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Editorially Speaking:

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## CALLING THE SHOTS

A fractional decline in the cost of living coincident with removal of price controls is gratifying. It is also contrary to the forebodings of many experts who believe in control for control's sake.

The old law of supply and demand in a free market is now calling the shots on prices. And, while at the moment the trend appears slightly downward, no one can tell with certainty what may happen next week or next month. The important thing is to avoid judging the virtue of the free market on the basis of the price level at any given moment. Above all, we should get over the idea that removal of controls amounts to no more than a trial period during which prices must behave as we think they should or controls will again be clamped on—the natural inference being that controls are some sort of an ace in the hole. Actually controls are nothing of the sort. They have been removed because they were unworkable. Their long-pull effect on prices is illusory.

The only workable and fair arbiter of price is the free competitive market in which thousands of producers and distributors vie for the favor of consumers. Our present high standard of living is the result of competitive forces that brought about the magnificent concept of low-cost high-volume operation which may be seen today in any large industrial concern and in tens of thousands of retail stores of every kind and description. When you walk into a chain store super-market or modern independent retail concern you are confronted with the miracle of mass-production and mass-distribution—both of which are uniquely American because only in America has the idea of the free market flourished to the maximum extent.

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FROM

## PILLAR TO POST

By MRS. T. M. B. HICKS

It's housecleaning time, and housecleaning time automatically suggests the Library Auction. If everybody in the Back Mountain set aside two things for the auction, the barn would overflow into the back yard, and nobody would have to beat the bushes for salable items ten days before the Big Event July 10 and 11.

How about that chair you expected to upholster some time last winter, the one that is waiting up in the attic for a nice tapestry skin? There's no use kidding yourself. You know you aren't going to do that job. You can't watch television and hammer home the tacks without great damage to your thumb. If you leave it there over the summer, it will have moths in it by fall.

Send it to the auction, and let somebody else figure out the upholstery problem. With a neat slip cover, it will be just right for a summer cottage.

Those dishes on the top shelf of the china cabinet. Dust-catchers, all of them. But plenty of people collect dishes, and maybe an odd piece that has no sentimental value for you will just match another piece, and somebody will have matched plates to use as a decoration, paying plenty for the privilege. A piece of milk-glass that leaves one person completely cold may be just what another collector is panting for.

During the past few years there has been a growing demand for center tables with marble tops and black walnut gingerbread beneath. If you've been keeping up with the times, you know what women do with those pieces of outdated mid-Victorianism. If you haven't you'll be astonished when you see Great-Aunt Susie's center table brought carefully down from the attic, its legs shortened, and the marble top lowered enough to make a sturdy coffee table, impervious to cigarette burns and taking kindly to damp floral arrangements.

You don't really care for marble slabs? That's fine, send Aunt Susie's treasure to the auction, and somebody else will buy it, cut it down to size, and brag about her find. Next year she'll bring her neighbors to bid on more marble topped tables.

Ten years ago you couldn't give away a black walnut bureau with a heavy superstructure. People cut off the knickknacks and gave the whole business a coat of green paint, antiquing it on the final rub-down. Nowadays folks in the

### Leaves For Florida

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Heck left yesterday for Florida where they expect to spend the next six months. Mr. Heck has sold his dry cleaning business and a new restaurant will be opened in his store on Memorial Highway.

### Eighty-Four Wednesday

The staff of The Post extends its congratulations to William Evans who will celebrate his eighty-fourth birthday on Wednesday. By his example he is teaching us all how to grow old gracefully. It's the spirit that counts—not the years.

### Dr. F. B. Schooley Made President

Dr. F. Budd Schooley was elected president of Rural Building and Loan Association, succeeding the late Herbert Hill at the meeting of the Association held Tuesday night at First National Bank.

Edward Hall was elected vice president to fill the position formerly held by Dr. Schooley.

### East Dallas Team Invites Players

East Dallas Baseball team invites anybody wishing to play baseball this season to come to the East Dallas playing field Sunday afternoon. In case of rain, the meeting will take place at Tex Wilson's, Demunds. Warren Stanton is manager. George Shupp is president of Bi-County League.

## Shareholders Approve Sale Of Local Bank

### Eighty-Five Percent Of Stock Represented As Shareholders Vote

On Monday May 15 at 2 P.M. First National Bank of Dallas will become the Dallas Branch of Miners National Bank of Wilkes-Barre.

By unanimous vote, shareholders representing eighty-five per cent of the outstanding stock of First National Bank, voted on Monday to approve the merger.

Fifteen shareholders representing fifty per cent of the stock attended the meeting. Thirty-five per cent of the stock was represented by proxies. There was only one dissenting vote and this was later withdrawn to make approval of the transaction unanimous. The meeting was adjourned to reconvene after the official approval of the Comptroller of the Currency is received. His approval will be read at the re-opened meeting and First National Bank, as a locally owned institution, will then go out of existence.

