

A Fair Price

When you walk into a store to buy a dozen eggs, a pair of shoes, some kitchen utensils or any other article, what is a fair price? Is it the price that existed last year? Or is it the price that was in effect in 1940, or 1900, or any other date?

That question is obviously unanswerable. The price of anything is made up of a long list of factors, all of which are in a constant state of flux. Raw materials, wages, taxes, transportation enter into it. So does the extent of consumer purchasing power. So does employe efficiency and output. So does foreign demand for commodities which are in tight supply here. And so, to a very great degree, does the fact that we have a record national debt, after the most destructive war in history, and the government is still spending money at a prodigal rate.

Business, on both the manufacturing and retailing levels, gets much of the blame for high prices. But business is as worried about them as any consumer. Mass production and mass distribution are the backbone of the economy, and if consumers are priced out of the market the ultimate effect will be disastrous. A number of manufacturers have cut prices and absorbed the loss. Retail margins, both independents and chains report, are shrinking fast, and the inventory problem is the cause of much concern and uncertainty among merchants. Everything possible is being done to prevent further price increases, and to effect price decreases when possible.

It should be widely known that retailers' profit margins are now generally less than under OPA. The same thing is true of many manufacturers. The demand for arbitrary, across-the-board price cuts cannot be met. No one knows what the future of prices will be. But, by and large, they will be as low as costs permit.

FROM PILLAR TO POST

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

Montmorency has arrived, but without fanfare of trumpets and strictly incognito. When we first contracted for Montmorency, away back last October when the nursery salesman with the pronounced Oxford accent was beating the Back Mountain bushes armed with an order pad and a profusely illustrated catalogue, we leaped to a somewhat exaggerated and wholly unfounded conclusion.

It may be remarked in passing that we are very green about nursery stock, considerably greener than the stock itself.

A two-year-old sour-cherry tree, we felt, if planted within speaking distance of the sickle-pear tree, might very probably in the course of a year or so be expected to sustain half the weight of a hammock, the ropes arranged in such a manner that the older and more experienced tree would bear the brunt of the resting gardener. We have on hand a sturdy hammock, one of those air-conditioned netting jobs, but oddly enough there are not two trees near enough together on the whole place to hold it up. A hammock slung from two limbs of the same tree leads to jacking-up of the spine, besides suggesting a cargo-sling.

Montmorency would come in a truck, we dreamed fondly, a large truck, his feet wrapped in a burlap sack containing a snug ball of earth to protect his tender rootlets. Two burly individuals in canvas jackets bearing the name of the nursery in red outline-stitch across the shoulder blades would lower Montmorency tenderly to the earth, and place him near enough to the brink of the larger of the humus pits (garbage dump to you) so that two amateurs could tip him into place and pile potato peelings and eggshells around his roots for added fertilizer, following the Indian custom of planting a fish along with the four kernels of corn per hill.

No trunk put in an appearance, but the rural mailcarrier hung a longish box containing raspberry canes to the hook on the mailbox. There were peremptory words on the outside, mentioning dire results if the canes were not planted at once, and disclaiming all responsibility if directions were not followed to the letter.

With one eye on the ploughed land, we filed the raspberry canes along with the strawberry plants in our Uh-huh department. The garden still looked like a thick and nourishing soup, with its excess of water draining steadily into a lateral ditch but with more, much more, to come.

A week passed, and still not a prayer of getting a tractor with a harrow in tow onto that soggy ground. The raspberry box remained unopened, the roots presumably packed in damp fiber.

Came a sunny day when the upper reaches of the garden had dried sufficiently to be worked. The man With the Hoe sloshed around in rubber boots, reducing what looked like the by-product of a large but misguided mole to something more nearly resembling a seedbed. We opened the box and lifted out the raspberry canes, all twelve of them. There was a thirteenth cane which had not been accounted for, a trifle longer than the others, a trifle thicker, and with a large and naked root exposed.

Suspicion blossomed into certainty. The unpromising looking walking stick bearing two twigs like horns at the top, bore a label here, in the bark was the cherry tree.

Montmorency, we reflected bitterly, looked not only dormant but entirely defunct. Closer inspection revealed three embryonic yellow (Continued on Page Two)

Durbin Among Highest Tenth Gets High Mark In Scholarship Tests

Word has been received here that James Gordon Durbin, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Durbin, former Dallas residents, scored among the highest ten per cent of the selected 46,112 high school seniors throughout the nation who took the Pepsi-Cola scholarship tests.

James is a senior high school student at Fitchburg, Mass., where the family now resides and where his father is an electrical engineer with the Simons Saw and Steel Company.

