

Taxes Can Kill

The gravest and most far-reaching internal issue this country faces is the cost of its government. And of all issues, it is probably the least understood.

At a time when the Federal government's income is at a near-record peak, and when the burden of taxation borne by the people is without precedent in days of peace, the nation is unable to make both ends meet. It is running a heavy deficit which will be added to the towering national debt—a debt which is a direct obligation upon every man with an income, a piece of property, or material resources of any kind.

There is, of course, a glib answer to all of this. It is: "Tax the rich man and the rich business—let them carry the load for the rest of us." But the fact is that we could tax the rich into financial extinction and the proceeds wouldn't even come close to paying the bill. It is the tens of millions with moderate means—not the few with large means—who are hurt by extravagant government.

But that is not the end of the story. Something infinitely ominous is quietly happening in this country. Taxes are killing our economic growth.

A recent article in Newsweek describes this. Sales of common stock in industry largely determine whether we shall have good times or bad, an expanding economy or a static economy, more employment or less in the future. Yet, Newsweek says, last year trading in stocks accounted for only four per cent of the national income where, in the 55 years prior to 1930, it averaged more than 40 per cent. This means, the magazine goes on, that "if most of our corporations were not already in existence, it would be impossible today to create them." The money that once went into the enterprises upon which our living standards and our world leadership are built is being taxed out of existence.

This is but one illustration out of many that could be cited. Every individual whose income is above the subsistence level knows how onerous taxes are. Practically every one talks at one time or another about the cost of government and how something must be done. But talk is generally at the beginning and the end of it.

This brings us to a fundamental fact. Wasteful, excessively costly government is simply a symptom of a condition of overwhelming significance. That condition cannot be described in cold figures. It exists in the minds and hearts of the people.

In the last twenty years, there has been an insidious change in our concept of government. We have turned to it to perform tasks which always before were the duty of the individual and the local community. More and more of us look to government to protect us in every way. We are losing our independence. We ask government to protect our health, build our homes, care for us if we are unemployed, and see us through all the way from the cradle to the grave. We ask it to provide more and more goods and services. The polite term for this "gimme" habit is "the welfare state," a softer name for socialism. The welfare state always leads to one of two conclusions. It impoverishes and enslaves the people and subjects them to ruthless dictatorship, as in Eastern Europe. Or, finally, the people rid themselves of its worst manifestations, as the voters of New Zealand and Australia recently did. But, even in the latter case, the wealth of nations has been dissipated, and the tentacles of government have been woven so tight that it may take generations to recover.

Therefore, taxation directly affects all our liberties. Excessively expensive government is always super-government. It is paternalistic government. It is, in its more advanced stages, government by fiat and decree. It is, in its final stages, government by terror. The Russian revolution was fought in the name of the common man. And now, in that huge "people's state," tens of millions of common men and women live miserably in medieval darkness, and real liberty is unknown.

The basic troubles of the world, from war to human want, can in one way or another be charged to too much government. All-powerful government is simply a reflection of the loss of individual self-reliance, initiative, pride, independence of spirit, the will to work—the qualities which made possible the founding and the growth of this republic. We, as a people, are fortunate that we have not yet gone so far on the "welfare state" road that has overcome so much of the world. But we, as a people, must do it ourselves. Big government will not do it for us. We must ask ourselves this question: "Are we willing, in return for a mirage of material security, for which we pay through exorbitant taxation, to sacrifice those liberties for which men have fought and struggled for two thousand years?"

FROM
PILLAR TO POST

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

No thanks to the Barnyard, which has kittens to spare when there is no demand for them, and is fresh out of kittens when the Pump-House sends out an S.O.S., we now have in residence a somewhat nondescript item. Not exactly a kitten, not exactly a cat, a feline with obviously mixed ancestry, but outstanding in the one characteristic which makes a cat acceptable. It can purr. Its motor is of the perpetual motion type and of a strength which shakes the vaguely striped tiger body from stem to stern. The green eyes slit themselves in glazed comfort before the blazing hearth, the claws lazily sheathe and unsheathe themselves in the radiant heat, the entire cat expands under the sun of family approval and an accepted social position as Head Cat instead of underling.

Offhand, it seems incredible that this cat had to be imported from Lake Packanack, New Jersey because of the dearth of kittens hereabouts. There must be any number of litters in the Back Mountain region, kittens doubtless descended from a long and distinguished line of mousers, kittens whose owners are panting to part with them, but did you ever try to find a kitten when you wanted one? Let your own tabby produce kittens, and you can't give them away. You have to advertise for a home in the Dallas Post and offer as a bonus a year's supply of catfood.