With the stockholders action of Monday, merger details are practically complete, it being understood that the Comptroller of the Currency has agreed to the consolidation pending the approval of the stockholders.

The action of the stockholders will place the Dallas Branch in a position to draw on greatly increased capital assets which will increase its capacity for larger loans to meet the increasing demands of the community.

There will be no change in personnel of the bank and every effort will be made to continue the same friendly service with many new ones available to local patrons.

W. B. Jeter, president, will become vice president of Miners National Bank but will remain with the Dallas Branch, and Frederick Eck, cashier, will remain in that capacity and also become assistant vice president of Miners National Bank. Frank W. Anderson is president.

An idea of the enlarged loan capacity available to the Dallas bank as a result of the merger can be gained from the statement of assets of the two banks as of December 31, 1952: Miners \$64,050,763; Dallas, \$4,122,000. Deposits: Miners, \$55,496,174; Dallas, \$3,695,000. Total assets, \$68,172,763; total deposits, \$59,191,174.

## Firemen Pay In Full For Truck

### Dorrance Reynolds Contributes \$500

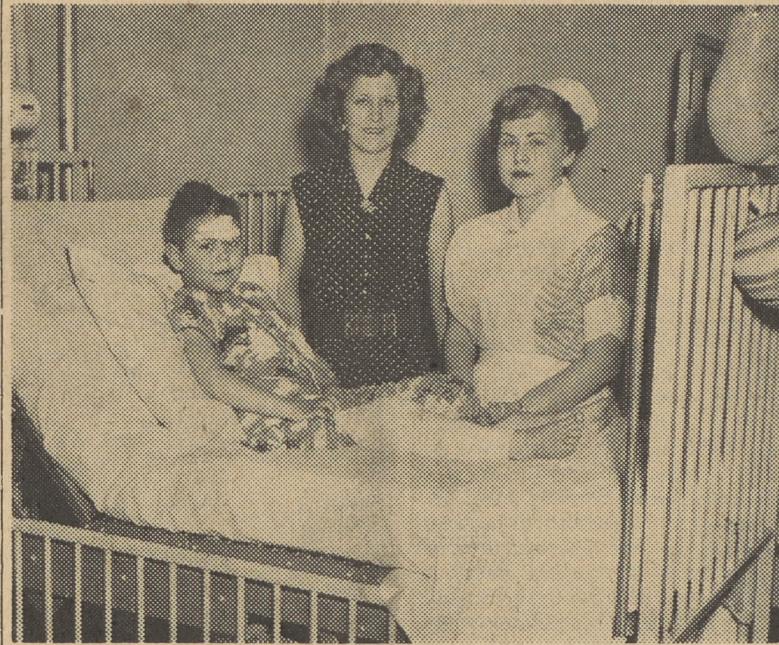
After borrowing \$4,000 on a short term loan from First National Bank, Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Company was able to pay \$15,907 in full to the American La France Company for its new fire truck.

The firemen were delighted with the receipt of \$500 and an appended note from Col. Dorrance Reynolds. Col. Reynolds wrote: "I consider this an investment. Best wishes to the Fire Company." His contribution shares honors as being the largest given to the truck fund.

Other contributions were: \$50, Charles Wheaton Lee, Country Club Road; \$20, John C. Bush, Church street; \$25, Mary E. Melville, Machell Avenue; \$25 Stuart Cressing, Demunds.

The company urges all who have outstanding pledges to honor them as soon as possible.

## If You Gotta Go—Nesbitt Is A Swell Place



They treat you right in the Children's Ward of Nesbitt Hospital, but its no place for a fellow like Guy Zeffos, mascot, when the Jackson Little League team is beginning to practice. Guy is making a good recovery after having his right leg fractured by a hit-and-run driver.

Here he is with his mother and nurse Silvia Wytoshik who wheels him out to see the TV set which he thoroughly enjoys. He likes Elizabeth Souchick, too, and all the other nurses and small patients who play checkers with him.

PHOTO BY KOZEMCHAK

## Young Hoodlums Pass All Bounds In Wanton Damage On Church Street

Young hoodlums are making life miserable for residents of the upper end of Church street, according to reports of solid citizens who have taken about all they can stand. These boys, ranging in age from eight to twelve, are apparently lying awake nights thinking up new brands of annoyance.

Up to date their depredations have included uprooting of expensive shrubs and flowers, destruction of walls, stuffing rusty tin cans into mailboxes, and damage to cars parked before the houses.

One householder who has lived in Dallas for three years, says that the situation is so bad that he is considering moving to a place where parents keep their children in check.

Frank Wagner, who brought the matter to the attention of the Dallas Post, says that with all his large plate glass windows, he does

not appreciate having rocks heaved at his house. He has found water running into his basement from a hose thrust through the window.

