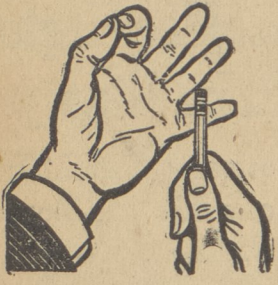


Five In Senior Class

Five young people received their diplomas from Noxen High School last Thursday evening at graduation exercises held at Noxen Theatre.

Local Organists Plan Regional Convention

Several Back Mountain musicians are active in preparing for the Regional Convention of the American Guild of Organists which will be held in Wilkes-Barre June 13 and 14.



3 STEPS in financing your car

- 1st Select your car; 2nd Have the dealer appraise your car and find out just how much cash you need to buy the car; 3rd Before signing any papers or taking delivery, see our Automobile Finance Department...

You are enabling the dealer to receive full cash payment. You are also dealing with a local bank—a very important factor.



The KINGSTON NATIONAL BANK AT KINGSTON CORNERS FOUNDED 1892 Member F.D.I.C.

SHOP Pomeroy's FIRST IT'S EASY TO GET TO!

Monday evening, June 13 the Singers Guild of Scranton and Marjies Schumacher, organist of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, New York City will give a recital at First Presbyterian Church, Wilkes-Barre, Tuesday evening Paul Calloway, organist of Washington Cathedral, Washington, D. C. will present one at Kingston Methodist Church.

Other activities of the convention are as follows: a semi-formal competition for young organists in First Baptist Church, Wilkes-Barre, Monday morning at 9:30 a.m.; a recital by Clifford Balshaw, St. Stephen's organist, and by Wilbur Isaacs of the Church of Heavenly Rest, New York City, St. Stephen's Church, Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.; also a lecture by Dr. Lara Haggard of the Fred Waring Staff, First Presbyterian Church, Monday at 3 p.m.; and a luncheon Tuesday at Irem Temple Country Club with Federal Lee Whittlesey of the Church of the Covenant, Erie, as speaker.

All of the events are open to the public.

THE LOW DOWN FROM HICKORY GROVE

Congress fumes and orates against big expenses. And every once in a while a request for more mazuma is turned down. Congress pats itself on the back and says, see, we did it. Then what. Along toward the end of the session or before a vacation period, in comes a Deficiency Appropriation request. And zingo—it goes through. And in the Deficiency Bill are all the things previously thrown out the window.

Most folks have no idea as to what is in a deficiency bill. So there goes the claimed savings—and 600,000 excess persons hang onto their Govt. swivel chairs—and Mr. Taxpayer rolls his sleeves a little higher.

And if perchance some budget figure is trimmed—and then stays trimmed—by more promised efficient operation, it is sometimes still dubious. Why, should some entirely unneeded activity requiring 600,000 or so on the Govt. payroll, be streamlined and made efficient when the whole project, complete, could be put in the ash can in the first place. Like a list of 408 Farmer's Bulletins offered me by my congressman—"The native papaw"—"Housecleaning management"—"Care and use of rope"—and 405 others. What kind of helpless, simple folks does he think we are, I ask him that.

Yours with the low-down, JO SERRA

The Book Worm

The Bookworm is conducted for and in the interest of Back Mountain Memorial Library.



By Isabelle S. Robinson

Is love of travel an inherited trait come down to us from pioneer ancestors or from Uncle Joe with the itching foot? Or is the art of being a tourist a cultivated taste like the proverbial olive? I think it is both.

The careful nurturing of your desires will make a good tourist of you. And when I say tourist I am reminded of the caricature of the inveterate tourist which won the prize at the employee's masquerade in Yellowstone Park last year—straw boater, straps and bags hanging all over, guide books and maps, and a dumb look on the face.

First and foremost you must have a philosophy of traveling. Put away your fear of the new and strange. Wear a smile on your face. Don't be unhappy if every tourist cabin isn't the Shamrock Hotel as long as it's clean. And that reminds me—don't look down your nose at tourist cabins and tourist homes. In rural areas and small towns they are usually nicer than the hotels. Which also brings to mind our old friend Duncan Hines who has written some books on where to eat and sleep. Many people hate the man, but he has saved our family many a bad meal and sleepless night. We definitely approve of traveling the D. H. way. And your AAA advice is good, but more general.

