

The law of Pennsylvania imposes a state tax of 15% on bequests to charity, religion and education—in other words, on bequests to a hospital, a church, a college or even a public school. On bequests of \$1,000, the tax is \$150; on bequests of \$5,000, the tax is \$750; on bequests of \$10,000, the tax is \$1,500; on bequests of \$100,000, the tax is \$15,000.

This inheritance tax will be a lien on the legacy to charity, religion or education and must be deducted therefrom unless otherwise provided for by the will of the decedent. In case the entire estate or the residue thereof is bequeathed to a hospital, a church or an educational institution, the entire tax must be paid by the legatee.

It seems absurd to impose a tax on bequests to a hospital, a liberal arts college or a public school when the pressure of public opinion makes it necessary for our lawmakers to appropriate state funds to aid these same worthy institutions.

Complete exemption from inheritance tax on bequests to charity, religion and education is granted by the tax laws of our federal government and the laws of all of our 48 states except the states of New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio, all of which four states are rich industrial states.

It is hard to understand why this unjust inheritance tax was imposed on charitable, religious and educational institutions by the Act of June 20, 1919 (P.L. 521), which imposed a tax of 10%; but it is harder still to understand why the members of the 1951 General Assembly saw fit to increase the rate of tax from 10% to 15%, and why at the same time an effort was made to raise the rate to 20%.

Many members of the General Assembly of 1951 are now members of the 1953 General Assembly. It is doubtful whether a majority of the 1953 Assembly will voluntarily change the law.

One citizen of Lancaster County who just became aware of the existence of this tax, as recently as the month of January 1953, has written to Lancaster County's five representatives in the General Assembly asking them whether they would introduce a bill amending the law so that hereafter exemption from this obnoxious tax would be granted to charity, religion and education. Up to date four of these members of the Assembly have failed to answer and no helpful response has yet been received.

It is unlikely that any action will be taken on this subject by our lawmakers unless a sufficient number of our citizens demand it.

Very few citizens are aware of the existence of this tax on charity, religion and education.

The time is short; something should be done immediately because our lawmakers at Harrisburg may fix a date as early as March 31, after which no new bills may be introduced. Accordingly, there is no time to organize in the customary manner.

All citizens of Pennsylvania should know the facts. One of our citizens has determined to present the facts to millions of our citizens. He is about to ask many thousands of citizens all over the State of Pennsylvania to join in this crusade by asking their friends and neighbors to circulate petitions so that all the people of each community may have opportunity to sign a petition addressed to our lawmakers at Harrisburg praying that an amendment be made to existing law so that hereafter exemption from inheritance tax shall be granted to bequests to charitable, religious and educational institutions.

Blank petitions will be mailed upon request, or you may sign one at the office of The Dallas Post. The signed petitions will be returned to the leader of this crusade, and he, after determining the number of signers, will present them to the members of the Senate and House at Harrisburg.

The name of the person who has inaugurated this crusade is Clarence Schock, of Mount Joy, Pa., who is President of The SICO Company, a corporation which uses all its available earnings to help public schools by providing scholarships in State Teachers Colleges for worthy high school graduates who are eager and able and need financial assistance to become teachers in the kindergarten, first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades of the public schools where a great shortage of competent teachers exists.

FROM

PILLAR TO POST

By MRS. T. M. B. HICKS

The grizzled old colored man shifted the box on the glass top of the meat counter. It swayed a bit, and for an instant there was a bit of soft grey fur visible in one of the peepholes cut along the side, and a beady eye at the top. He patted the box, and the tenant subsided.

The children gathered round. "You kids want an Easter Bunny? Lots of Easter bunnies where this came from, along back in the store, right through that door. You go look."

There was a concerted stampede for the rear. Sure enough, there were the Easter bunnies, two pens of them, one holding small rabbits, the other a larger and more solid variety.

The children hung over the pen with the small ones in it. They pointed out their choice. A grey one with fur that looked like chin-chilla, a little brown bunny with melting eyes and a twitching nose, a white one with pink-lined ears and a pink nose, a white one with black spots, a royal looking bunny of almost pure black.

Easter bunnies for everybody. At \$1.50 apiece, it looked like a large order. Five times a dollar and a half would be \$7.50. The housing would be difficult, too, considering that there were already five predatory cats on the premises.

The young mother weighed the budget against the problems. If she could just postpone the housing for awhile—She inspected the neglected pen where the substantial looking rabbits were nibbling at

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Many File For Office In Back Mountain Area

Primaries Promise Plenty Of Interest For The Electorate

With the exception of Dallas Borough where there is only one contest, every township in the Back Mountain area will afford plenty of excitement for the voters in the coming Primary election.