Advertise for a kitten and you get phone calls extolling the virtues of a pair of beagle puppies, a green parrot with a vocabulary, and a large and motheaten tomcat. No kittens except four microscopic specimens three days old whose mother has unaccountably died, and which require nourishment on the tip of a spoon or per-medicine-

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THE DALLAS POST

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER, A COMMUNITY INSTITUTION

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BOX SCORE

Back Mountain Highway Deaths and Serious accidents since V-J Day

DALLAS	Hospitalized	Killed
LEHMAN	2	11
KINGSTON TOWNSHIP	1	1
JACKSON TOWNSHIP	2	4
MONROE TOWNSHIP	3	1
ROSS TOWNSHIP	2	1
LAKE TOWNSHIP	1	1
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP	1	2
TOTAL	31	32

50 Low Rental Homes May Be Built In Area

Banks Ready To Start If State Okays Application

If present applications are approved by the State Housing Authority at least fifty low rental homes will be constructed on the old Dallas Fair Grounds this summer according to Bernard Banks of B. C. Banks Construction Company, developers and builders of Elmcrest.

All is now in the planning stage, according to Mr. Banks, and nothing can be said definitely about when construction will start, all depending upon the speed with which the application is approved in Harrisburg.

The homes will be single rental dwellings having two or three bedrooms and will be built under the provisions of the Act passed last year by the Legislature to provide low rental homes to alleviate the housing shortage. Construction will be subsidized in part by the State so that rentals can be held to a minimum.

If plans are approved, Mr. Banks said a corporation will be formed to handle rentals. The properties cannot be sold, under the State Law, for many years and must be used exclusively for rental purposes.

While Mr. Banks was definite when he said his firm was ready to build the houses, he admitted that the procedure of the new law is not altogether clear to contractors.

Assisting him in speeding up the application has been Hon. Harold Flack, representative in the Legislature from this district.

When interviewed by this newspaper, Mr. Flack said the law is so new that few know about it so that full details have not been worked out, and few counties have taken advantage of it.

He indicated allotments of funds for low rental construction will be made by counties where there is a shortage of rental properties.

Seek 1,000 Blood Donors

Ohlman Heads Local Red Cross Program

Harry L. Ohlman is general chairman for the Red Cross Regional Blood Program for the Back Mountain Area and already has his committees set up to obtain 1,000 blood donors in this area who will give one pint of blood annually to the regional bank which will serve 1,535,000 people in 17 Northeastern counties having 30 Red Cross chapters and 61 hospitals.

Under the plan persons requiring blood will receive it free except for physician's and hospital costs of administering it. They will be expected, however, to return the blood when they are able.

Already thirty-five members of Kingston Township Veterans Association have signed cards to give a pint each and many others are doing likewise.

Committee chairmen are as follows:

Veterans' Organizations and American Legion, George Turn; Back Mountain Churches, Henry W. Peterson; St. Therese's Church, Shavertown, Mrs. Fred M. Kiefer; Our Lady of Victory Chapel, Harvey's Lake, Mrs. Fred M. Kiefer; Prince of Peace Church, Dallas, Mrs. Paul Goddard; St. Paul's Lutheran (Continued on Page Eight)

Wins First Place In Lighting Contest

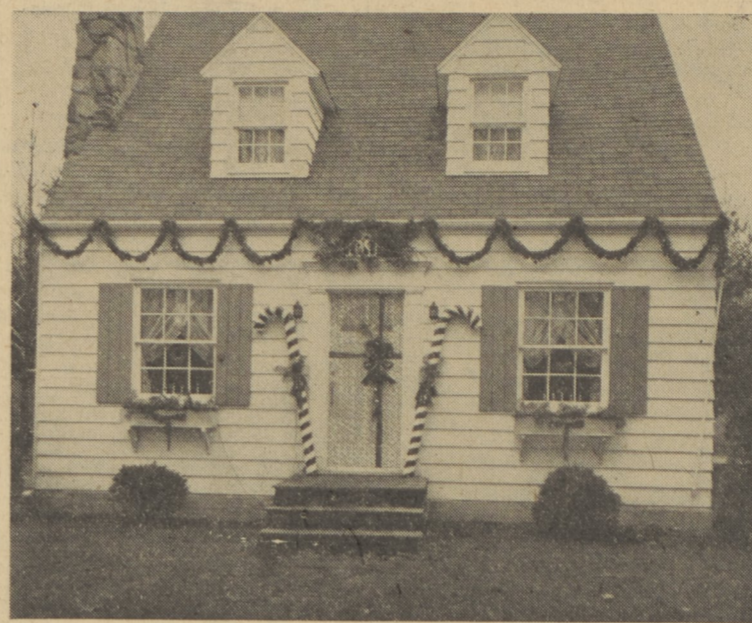


PHOTO BY KOZEMCHAK

The home of Mr. and Mrs. James Kozemchak, Huntsville, was awarded first prize in Dallas Business Association's Christmas Lighting Contest for the best decorated home.