But let's get back to that tourist's philosophy. May I quote from an article in "Travel" by George Kent. "When I first started traveling, a friend wrote me a letter of advice. This sentence has always stayed in my mind: The habit of being warmly decent to every taxi driver, waiter and clerk will add immeasurably to the fun of travel; only by constant striving to be considerate in all dealings with one's fellows abroad can one become truly an ambassador of good will." True at home as well as abroad and especially important in Canada and Mexico.

You cultivate your philosophy of traveling over the years and over the miles. It must be your very own. But there is something else you must do to get the most from your excursions. The more you put into it, the more you will get out of it. So prepare! Read, map, plan, make reservations.

THE DALLAS POST "More than a newspaper, a community institution"

ESTABLISHED 1889 Member Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers' Association 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, 10c.

Single copies, at a rate of 5c each, can be obtained every Friday morning at the following newsstands: Dallas—Tally-Ho Grille, Bowman's Restaurant; Shavertown, Evans' Drug Store; Trucksville—Gregory's Store; Shaver's Store; Idetown—Caves Store; Huntsville—Barnes Store; Alderson—Duster's Store; Fernbrook—Reese's Store.

When requesting a change of address subscribers are asked to give their old as well as new address. Allow two weeks for changes of address or new subscription to be placed on mailing list.

We will not be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts, photographs and editorial matter unless self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed, and in no case will we be responsible for this material for more than 30 days.

National display advertising rates 60c per column inch. Local display advertising rates 50c per column inch; specified position 60c per inch.

Classified rates 3c per word. Minimum charge 50c. Unless paid for at advertising rates, we can give no assurance that announcements of plays, parties, rummage sales or any affairs for raising money will appear in a specific issue. In no case will such items be taken on Fridays.

Preference will in all instances be given to editorial matter which has not previously appeared in publication.

Editor and Publisher HOWARD W. RISLEY Associate Editor MYRA ZEISER RISLEY

Contributing Editor MRS. T. M. B. HICKS Sports Editor WILLIAM HART

The Back Mountain Library has a wealth of material on the United States to help you plan (and on foreign countries, too.) Miss Lathrop has collected maps and pamphlets on every state in the Union. So when you settle down to plan your trip and find you don't have a map of Oregon in your car—don't be discouraged—go to the library. Once there you will be enchanted by the books on every part of the country.

But—you say—I have ten children and no money—how can I travel? Let me tell you—if you don't already know it—Northeastern Pennsylvania and the North-eastern United States up into Canada is one of the most beautiful and historically fascinating parts of our country. "My Pennsylvania", put out by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Wallace Nutting's "Pennsylvania Beautiful", and the New York Book of the same name will give you thousands of ideas for day-long or overnight excursions interesting to small fry and no more expensive than staying home. "Hex Marks the Spot", by Ann Hark tells you of the Pennsylvania Dutch country right in our own back yard around Lancaster and York and reknown over the country. "Down Cape Cod" by Katherine Dos Passos and Edith Shay will take you further afield, but to a richly rewarding locale, if you know something about it before you start.

When you travel, beware of the "commercialized" sights operated privately. But if it is government sponsored and run Park or National Monument, you can be assured of its validity and worth. The old National Parks books are still excellent and the Back Mountain Library is fortunate enough in owning copies. The library also subscribes to the National Parks magazine. Of the famous W.P.A. guide books, the library owns Pennsylvania, California, and Virginia. And if you don't know the "Look at America" series you should get acquainted with these excellent books edited by "Look" magazine.

To prepare the children for that fabulous journey into the land of cowboys and Indians there are many excellent, authentic books—one of the most interesting being "Spin a Silver Dollar" by Alberta Hannum, illustrated by a Navaho boy named "Little No Shirt".

We have found that each section of the country will contain its own literature—government pamphlets, Park guide books, Ranger material—unobtainable back home. This is very valuable reading and adds greatly to your pleasure as you drive along. Incidentally, when you get home, take your extra material to Miss Lathrop at the library and she will put it on file.

You will be surprised when you start browsing at our Back Mountain Library at the excellent travel material available, foreign and domestic. And remember it doesn't take millions to travel if you plan carefully.

Goodbye now! Have a wonderful trip!

Mountain Laurel

By ANNE DORRANCE

The Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock in December. Before them lay the long hard winter which made for hardship and despair. They must have longed for the gentler winter of the British Islands and the "home people". The oncoming spring must have cheered them greatly, life and hope returned to the country and when the abounding evergreen shrubs began to show buds and splendid blossoms followed, their courage and hope came back.