In some townships there are as many as six candidates running for the same office. The Office of Supervisor seems to hold the greatest attraction. In Dallas Township six are running; in Lake, five; in Kingston, Ross and Franklin Townships four.

There are also contests for tax collector in all districts except Dallas Borough and Lehman.

Dallas Township
Tax Collector—Wilson Ryman, Paul Warriner, Earl Layau, Robert Prutzman.
School Director—Frank Townend, David S. Williams.

Auditor—Arch Hutchison.
Supervisor—Martin A. Walsh, Arthur Montross, Samuel Green, Earl Bellas, John Jurista, Stephen Hardan.

Dallas Borough
Tax Collector—Arthur Dungey.
School Director—Durrelle T. Scott, Jr.

Borough Council—Fred Welsh, Warden Kunkle, Joseph Jewell.
Justice of Peace—Leonard Har-James Besecker, Robert Brown, John Roberts.

Kingston
Tax Collector—Theodore A. Poad, R. Henry T. Kann, R. Robert E. George, R.

Auditor—Clyde E. Brace, R.
School Director (vote 1)—Russell Laehr, R.; Ralph L. Hazeltine, R.; John Wardell, R.

Supervisor (vote 1)—Harry T. Bogart, R.; Theodore F. Hinkle, R.; Martin Billow, R.; Edward S. Meneeley, R.

Lake
Tax Collector—Calvin McHose, R.; Helen M. Sgarlet, R.; Charles W. Cavill, R.; Harry B. Allen, R.

Supervisor (vote 1)—Carl T. Swanson, R.; Alex Koehler, R.; Cornelius W. Smith, R.; Peter Delaney, R.; Samuel Higgins, R.

Auditor—Alan G. Kistler, R.
School Director—Carleton B. Koehler, R.

Justice of Peace—James Käbler, R.

Lehman
Tax Collector—Alice N. Elston, R.

School Director (vote 1)—Arthur Ehret, R.; Joseph Niezgoda, R.
Supervisor—William A. Richardson, R.

Justice of Peace—Joseph W. Park, R.

Jackson
Tax Collector—Louis T. Wilcox, R.

Auditor—Alfred Swelgin, R.
Supervisor (vote 1)—David Spencer, R.; Wesley Lamoreaux, R.; Earl Balliet, R.

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Harold L. Smith Is Transferred

"Shorty" Headed Drive For New Fire Engine

Harold "Shorty" Smith, district representative of Crowley's Milk Company Inc., selling thirty-five different items made from milk to dairies, has been transferred to the New Jersey territory with headquarters at the Paterson plant of the company. Mr. and Mrs. Smith, their daughter, Sandra, a sophomore at Westmoreland High School, and their son, Peter, 4, will move to their newly purchased home in Ridgewood, N. J., within the next two weeks.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been active in community life since moving to Wyoming Street from Binghamton, N. Y. four years ago.

Mr. Smith headed Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Company's successful fund raising campaign for a new fire truck and has been active in Dallas Kiwanis Club where he had charge of Underprivileged Children's work and organized the Key Club at Dallas Township High School. He is treasurer of Brace Bible class of Dallas Methodist Church and was an end man in the Woman's Club Minstrel.

Mrs. Smith is secretary of Dallas Senior Woman's Club and has participated in Red Cross and Community Chest Drives and the Library Auction.

Ross Citizens Oppose Raise In Road Taxes

Supervisors Retaliate By Raising Taxes When Pay Hike Is Blocked

Ross Township taxpayers, faced with a two-mill increase in road taxes while there is a \$6,082 surplus in the Township treasury, held an indignation meeting to which the Supervisors were invited Saturday night at Sweet Valley Fire Hall to determine what action can be taken to hold taxes at their old level.

Many believe the increase is in retaliation for the refusal of Auditors Edgar Cragle and Basil Steele to increase the Supervisors' rates of pay before first discussing it at a taxpayers meeting.

Supervisor Cletus Holcomb and Arden Harrison presented the Auditors some time ago with a demand for a 25 cent hourly increase from \$1. to \$1.25 explaining that employment of D. P. A. labor on the forty miles of township roads had increased their work to such an extent that the raise was justified. They warned that if the increase was not forthcoming the Supervisors would do away with D. P. A. labor and refuse to take advantage of the State's matching fund to keep road costs down.

The Auditors contended that the Supervisors' rates of pay were increased from 80 cents to \$1. an hour two years ago and are in line with wages paid in surrounding townships. They also claimed that each of the Supervisors received in the neighborhood of \$2,000 last year, indicating that each of them worked eight hours a day, five days a week for 50 weeks on the roads. In addition there were eight D.P.A. laborers engaged in road work.