Mr. Kozemchak wrapped his front door in gaily colored cellophane and tied it with red ribbons and sprigs of evergreen to resemble a Christmas package.

The eaves were festooned with ropes of ground pine and window boxes were filled with greens and colored lights. The home was then given indirect lighting by spotlights placed in shrubbery.

Judges Select Prize-Winners In Best Lighted Homes Contest

The home of James Kozemchak, facing Huntsville Reservoir, was judged the most attractively decorated in the Christmas lighting contest sponsored by Dallas Business Association.

Mr. Kozemchak will receive an award of \$40.

The front door of his home was arranged to resemble a Christmas package flanked by two large candy canes.

Other winners were Janet Haycox, second, \$10, Main street. She arranged a large wreath with red lights against the side of her home with other lighting at each end of the home to supplement it. Christmas carols were carried over a loud speaker system.

Third was William Stoekert, Dallas R.F.D., \$5 prize. Mr. Stoekert trimmed a seventy-five foot evergreen with streamers of red and blue lights. In the yard between his home and stables was a twelve foot Christmas wreath lighted by red bulbs and within a circle of red lamps was Santa Claus with a sleigh loaded with Christmas packages and drawn by reindeer.

Fourth place, \$5 prize, went to Jack Dungey, of Lake street for the entrance to his porch which was made to resemble a large wreath flanked at each end of the porch by large colorful red Christmas candles.

Fifth place, \$4 prize was won by Fred Welsh, Center Hill Road. On the front of his home was a large Santa Claus drawn by reindeer, with colored lights in the surrounding shrubbery. On the lawn was a manger scene with a white star above it in an evergreen tree. A doe and her fawn lying in the snow were the center of attention.

Sixth place, \$3 prize, went to Ralph Gerhart, Franklin street, Shavertown. Mr. Gerhart spotlighted his home where a large Santa Claus was superimposed on his front porch. Colored Christmas lights added to the effect.

Honorable mention was won by St. Paul's Lutheran Church for its gaily decorated doorway and nativity scene; Thomas Kingston, Memorial Highway for the white cross and temple effects at his home; Daniel Robinhold, Machel (Continued on Page Five)

PHOTO BY HUDSON

MRS. FRED SWANSON

Mrs. Swanson Queen For a Day

Husband Says It's "The Year Around"

Mrs. Fred Swanson of Harvey's Lake was Queen for a Day last week on Mutual Broadcasting Company's Program of that name, but she is a Queen every day of the year according to her husband, Chief of Police Fred Swanson even though she didn't place among the five women of the nation who were chosen Queen of America. And the neighbors and this newspaper agree with Fred.

It all started when someone in Harvey's Lake Women's Service Club nominated Mrs. Swanson as Queen of the Day for Wyoming Valley and vicinity. Ten women were selected to appear on the program at WBAX last Tuesday. Three of them incidentally were from (Continued on Page Five)

Glee Club To Give Concert For New Church

Lehigh University Singers To Appear At Irem Temple

Sponsored by Prince of Peace Episcopal Church Congregation, Lehigh University Glee Club, under direction of Prof. William Schempf, will present a concert on Friday evening, January 20th, in Irem Temple, Wilkes-Barre. Proceeds will be added to the church building fund.

Lehigh University's 70-man Glee Club has achieved much fame wherever it appeared. In addition to giving concerts in many cities of neighboring states as well as in Pennsylvania, it has broadcast over CBS as well as on independent radio programs. Members of the musical unit are carefully chosen from the Colleges of Liberal Arts, Business Administration, and Engineering of the University.

On tour, the Glee Club has been warmly received by audiences. Music critics of metropolitan newspapers have been generous in their praise of the club.

Director Schempf, head of the Department of Music at Lehigh University, is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and Eastman School of Music. He studied with Cailliet, Hanson and Koussevitsky.

Concert tickets are now on sale at Irem Temple, and various ticket agencies in Wilkes-Barre and Scranton, and can also be obtained from Rev. William R. Williams, rector of Prince of Peace, and members of the church congregation. John Sheehan, Hunstville road, has charge of ticket distribution.