The long shining leaves of the shrub suggested the laurel of Europe. Wreaths made of these laurel leaves crowned emperors, poets, philosophers, winners of the Olympic games.

As the pilgrim's laurel bloomed from year to year it increased in popularity and became known as mountain laurel—the name by which we cherish it.

As time went on and life in the new world became more settled, more normal, men interested in plants sent specimens of the flora to the botanists of Europe. There they were studied and grown and, we can assume, gave pleasure. John Bartram of Philadelphia, one of our outstanding botanists sent laurel plants to his friend, Peter Collinson in London. Undoubtedly Collinson gave specimens to other plant folk but they seem not to have reached Sweden. Some twenty years after Bartram had sent his plants to England, Peter Kalm, pupil and friend to Linnaeus came to this country. During the spring he travelled through the New Jersey region. There he was enchanted by the beautiful mountain laurel bloom, it was his first sight of them. He sent specimens to Linnaeus. When the plants had grown and came into full bloom Linnaeus studied them and found that they did not belong to the tribe of European laurels—in fact they were definitely not laurels.

Once more a plant named from association must needs have another niche in the history of plants. Therefore there was nothing for Linnaeus to do but make that niche. He made it and named the plants for his friend Peter Kalm. In this way the lovely shrub became Kalmia patifolia. To American botanists, in fact to many Americans this seems basically wrong. They felt and feel that Bartram's name should have been used.

The Indians called the shrub "Spoonwood Plant"—they made from its tough branches the wooden spoons which they used every day. The early settlers followed the custom and, in boiling down maple sap to maple sugar, they too, used the tough stems of mountain laurel. The "distaff side" of the house called them calico bushes. The blossoms scattered over the shrub looked like bits of wet calico spread out to dry. There was feeling in this name and they thought of the lovely cottons they bought in the old world.

There are several forms of Kalmia, two are outstanding, K. latifolia, our mountain laurel and K. augustifolia, commonly known as "lambkill", "sheep laurel" or "wicky". There is an unhappy turn in our story as yet not satisfactorily worked out. Kalmia leaves hold a poisonous element. The great English medical men of the period experimented and discovered that some patients were much benefitted while others nearly passed out. In his "Standard Cyclopedia of Agriculture", Bailey wrote—"It is said that the leaves of the Kalmia are poisonous especially those of Kalmia augustifolia." The Indians used them medicinally and as well as a way to commit suicide.

Therefore—handle laurel leaves with great care and hope that the mystery may soon be cleared up.

The mountain laurel is the Pennsylvania State Flower—Editor.



Barnyard Notes

Thank Heaven we're back in the Barnyard! For the past month we've been busy making a living to meet the physical needs of man. Now we're back in the garden to catch up on the spiritual.

Roses burst into bloom in the Back Mountain region early this week. They have been out for some time in Wyoming Valley. We don't believe we've ever seen a season where there was more black spot. Add to that bugs and leaf chewing insects and the Japanese Beetles may have a slim diet. There's always a lot of satisfaction in nurturing a favorite rose, knowing full well that it will shortly become an important part of the beetles' diet. But if, like the travail of childbirth, that were always in mind—there might be no roses.

Our favorites are still the floribundas, Donald and Betty Prior. Modest little singles, growing on bushes three and one half feet tall, they are breath taking when in full bloom. We planted fifty more of them a few weeks ago and included among them the new yellow Goldilocks, sent to us because Jackson & Perkins did not have enough Priors to fill the order.

So far Goldilocks has lived up to her advance publicity. She is a thrifty, sturdy plant and has taken hold much more rapidly than the reds. While they are still dormant after transplanting, Goldilocks is in full leaf. It will be interesting to see what happens to these roses planted so late in the season.

Ray Heddon is another rose fancier and has gone in heavily for floribundas. Squire Murray Scureman, handicapped by sump trouble during the early season, has nevertheless got in several beds of hybrid teas.

As usual Tom Kingston will win all the prizes at the flower shows, and he'll do it with "Better Times" than which there are none better.

We had just rubbed the sleep out of our eyes, Wednesday morning when the phone rang. It was Mrs. Charles Fredd of Park Place, Kingston. Her immediate problem is a female Irish Setter.

While her son, Leon, who lives on Country Club Road, was shopping at the Acme Market in Kingston a few days ago, the setter climbed into his car, and there, wagging her whole body and baring her teeth in her best setter smile, greeted him on his return.