The poor condition of township roads, the Auditors contended, does not indicate that road work was done efficiently or economically, even though the Township furnishes modern equipment with which to do the work.

Several days prior to the Taxpayers meeting on Saturday night, the Auditors requested the Supervisors by registered mail not to increase the road levy until both Supervisors and taxpayers had an opportunity to discuss township problems at a public meeting.

The Supervisors met, however, on Thursday night and summarily increased taxes.

It followed that at Saturday's meeting, attended by seventy-five taxpayers, tempers flared when the Supervisors who arrived an hour late were asked to return taxes to their former levels.

In the heat of the discussion they were told that any number of township men would be glad to work on the roads at prevailing rates.

When one of the Supervisors asked, "Maybe we'd better get another job?" He was greeted with the retort, "why don't you resign?" But neither Mr. Holcomb nor Mr. Harrison offered to accept the invitation.

Edgar Cragle, who presided, re-

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Little League To Sign Players

Registration Will Be Held Tuesday

Preparing for the best Little League season in history, officials of Back Mountain Little League have announced that registration of players will take place next Tuesday night.

Fernbrook, Dallas Borough and Township boys will register at Back Mountain Library Annex; Shavertown and Jackson boys will register at Shavertown Fire House and Trucksville and Carverton boys will register at Trucksville Fire House.

All parents or guardians are asked to accompany their boys, and all boys must register whether they played last season or not.

Next Thursday night all personnel of the League will meet at Shavertown Fire Hall to go over further plans for the season which will open with a street parade and exhibition game on May 25 at the Little League Field in Shavertown. First official League games will be played May 26.

There is considerable work to be done on the field, League officials hope to grade and seed both outfield and infield and have asked any one who is willing to contribute a load or more of top soil to get in touch with them.

Another Car Goes Over Embankment In Fog At Death Angle Corner

A Philadelphia girl was hospitalized and three others were shaken up Sunday night about nine when their Plymouth sedan failed to make the turn at the "Death Angle" intersection of Route 115 and Harveys Lake Highway, just this side of Castle Inn, and went over the embankment in the thick fog that shrouded the area.

Injured was Margaret Pilla, 1328 South Third Street, Philadelphia. Others in the car were Angilena Terriginoro, owner-driver; Margaret Kemmel and Louise Northrup, all of Philadelphia.

The girls were taken to the hospital for examination by Norman Freedman, of Freedman's Express, Forty Fort.

The car was badly damaged with the front end caved in. It was taken in tow by Oliver's wrecker.

Miss Terriginoro explained to Officer James Gansel and State Police who investigated that the girls were enroute from Athens to Phila-

delphia when they took a left turn onto Route 115 just below Dallas. When they discovered that they were headed in the wrong direction, near Lehman, they turned around and retraced their route, and unfamiliar with "Death Angle" ran over the embankment in the fog.

Miss Terriginoro was badly upset because she had smashed through the highway marker, warning sign and guard rails, but police explained to her that she was not the first, but one of many drivers, who have gone through the intersection which was "botched" by State Highway engineers.

Only Sunday, the same day of the accident, The Independent ran two pictures and a warning about dangerous "Death Angle." In spite of repeated accidents at the intersection the Department of Highways has seen fit to "do nothing" to remedy the situation.

Cancer Information Center Asks For Sick-Room Supplies, Dressings

Donations of sick-room supplies are needed by the Back Mountain Cancer Information Center for the loan closet. Mrs. Robert Evans, loan closet chairman, announced at a recent meeting. Several items have been donated by Back Mountain groups, but more are needed. Mrs. Evans stated, included among loan closet needs are such items as afghans and electric fans. Donations may be brought to the Center, Council room of the Library Annex, on Tuesdays and Fridays, or further information may be had by calling Mrs. Evans at Harveys Lake.

Old white sheets or tablecloths are still needed for the dressings groups, headed by Mrs. J. Houston Day. A community dressing group meets each Wednesday night from 7:30 to 9:30 on the second floor of the Annex.

Office volunteers gave 60 hours in February, most of it spent on the "smoking survey" which is now almost completed.

Mrs. Robert Maturi, education chairman, announced that three films had been shown since February 1 and that since the Center was opened in October four different movies had been shown in the Back Mountain. Dr. A. A. Mascali is in charge of securing a doctor to accompany each showing. Other doctors who have accompanied the films for a question and answer period are Dr. Michael Bucan, Dr. Malcolm Borthwick, and Dr. Budd Schooley.

Mrs. Charles K. Dewees was appointed co-chairman of transportation to assist Mrs. Ralph Dixon.