Yew plants, notably slow growing, have been uprooted in the neighborhood, tulips plucked and wantonly destroyed, a beautiful flowering almond bush injured with a knife, stone copings worked off a wall.

And now B. B. guns are being brought into play, and the residents say it is time to quit. These boys are not from across the tracks, but a homegrown product. Police and private detectives are being alerted.

James Gansel, Dallas Township Chief of Police, warns parents that children apprehended in malicious mischief will be taken before Juvenile Court. He states young boys have not only annoyed residents, but they have torn down traffic signs in the area.

## Three One-Act Plays Entered In Powder & Wig Competition Tonight

The Junior Class of Dallas-Franklin High School will sponsor a one-act play competition tonight at 8 in the school auditorium.

Judges will be Alfred Groh, director of dramatics at Wilkes College; Zosia Glowacki, director of Wilkes-Barre Children's Theatre and director of dramatics at Shick-shinny High School; and John F. Rosser, principal of Dallas-Franklin Schools. A representative of Wilkes-Barre Little Theatre will also be present.

The Sophomores will present "Butch," a comedy with Dianne Bowman playing the lead. Others in the cast are: Janice Apaliski, Mary Ann Emmanuel, Marilyn

Walsh, Dorothy Slash, Thomas Schmittle and Delmar Shupp. Student director is Yvonne Schlittler.

The Juniors have selected a mystery, "The Summons of Seriel" with Ila Lou Wilson as student director. In the cast are: Anne Wojcikowski, Rose Ann Patner, Peggy Maza, Nancy Dymond, Gladys Wilson, James Owens, Barbara Vavrek, Elton Shively, Thais Rozelle, Priscilla Moore and David Pellam.

The Seniors will present "No Greater Love" a serious drama with Jessie Carey as student director. Members of the cast are: Emma Stritzinger, Shirley Welsh, Gloria Davis, Don Weidner and Robert Achuff.

## Lehman-Jackson High School Band Ready For Spring Concert



"April Showers" is the theme of tonight's band concert in Lehman-Jackson High School auditorium at 8:15. Offerings will include Spanish numbers, novelties and marches. The chorus will sing a number of Negro Spirituals and Mexican songs as well as moderns.

A colorful touch will be twirling with lighted batons. Band members will present several solos.

Awards will be presented to senior members eligible for them through service in the band during

their high school years.

Reading from left to right, first row, are: Helen Skopie, Barbara Roginski, Gertrude Cragle, Louise Ellsworth, Bonnie Piper, Janice Bronson, Esther Ide, Carol Hadsel, Theresa Rodriguez, Nancy Zick, Janet Cornell, Mascot—Janie Botoms, Virginia Culp, Betty Katchmar, Betty Doran, Alice Ide, Nancy Williams, Carole Williams, Elwood Thompson, Lois Vanderhoff, Harold Coolbaugh, Mildred Wagner.

Second row: Beverly Major, Joyce Major, Eleanor McKenna, Harry

## Fernbrook Mill Now Working At Full Capacity

### Management And Union Reach New Two-Year Agreement

Fernbrook Park Plant of Bloomsburg Mill has announced that it will immediately put several idle machines into operation stepping up production in its weaving department to 100 per cent capacity. It has been working at 83 per cent capacity, with about 240 persons employed. The plant will be on a five day schedule.

The management has also announced that a new contract between Bloomsburg Mills Inc., Fernbrook Park Division, and Local 204 United Textile Workers of America, A. F. of L. has been arrived at on terms substantially in accordance with the prior contract. Some slight wage adjustments were granted in some categories.

The new two-year contract was approved Sunday at a meeting of the Union.

The contract provides six paid holidays, group insurance and wage increases of two to four cents for certain individual jobs. The minimum paid by the plant is \$1.14 an hour.

The contract contains provisions for periodic wage reopening in the event of increases in the cost of living.

### Lock Haven Working

Last week Local 2657, United Textile Workers of America agreed to a company-offered "package of benefits" which settled a month-long strike of 240 employees of the Lock Haven plant of Bloomsburg Mills Inc. Wages were not involved in the dispute, Union officials said.

## Pictorial To Cover Auction

### Color Photographer Coming From Detroit

FRIENDS Magazine, Chevrolet dealer-distributed pictorial, published by General Motors Corporation, has written the Library Auction Committee that it plans to send a color photographer here from Detroit to shoot the story during the week of the Seventh Annual Auction.

The interest of John H. Warner, managing editor, was aroused when he read Mrs. T. M. B. Hicks' story "Bucks for Bucks" in the August 24, 1952 issue of the Philadelphia Inquirer Magazine.

FRIENDS is a monthly publication with a circulation of two million copies. More than half of its attractive lay-outs and stories are in full color.