Leon made inquiries among the clerks and customers. Nobody owned a setter. Nobody knew to whom she belonged. He lifted her ceremoniously from the car and set her firmly on the sidewalk. He didn't want another dog. Then he drove to his mother's home in Park Place. A few minutes later the setter arrived at the same destination, and there she has been since, except for brief intervals.

Stray dogs and cats have a way of landing at the Fredd's. But Mrs. Fredd already has a dog. Not the one, however, to turn a stray dog out in the street or over to the Humane Society, she examined her collar and license number which she found had been issued in Lebanon County in 1947. Then she, too, made inquiries of the State Police, who found out over their teletype system that the former owner lived on a farm in Lebanon County. The dog had been stolen from him several months ago. He now has other dogs and told the Staties they could dispose of the setter in any way they chose.

Mrs. Fredd wasn't downhearted. Remembering that Norm Smith had lost his police dog "King", she called him at Huntsville. Would the Smith's like a beautiful chestnut brown setter? Norm was sympathetic . . . and talked with her a long time; but he had ordered a Great Dane from Long Island to fill the void in the Smith household.

What did she do next? She called the Dallas Post! Anybody want a lovely female Irish Setter with beautiful big brown eyes? She's probably four years old and may have had one litter of puppies. She's lost—has no home, and so far has refused to eat the delicacies Mrs. Fredd has set before her. She wanders off for periods of a couple hours; but always returns to Mrs. Fredd. Take our word for it, we'd own a female Irish Setter if we didn't have one terrier and four cats—counting Stripes' last kitten.

Unless somebody speaks up right quick, we're going to take that setter and get her in shape for the Library Auction. Let's see, that's a month away. A little long to keep a dog without its winding its tail around your heart to the point where you can't loosen it for the auctioneer's block!

Did you ever try to keep a turkey in your back yard and feed it until time for Thanksgiving dinner? You know how it works!

Country Flavor

WHIP-POOR-WILL

When dusk begins to deepen on the hills and sunset afterglow is fading in the west a poignant, lonesome-sounding, clear call comes from the brushy ravine at pasture edge. From early May until the heart of summer the whip-poor-will throws his name into the darkness of evening. Antrostomus Vociferous is a strange looking bird. His wings reach beyond the tip of his forked tail; his cloak is a mottled plaid of gray, brown and white. Sometimes when one sees him flying in the gathering darkness he can catch a glimpse of the white outer tail feathers. His mouth is large; the bill is short. The base of the bill has a fringe of stiff, long, curving bristles. According to legend the whip-poor-will is never supposed to sit crosswise on a log or limb. The countryman has seen Antrostomus sit crosswise a number of times; probably the bird didn't realize he was violating a tradition man had fashioned for him.

There is something half-erie and uncanny about these birds of the night. Their flight is as silent as the darkness of a calm May evening. The eggs are laid on the ground, gray white, and streaked with lilac, purple and dark gray. If one surprises a female on her eggs in the daytime she flutters away in a great commotion, dragging her wings as do mother partridges when they want to delude an intruder. Over the centuries many folklore tales and superstitions have centered about night-flying birds. Man, for some reason, seems to fear the darkness of night and whatever form of life takes night for its time of activity is regarded with suspicion. Perhaps it is the silence of their comings and goings, for human beings like to hear sounds accompanying activity. Now the ten-inch long birds are mating and starting the season's housekeeping. Through the hours of blackness they whirl and circle, climb and dive searching for moths, beetles, mosquitoes and nocturnal insects.

But they are never too busy in early season to choose a favorite spot for their calls. If a dozen or more whip-poor-wills are calling on the countryside at the same time it fills the night's void with mystery. Their clear, plaintive calls are vibrant in the hush of on-coming night. Through the blackness come the perfectly rhythmical whistles. The songs in the still night as a moon rides among the stars tell us Spring is getting on.

Advertisement for Luzerne County Gas And Electric Corp. featuring an electric kitchen with range, refrigerator, and dishwasher. Text: "When a Kitchen is Practical and Pretty...of course, it's electric!"

Advertisement for Wyoming National Bank. Text: "SPECIAL CHECK SERVICE FOR EVERYONE 20 CHECKS \$1.50 YOUR NAME PRINTED ON EACH CHECK".

Advertisement for Eugene Gordon's Hay Baling service. Text: "Make Your Reservations Early For Pick-Up Hay Baling Call Dallas 364-R-3".