The examination was prepared and scored by the college entrance examination board and administered in accordance with standard instructions.

Jimmy attended the first eight grades at Dallas Borough schools where his father was for several years a school director. His older brother, now with the Marines on Guam, was also a former student here.

His dad, a graduate of Penn State, was formerly electrical engineer with Luzerne County Gas & Electric Company. Durbin Sunday School Class of Dallas Methodist church was for years taught by his mother.

Parents' Night At Lake Schools

May Organize Parent Teacher Association

All parents and patrons will be guests of Lake Township students and teachers in the High School Auditorium on Friday night, May 21.

G. E. Taylor, Supervising Principal will speak concerning formation of a Parent Teacher Association. These plans have been under way for some time and are nearing completion.

After introduction of the faculty, Walter Nolan, teacher of physical education, will present a gym exhibition by the boys of the Junior High School. Showing a typical class in physical education. The program will include calisthenics, relays, group tumbling, special stunts, boxing matches, and pyramids.

Following the entertainment there will be an open house. Special exhibits have been prepared, and teachers, assisted by student hosts and hostesses, will be in their rooms to further entertain visitors. Outstanding among these exhibits will be the new Homemaking Department, Vocational Shop, and art work of the elementary students.

Refreshments will be served cafeteria style by members of the Homemaking Department, in the Homemaking Room.

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ISSUE 20

BOX SCORE		
Back Mountain Highway Deaths and Serious accidents since V-J Day		
	Hospitalized	Killed
DALLAS	2	11
LEHMAN	1	1
KINGSTON TOWNSHIP	20	4
JACKSON TOWNSHIP	2	1
MONROE TOWNSHIP	3	1
ROSS TOWNSHIP	2	1
LAKE TOWNSHIP	1	1
TOTAL	31	17

Lehman Firemen Name Chairmen For Horse Show

Hendricks Is General Chairman; Ed Hartman Is Chairman Of Show

Committee chairmen for the fourth annual Lehman Horse Show on July 3 were appointed Monday night at a meeting of Lehman Volunteer Fire Company by Howard L. Hendricks, general chairman.

Assisting Mr. Hendricks as vice-chairman will be Edward Oncay, Edward V. Hartman is again show chairman. Walter Chamberlain is show secretary and Charles Nuss is treasurer.

Committee heads are: host, H. A. Smith; advisory committee, H. A. Smith and Howard Risley; parking and police, Joseph Ide and L. E. Beisel; program, Morton Connelly; admittance, Walter Chamberlain and Harry Edwards; show grounds, Arthur Ehret; stables, Alex Tough; publicity, Howard Risley.

The list is still incomplete and will be increased as plans progress. Mr. Hendricks appointed the dinner and refreshment committee who will report at the next meeting. Members are Mr. and Mrs. Lansford Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Ide, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Ehret and Mr. and Mrs. Loren Keller.

As plans are now developing the show will be larger than last year's and includes many new features. Horses from nearby counties as well as Luzerne will be shown. Seating arrangements will be the same as last year, but box seats will go on sale shortly.

Planned primarily to give local horsemen, as well as those who had taken part in a horse show, an opportunity to exhibit in competition, the Lehman show was started in 1942 and after two seasons was interrupted by the war. Last season it was resumed.

As a community affair supported by the entire area it is in a category with the Memorial Day Parade at Sweet Valley; Back Mountain Library Auction and Hallowe'en Parade in Dallas; Fireman's Field Day at Shavertown; and the Firemen's Bazaar and Fair at Trucksville.

William R. Neely Now Eighty-Five

Retired Merchant Honored By Directors

William R. Neely's eighty-five years have been blessed with birthday anniversaries that came during the midst of the apple blossom season. The one on Wednesday was no exception.

Mr. Neely was the honored guest at a dinner given at Evans Falls, by W. B. Jeter, president, for the

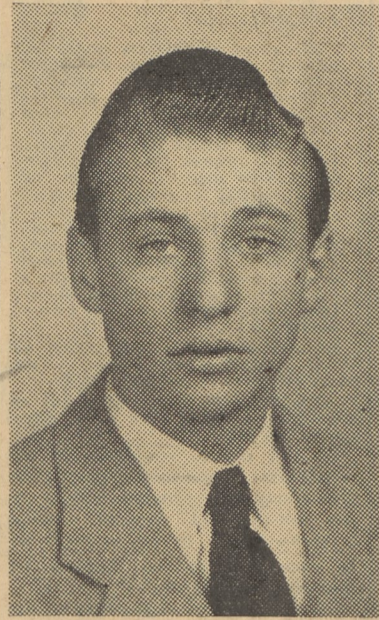


Board of Directors of First National Bank.