Claims He Got Fleas In Mail

Tony Racezowski Is Committed to Retreat

Complaining that Postmaster Joseph Polacky had sent him bedbugs in an envelope, Tony Racezowski, about 58, has been committed to Retreat Mental Hospital after an examination by a Sanitary Commission at Luzerne County Prison.

Long a problem to residents of the Heights where he made threats against their lives and disturbed the nights with cursing and yelling, Racezowski lived alone in a shack built on a piece of land on Elizabeth Street which he purchased a number of years ago from Frank Michel's father.

A few days before Christmas neighbors observed Tony walking up and down the street with an axe on his shoulder. They notified Chief of Police Russell Honeywell. Tony told him there were 48 people he didn't like and he was going to fix them. When the chief observed that he had a soup dish with six bottles of iodine in his left hand he asked him why. "Sometimes I get so mad I'm afraid my head will split. Then I put iodine on the cracks."

Chief Honeywell had him placed in Luzerne County Prison and Justice of the Peace James Besecker started proceedings to have him committed to a mental institution. He was unemployed and had been on relief for many years. Although neighbors had long known his mental condition and feared him, no one had the courage to do anything about it until Chief Honeywell and Jim Besecker acted at the insistence of Mrs. Michels.

Monday, Jan. 9, 7:15, 8:15, 9:15
Dallas Twp. Gym: Shavertown Methodist vs. Kunkle; St. Paul's vs. Prince of Peace; St. Therese's vs. Dallas Methodist.

BACK MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE SCHEDULE

Friday, Jan. 6
Kingston Twp. at Harter; Laketon at Dallas Twp.; Dallas Borough at Fairview.

Tuesday, Jan. 10
Dallas Twp. at Kingston Twp.; Fairview at Harter; Laketon at Lehman.

Board to Meet

Kingston Township School Board will meet Monday night at the High School at 7:30 P.M.

1950 Baby Arrives 78 Years After Her Great Grandmother

First baby to be born at Nesbitt Hospital in the new year was a Back Mountain girl, six-pound and nine-ounce Suzanne Jane Warden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Warden of Shavertown and sixth great grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Elston of Kunkle. Besides all this—baby Suzanne was born on great grandmom Elston's seventy eighth birthday anniversary! Let's hope the two will celebrate many many more birthdays together! Suzanne Jane was born at 12:43 a.m. Sunday morning, January, 1950. She is the Warden's first child, daughter of the former Doris Hess and only grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hess of Kunkle. She is also the grand daughter of

Smith Sworn In As Burgess Of Dallas Borough

Council Approves \$50,800 Worth of Building Permits

Newly elected officials of Dallas Borough were sworn in before Justice of the Peace James F. Besecker at the reorganization meeting of Dallas Borough Council on Tuesday night.

Herbert A. Smith, Machel Avenue, became Burgess of Dallas for the third time. Burgess Smith succeeds Burgess George W. Williams who defeated Smith for the office four years ago.

Councilmen Warden Kunkle and Fred Welsh, reelected to office, and Joseph Jewell, newly elected member, presented their certificates of election, and Council then re-elected its incumbent officials, Joseph MacVeigh, chairman; Warden Kunkle, vice chairman, and James Besecker, secretary.

All Borough officers were reappointed. They were Ralph Elpper, Street Commissioner, \$2,400; Russell Honeywell, chief of police, \$2,400, plus \$20 per month car expense (Chief Honeywell owns his own automobile which he uses in police patrol work); John T. Jeter, Borough Engineer; his salary was increased from \$150 to \$200; Atty. Burt B. Lewis, Borough Solicitor; his salary was increased from \$150 to \$200; Ralph Brickel, treasurer, \$50; J. F. Besecker, secretary, his salary was increased from \$35 to \$42 per month. Salary of Burgess H. A. Smith is \$50 per year.

Reappointed to the Board of Health were Mrs. Robert Moore, Mrs. John Sheehan, and J. F. Besecker. Dr. Robert M. Bodycomb was appointed to succeed the late James Franklin.

Building permits amounting to \$50,800 for a two-month period were approved as follows: Thomas Reese, garage, Franklin street, \$450; Stella McKinnis, roof, Norton Avenue, \$350; Nesbitt Garinger, garage, \$1,500; Carl Deutch, garage, \$200; Leonard Bruce, garage, \$700; Frantz Estate, roof, Main Street, \$500; Robert B. Wallis, home, Spring and Lehman Avenue, \$8,500; Charles Wood, home, Center Hill Road, \$14,800; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Lija, home, Columbia Avenue, \$8,800; James A. Oliver Inc., remodeling building for body shop, 7 x 23 foot drug store on Church street side of Acme Market, \$4,700; Charles Wood, home, Center Hill road, \$10,000; A. C. Devens, repairs to warehouse after fire, \$250.

