutton.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Montross spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Allan Montross of Shavertown.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Kreidler entertained at a family dinner on Christmas day: Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Hoover and Walter of Ruggles, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Parrish, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kreidler.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sutton and daughter Phyllis, and Helen Wydra spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Hoover.

Mr. and Mrs. James Rogers spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Rogers of Meeker.

Mrs. Mary Watson of Forty Fort spent the weekend with Mrs. Frank Wright and Mrs. Claire McKenna.

Mrs. Chloe Spencer is spending some time with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Davis of Rochester, N.Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hadsel and children, Carlton, Lynn and Carol, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Traver of Ruggles.

Howard Moore, who is working in Connecticut, spent the holidays with his wife, and his sister Mrs. Esther Davis.

Mrs. Lila Felt has returned to Washington, D.C., after spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Hilbert.

Mrs. Mamie Cool of Kingston is spending some time with Mr. and Mrs. Edgar George. Sunday they entertained at dinner, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sands of Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood McKenna of Washington, D.C., spent the weekend with Mrs. George Casterline. Mrs. Casterline returned with the McKennas to spend the remainder of the winter.

Mrs. Esther Davis is a patient at the Nesbitt Memorial Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hawke

Sorber Mountain

of Fairview, Pa., spent New Year's Day with Mrs. A. A. Neely and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Welsh.

Rev. and Mrs. George Roberts of Trucksville entertained the following at a family dinner on New Year's Day: Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hilbert of Forty Fort, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Matthews and sons Bobby and Sammy and daughter Karylin of Chenango Bridge, N.Y., Mrs. Lila Felt of Washington, D.C., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Campbell and daughters Betty Marion and Bobby Lou, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Hilbert.

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Griffiths and sons Daniel, Richard, and Rebecca Wright of Rome, N.Y., spent the weekend with Mrs. Claire McKenna and Mrs. Frank Wright. Other callers during the weekend at the Wright home were Marie Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wright of Kingston, Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Wright, Edwin and Janet Wright, of Lehman and Lester Hoover.

Edna Rogers, daughter of Nelson Rogers, is spending this week with her grandmother, Mrs. Thomas Powell of Nanticoke.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Crispell spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. John Honeywell of Kunkle.

Mrs. Claude Sorber spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Spencer of Hop Bottom. She also visited Mrs. Annie Ide of Tunkhannock.

Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Sorber visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Brown of Loyalville on Christmas Day.

Miss Margaret Sorber was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Meyers of Hellertown.

John and Marion Bronson were home from college over the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. William Evans of Binghamton, entertained Mr. and Mrs. Victor Brown and family on New Year's Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wandell and family were guests on the Sorber farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Sorber and son John, and Mrs. Ray Spencer and children are spending the week on the Sorber farm.

The Goal Must Be Justice

(Continued from Page One)

For fifteen years the Federal government of the United States has never known a balanced budget. The public debt has climbed beyond comprehension. The result has been as inevitable as night following day. The value of money is not what it used to be. Even the patient school teacher has had to resort to strikes to keep body and soul together. Only aggressive public backing of economy-minded representatives in government can solve this phase of the "labor problem." If we make a single resolution for 1947, it should be a prayerful one for solvent government.

Once the people understand that solvency in government is necessary to the control of all living costs, we will be on the road to practical solutions of most of today's uncertainties—including labor problems.

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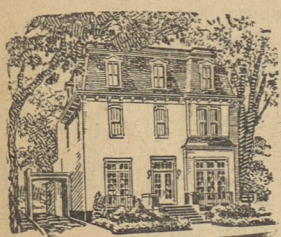
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