On Sunday he received a number of lovely gifts at a family party at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Alice Elston of Lehman. There surrounded by his sons, daughters and grandchildren, he recalled events during his almost fifty years as a merchant in Lehman. Home for the day were his children and their families: George L. of Syracuse, N.Y.; Walter of Bloomsburg; Mrs. K. L. Terry, Berwick; and Mrs. Elston. Six of his eight grandchildren were also present.

Mr. Neely retired from active (Continued on Page Five)

Seniors In Final Concert Tonight



JOHN MILUS

Township Board Lets Contracts

Budget Provides For Cafeteria Dining Room

Dallas Township School Board has formally adopted the new School Budget for 1948-49. Provision was made for construction of a cafeteria dining-room, and for boys' and girls' shower rooms.

Actual work on these projects will not, however, start unless construction estimates are well within the sum set aside in the budget.

Bids were opened for bus transportation of students, and were awarded to Andrew Bittenbender and Arthur Newman, who hold present contracts.

The secretary was authorized to advertise for bids to be opened in June for coal for the coming year.

Present were: Donald J. Evans, president; Stephen N. Davis, Walter J. Elston, Thomas S. Moore, and Floyd W. Chamberlain, secretary; Prof. Raymond E. Kuhnert, supervising principal, and Attorney Jonathan C. Valentine, board solicitor.

Next regular meeting will be held Tuesday evening, June 1st.

Lay Leader To Speak

Mr. G. Wesley Lewis, lay leader of the Wilkes-Barre District Methodist Church and a delegate to the general conference of Methodist Churches recently held at Boston, Mass., will present the legislation and trends of the Methodist Church as evidenced at the Conference at the Sunday morning service in Dallas Methodist Church. Rev. Frederick Reinfort will be in charge of the worship service.

Mr. Lewis, a resident of Mt. Zion, is fast becoming one of the outstanding lay leaders in the Methodist Church. He was recently one of two men selected in the North Eastern Jurisdiction to serve on an important committee for the coordination of actions and organizations of the Church.

Harvey's Lake Service Club Holds Mother-Daughter Tea Party

The Harvey's Lake Womens Service Club held a Mother and Daughter tea in the Elbow room at the Harvey's Lake Hotel on Thursday evening, May 6. Table decorations were tall tapers, and a three tier Mother's Day cake.

The president Mrs. Joseph Rauch, had charge of the meeting. Plans were made to hold a rummage sale June 14, 15 and 16, in the Keller Building in Luzerne. Any one having an important rummage should get in touch with Mrs. Otis Allen.

Mrs. Donald D. Smith, who attended the county convention March 31, gave a report on Literature, which was given at the convention by Mrs. Baker, the State chairman of Literature. Mrs. Giles Comstock and Mrs. James Garey gave reports on the health seminar which was held at Hotel Sterling.

The president announced that the club had won the county and state award for increase in percentage of membership.

A musical program followed called "Melodies Through the Years", with Mrs. Alan Sanford as guest singer. Mrs. Sanford also led the club in group singing. The narrators were Mrs. Martha Price, and Helen Biologowicz. Mrs. Harry Rossman played several guitar selections.

Present were: Mrs. Harry Ross-



CHARLES NUSS



BETTY IDE

Pike's Creek Quarry Employs Fifteen Men

Coon Certified Concrete has opened its Pike's Creek Quarry where fifteen men are employed under superintendent Frank Piatt of Fairmount Springs.

The quarry has been operating during the summer season for the past eight years and all sizes of blue stone are crushed there for highway and driveway and building construction. The firm has contracts with the county and State to supply thousands of tons annually. It also supplies various sizes of broken flagstone for sidewalk and terrace construction.

The plant is located two miles from Pike's Creek corners, near Loyalville.

Lehman Band Plays Tonight

Top Ranking Band Was Formed Ten Years Ago

Lehman High School Band will observe its tenth anniversary tonight at its annual Spring Concert in the High School Auditorium.

The program will feature opening numbers by the girls' chorus of sixty voices followed by a piano solo by Mary Joan Williams and a marimba solo by Alice Ehret.

The senior band program will feature required and selected numbers used in the State Forensic Contest at Oil City in which the band competed two weeks ago and placed fourth among seven competitors.

Also featured will be Forensic student conducting by John Milus, a senior member, who competed at Oil City and won a rating of excellent.

Charles Nuss, another senior member, will be featured in a trumpet solo in an earlier part of the program.