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Shavertown To Have New Store

The Back Mountain region will shortly have a new farm service store. Reynold "Chubby" Watkins has purchased the old Rinus property along Memorial Highway near Woodland Inn, Shavertown, and is erecting a concrete block store and warehouse there.

The business will be known as Luco Farm Service.

The building will be thirty-two feet wide by sixty feet deep and have ample facilities for storage of fertilizers, lime, farm and garden insecticides and small garden tools. The attractive plate glass front will be ample for displays of power lawnmowers and garden tractors.

The large lot, 246 by ninety feet will provide convenient parking space for customers.

Grading, foundations, and concrete block construction are being done by William Connelly. Wilson Cease has the carpentry contract.

Mr. Watkins is well-known among farmers and gardeners throughout Luzerne County having been manager of Luzerne County Cooperative Association in Wilkes-Barre when he retired two years ago to engage in business in Florida. Until that time Mr. and Mrs. Watkins had lived since 1938 on Ferguson Avenue in Shavertown.

Mr. Watkins hopes to open for business within the next month.

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Westmoreland
BAND CONCERT
Tonight at 8
High School Auditorium

Charles S. Nuss To Head Seventh Library Auction

Mitchell Jenkins Will Be Toastmaster For Dinner On May 19

Charles S. Nuss, Lehman, vice president of Back Mountain Memorial Library Association, will be chairman of the Seventh Annual Library Auction on July 10 and 11 according to an announcement made Tuesday night at a meeting of the Library Executive Board.

Mr. Nuss, an executive of Hospital Service Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and former Lehman Township School Director, has long been a leader in Back Mountain community activities.

Assisting him will be H. W. "Chick" Smith, Dallas, who was chairman of last year's record-breaking Auction.

Atty. Mitchell Jenkins, Trucks-

ville, it was also announced, will be program chairman and toastmaster for the Third Annual Library Dinner to be held Tuesday evening, May 19 at 7, at Trem Temple Country Club. Assisting him will be Mrs. Herbert Smith Jr., Mrs. Mitchell Jenkins, Mrs. Harry Harter, Mrs. James Hutchison and Mrs. Herman Thomas. The dinner attracts more than 300 persons.

Other Business

While plans for the Auction held much of the attention of the Executive Board other matters taken up included a report by Arthur Ross, chairman of the Friends of the Library, concerning the forthcoming campaign for members. Mr. Ross and his committee composed of Bud Silverman, James Goodwin, Mrs. H. W. Smith and Mrs. Harold Titman, will shortly send out letters and membership applications to 1,500 persons inviting them to become Friends of the Library and pay annual dues of \$1 or more which will entitle them to vote at annual meetings and to take a greater part in the management of the Library.

Mrs. Fred Howell, reporting for the Annex policy committee, stressed the need for closer cooperation between organizations using the annex for meetings and the Library Board. The committee will shortly ask each organization to appoint one member to meet with the committee at the library and assume the responsibility as organization housekeeper.

Charles Nuss reported for the property committee and D. T. Scott Jr., in the absence of Henry Peterson, gave the treasurer's report. Atty. Mitchell Jenkins reported on the progress being made to straighten out the recent Bertha Hutson legacy.

Sign Petition

A petition asking the State not to continue to impose a 15% inheritance tax on bequests to charity, education and religion was signed by all members of the Executive Board, and will be forwarded to the proper authorities along with hundreds of other similar petitions being signed throughout the State.

Attending were: Howard Risley, Frances Dorrance, Charles Nuss, Miriam Lathrop, Mrs. Fred Howell, Mrs. Arch Brooks, Mrs. H. W. Smith, Mrs. Herbert A. Smith, Jr., Durrelle T. Scott Jr., Robert Bachman, Arthur Ross, Atty. Mitchell Jenkins, Raymond Kuhnert, Absent were: Henry Peterson, Frederick Eck, Paul Gross and Mrs. Lewis LeGrand.

The twenty-seven member Board of Directors will meet at the Library Annex at the next meeting on the second Tuesday in April.

Little League Official Buys Goss Manor Home

William T. Morgan, district manager of Eso Standard Oil Company, and host to last year's World Champion Little League team of Norwalk, Conn., has purchased a home on Hillcrest Drive in new Goss Manor and will move his family shortly from Williamsport.

Mr. Morgan succeeds C. A. Hoffman, Lake Street, who has been transferred to Philadelphia.

Mr. Morgan was on the World Series entertainment committee last year and has been president of Montoursville Little League for the past three years. His son, Billy, aged 5, was mascot of the World's Series winners. Another son, Robert, is too young to be even mascot but will certainly be an enthusiastic Little Leaguer like his dad.