The FRIENDS reporter-photographer will cover the events, bustle and hustle, leading up to the Auction as well as the actual sale.

### Wins Turkey

Mrs. Grace Ferry, here from Philadelphia for the Lehman Hobby Show, won the big turkey.

## Children Escape As Early Blaze Destroys Home

### Farm Buildings Saved By Noxen Fire Department

Early morning fire, starting from defective wiring above the kitchen ceiling and spreading with the force of an explosion through tinder-dry rafters, completely destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Patton on the Buckwheat Hollow road near Noxen Saturday at 7.

Two small children, Joan, six, and Bruce Jr., four, were rushed from the blazing house in their night clothes, just ahead of the licking flames. Bruce, the Patton son, preparing to do chores but still in his bedroom slippers, drove to Noxen to summon the fire department, which responded immediately, but with no hope of saving the frame structure. The well was exhausted within seven minutes, but gave sufficient water to save barns and chicken houses.

Extensive remodelling had been done recently. A new refrigerator was among the casualties, \$45 in cash, and a check from the Government for a rebate of income tax. No clothing was saved, nor furniture. Forty dozen eggs, ready for shipment, roasted.

Mrs. Charles Patton, at the barn with her husband when the fire started, thought at first that she was responsible for the catastrophe, as she had been burning trash earlier in the morning, stopped because of the high wind, and took back into the house a box containing some papers which she thought might have sheltered a spark. This was later proved to be erroneous, as the fire was entirely in the ceiling at first, fed by twelve layers of old wallpaper made inflammable with sizing and dried paste.

The family was sheltered from snow and driving wind at the home of another son, Derwin Patton, located farther down the steep hill.

Mr. Patton plans to rebuild as soon as possible, and in the meantime is handling his stock from his son's home.

## Merchants Think Sales Tax Will Be Distasteful

Prospects of a State Sales Tax were not anticipated with glee this week by Back Mountain business men.

One, however, commented "There is no need to grumble now, we should have thought about that when we voted for the Soldier bonus, but I would like to see the State do some cutting down on waste before it raises taxes."

Willard Horst, manager of Flannigan's Furniture store said: Money is tight now anyway. The sales tax isn't going to help business at all. It will mean a lot of extra book-keeping."

Lawrence Updyke, owner of Dallas Hardware and Supply, thinks the tax will effect business adversely. "Out of State customers, however, are surprised," he says, "when they find they do not have to pay a tax here. The State and National government needs a tightening of expenditures."

Phil Cheney, manager of Dallas Service Station believes "the tax will be a darned nuisance. It stinks, if you want my honest opinion. I understand items like gasoline which are already heavily taxed will not be affected, but the 1,001 other items we sell will be. We've already got so many reports to make out that there is no time for other work. If they put on the sales tax I'm going to turn Democratic."

"The tax won't make a bit of difference to local business," Frederick Esk, cashier of First National Bank, asks "How could it?" Mr. Eck thinks, however, that it may effect business in towns along the border of States where there is no sales tax. "But I'd like to know what State that is?" he added, and cited instances from his recent southern trip where most States had a sales tax and where some merchants collected it and some didn't. "We've all got to eat, sleep and live so we'll all have to pay it."

Sheldon Evans, Shavertown druggist, doesn't think the tax will effect business. "The people are tax conscious, but the tax will be a terrific annoyance. The people will resent it just as they did the 20 percent tax on baby oils and powders and maybe they'll do something about it after they are irritated long enough."

## Preservative Protects Shotwell When Pole Gets In His Car's Way

Asa Shotwell couldn't quite make it home Saturday afternoon. A telephone pole got in his way at the intersection of Pioneer Avenue and lower Main Street, so Asa left his 1938 Dodge sedan in a tangle of telephone and light wires and navigated the rest of the distance to Parrish Heights on foot.

Chief Russell Honeywell who was out on a cruise and Officer Lester Fiske who was summoned because "There is a bad accident at the intersection" came upon the debris that partially blocked traffic at the same time.

They summoned Commonwealth Telephone Company linemen to replace the pole and wires, and Oliver's wrecker to remove the car. Four hours were required to clean up the mess.

After some investigation, Chief

Honeywell found the driver in a "good state of preservation" at his home. He denied that he had been driving. He was given an examination under police escort by Dr. A. Mascoli who treated his skinned nose and advised officers to take him to Nesbitt Hospital for a more thorough check up of the preservative used.

At Nesbitt, the officers were disappointed. An interne told them that he had neither the facilities nor the authority to say whether Asa was drunk or sober, so he was held on a charge of reckless driving.

Some weeks ago it was necessary for the local officers to confine Asa to the Harveys Lake lock-up for the weekend after he had obtained too much of the same sort of preservative.