Just before the concluding number, Betty Ide, senior, will give a twirling exhibition. Miss Ide received the rating of excellent at Oil City and was also this year's May Queen.

Two of the seniors graduating this spring, John Milus and Charles Nuss, started with the band when it was organized ten years ago. They are the only remaining members of the original organization.

The entire program will be under the capable direction of Bernard J. Gerrity who has made an enviable reputation since coming to Lehman as the head of its music department. Twice during his brief tenure he has had his band in State competitions.

Mothers Receive Crimson Azaleas

Mrs. Jenkin Oldest Mother At Services

Mrs. Bertha Jenkin was the oldest mother at the services of Huntsville Christian Church on Mothers' Day. Two of her daughters, one grandson and two granddaughters, and three great-granddaughters were present with her.

Mrs. Milton Culp was the mother having the most children and Mrs. Carleton Hadsell was the youngest mother.

Attending church with Mrs. Walter Covert, Sr., were three of her children, three grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

All received crimson azaleas.

Oldest Native



MRS. ALLIE MORRIS

Mrs. Allie Morris, 83, is making a slow recovery and is now able to sit up in a chair part of the day after undergoing a serious illness. Mrs. Morris, the widow of the late Frank Morris, beloved Dallas schoolman, is the oldest citizen of Dallas who was born in the Borough. Mrs. Jane Stroud, her neighbor on Franklin Street, is ninety-five and has lived here for many years but was not born in Dallas.

Mrs. Morris's father, the late Ira D. Shaver, was an outstanding pioneer citizen and for many years conducted the leading store when Dallas had only 200 residents. Mrs. Morris enjoys company and would like to have her friends call on her.

Federal Jury Indicts Former Dallas Woman

Mrs. William Howey Charged With Using Mails To Defraud

A Federal Grand Jury sitting in Philadelphia on Wednesday indicted Mrs. Gertrude Howey, Shavertown, formerly proprietor of the "Les Lilies Shoppe" Dallas, on charges of using the United States mails to defraud.

The indictment handed to U. S. District Judge J. Cullen Ganey charged that Mrs. Howey received merchandise valued at \$5,000 from Philadelphia stores, sold it and failed to pay the suppliers. Bail was set at \$1,000. Judge Ganey issued a bench warrant for her arrest.

The indictment charged that Mrs. Howey received toys, furniture, furs, books, smoked turkeys, clothing and other items on credit after supplying references and then sold the merchandise to patrons and second hand stores and pocketed the money. It was further charged that she tried to obtain additional goods on credit by postponing and delaying payment for the merchandise she previously had received.

Although Philadelphia stores pressed the charges, it is alleged her field of operations covered the United States, and thousands of dollars worth of merchandise was shipped to her through the Dallas freight and express office during 1945, 1946 and 1947 when she operated her "Shoppe" in her home in the former Albertson house on Church street.

At one time shipment of a grand piano by a distant firm was forestalled only by a quick-witted executive who called Dallas for credit information. At other times Mrs. Howey filed claims against the Lehigh Valley Railroad for merchandise received in damaged condition, and after collecting, failed to pay the supplier.

Her operations in Dallas and surrounding areas have been common knowledge for several years, local bankers, taxi drivers, railroad men and postal workers said this week. U. S. Postal inspectors investigated the case several months ago.

Her husband was formerly employed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The family moved to this area several years ago.

Kiwanis League Opens June 1st

Six Kids' Teams To Play Twenty Games

Potential Babe Ruths' and Lou Gehrigs of the Back Mountain region will get a chance again this year to show their stuff in the Dallas Kiwanis League. Six teams represented, reports George Montgomery, chairman of the clubs baseball committee, are: Dallas, Fernbrook, Dallas Township, Trucksville, Shavertown and Jackson, a newcomer.

Players must be under fifteen years of age and have a strong desire to play baseball. Richard Prynne is League Supervisor with the team managers, elected by their fellow-players, to assist him.

The league opens Tuesday, June 1 with each team having a schedule of twenty games, ten home and ten away. Teams have their own diamonds with the exception of Dallas and Dallas Township, who will share the Dallas Township field. The games will start at 6 PM.

The Kiwanians are providing baseballs and bats and are financing part of the cost of furnishing each team with distinctive bi-colored jerseys. At the close of the season Kiwanis Club will give a banquet to the championship team.

Branch Rickey, owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers, has written a letter commending Dallas Kiwanis and asking them to be on the lookout for local baseball talent.

National Director

Meade J. McMillen, Shavertown, past president of Wyoming Valley Junior Chamber of Commerce, was elected a director of the national organization at its convention in Philadelphia last weekend.