Bills amounting to \$1,510 were ordered paid. All members were present except William Davis. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

BACK MOUNTAIN CHURCH LEAGUE SCHEDULE

Saturday, Jan. 7, 7:15, 8:15, 9:15
Dallas Borough Gym: Kunkle vs. St. Therese's; Huntsville Christian vs. St. Paul's; Mt. Zion vs. Dallas Methodist.

Kingston Township Gym: Shavertown Methodist vs. Prince of Peace; Lehman vs. Trucksville Methodist.

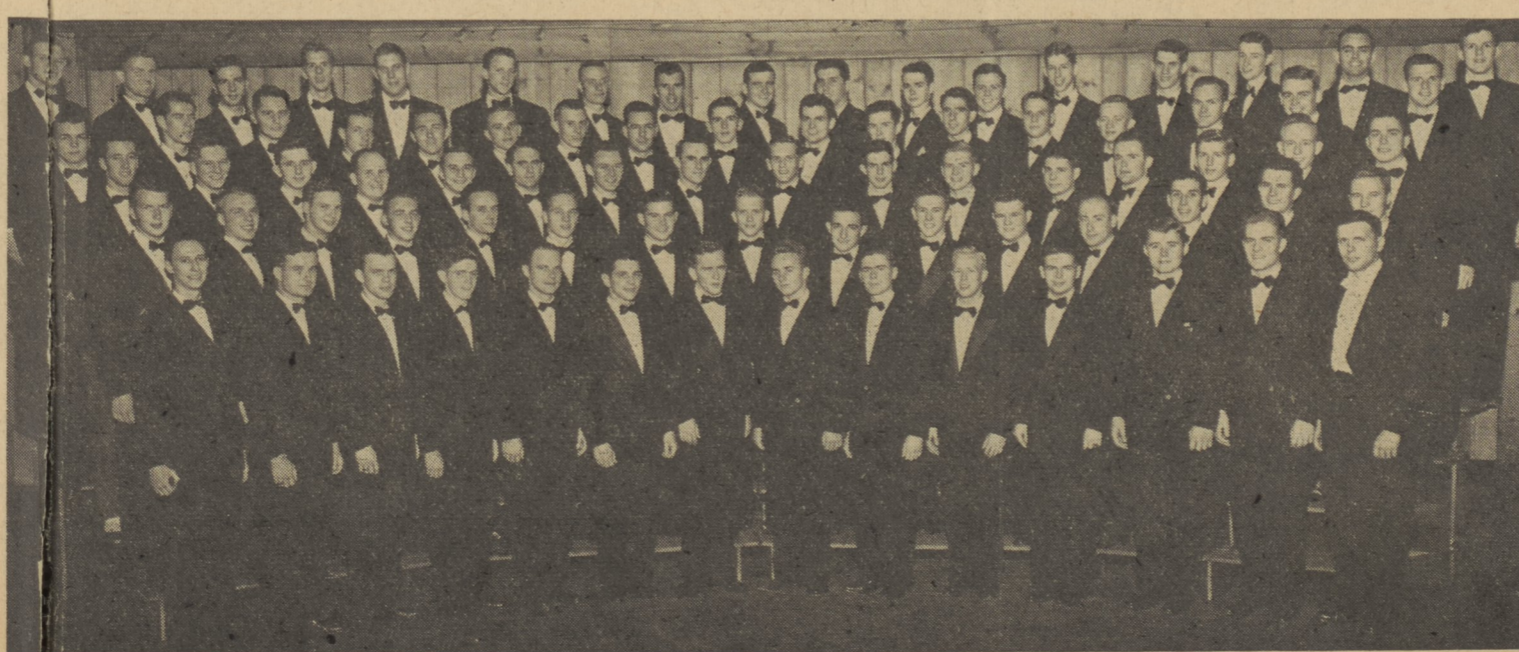
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Lehigh University Glee Club To Give Benefit Concert for Prince of Peace Church



Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Warden of Trucksville.
Great grandma and grandpa Elston have six other great grandchildren; Jackie Dodson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dodson, Bonnie Lee Elston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Elston, Wayne Elston Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Sr., Ralph Elston, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gomer Elston, Jo Carol Birnstock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Birnstock, and Marty Kenney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kenney. All of the above except Marty live close enough to Great Grandmom and Grandpop Elston to be right royally spoiled—and thoroughly enjoyed!