

FROM

PILLAR TO POST

By MRS. T. M. B. HICKS

This column is aimed at those parents in the Back Mountain who are feeling bleak because their children were born one day too late to be accepted in the first grade, those who were born on the first of February instead of the last day of January. So near and yet so far. Harrisburg grudgingly condones allowing such youngsters to enter, if they can pass certain tests showing advanced mentality, but Back Mountain school principals are far-sighted men, and they are not taking advantage of this permission.

Six months age-lag will have a tremendous effect on your child's ability at this stage. If you insist upon starting him in school when he is not ready for the effort of keeping up with children who are stronger and more mature than he is, you will handicap him. Next year he can lead his class. This year he will gravitate to the lower half unless he is an infant phenomenon.

And even if he is unusually bright, he will not gain a thing by starting too young. More and more top ranking educators are realizing that a child, to be well adjusted, happy, and able to develop, should be in his own age group. Children resent the class baby. Teachers either ignore him, giving him minimum attention, or coddle him. Either attitude is very bad for the child.

The too young child will feel frustration and loneliness. He will all too often give up the unequal struggle. Many class babies will need to repeat their first year, or will pass into second grade unprepared for the more advanced work. If your child must repeat, he will feel forlorn when his former seatmates leave him behind.

It takes a very wise set of parents and an exceptionally able teacher to combat this feeling. It can be done, but it is not easy. It is better not to expose a too young child to the possibility of having his feelings hurt and his dignity trailed in the dust. Children are cruel, and they taunt their schoolmates. Do not run the risk of making your child miserable.

Children suffer very keenly. They seldom let their parents in on the secret that they are wounded. See to it that emotional disturbance does not have a chance to develop from a situation that is within your power to prevent. There are enough hurdles to take without any unnecessary ones.

If Billy is able to enter first grade, and Johnny isn't, Billy will be jubilant and Johnny disconsolate. For at least a week.

But facts, hasn't Billy taken the lead all summer, bulldozing Johnny into compliance, forcing his own wishes upon the younger child? This is a marvelous chance for Johnny to take the lead. Instead of following in Billy's footsteps he now has the priceless opportunity of being king-pin or the younger boys. He can develop qualities of leadership denied to him while he was trying to keep up with Billy. He has exceptional brain capacity, this training will stand him in good stead a little later, and be invaluable when he enters the highly competitive business world.

Work out a plan for Johnny, constructive work and play that will keep him happy and develop the child. A situation such as this is a real challenge to parents.

You will find that you will grow along with Johnny, and that this year will be a benefit to you as to your son.

And five years from now, if you still feel that your child ought to be with the older group, it will be perfectly safe to tutor him or send him to summer school, and prepare him for skipping a grade. By that time he can take it.

Water Companies Sold

Harry F. Goeringer has sold two of his local water companies. The one at Fernbrook to Homesite Water Company and the other in Kingston Township to Shavertown Kingston Township Water Company. The purchasing companies have their offices at 30 N. Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre.

SEPTEMBER RAINFALL IS NOW FIVE TIMES THAT OF LAST MONTH

During the first seven days of September the Back Mountain area received almost five times as much rain as during the entire month of August. Records of the Scranton Spring Brook Water Company show that 1.29 inches of rain fell here during August while 5.05 inches have fallen so far in September.

The record: September 2, .47 inches; September 3, .87 inches; September 4, .27 inches; September 6, 1.63 inches, September 7, 1.83 inches.

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Monroe Schools Join With Seven Other Districts

High School Pupils Go To Tunkhannock, Grades To Beaumont

Monroe Township School Board voted to request admission to Tunkhannock Joint School District at its meeting on Thursday night.

There is no doubt that the request will be accepted by the Tunkhannock Joint District which is now composed of seven former independent districts. Monroe Township will become the eighth district in the jointure.

This will mean that all Junior-Senior High School pupils attending Beaumont High School will attend classes at Tunkhannock. Grades one to six will attend elementary school at Beaumont, one of three elementary centers in the Tunkhannock Joint School District set-up, the other two being at Tunkhannock and Mehoopany.

Monroe Township Directors had previously discussed possible jointure with Lake-Noxen and Dallas-Franklin Schools.

Commenting on the turn of events Supervising Principal Arch Austin of Monroe Township Schools, had this to say:

Austin's Statement

"This decision was made after a long period of study. When it became a mandatory law in Pennsylvania that all county superintendents submit a plan for local school districts to become a part of a unit large enough to include all the various services deemed necessary for children, Monroe Township was included in the Wyoming County Central District. This District included Tunkhannock Borough, Tunkhannock Township, Lemon, Eaton, Washington, Northmoreland and Noxen.

Monroe Township Directors or Beaumont met with the Central District to listen to the plans. Then they met with Noxen with whom they had proposed joining—along with Northmoreland in the 1930's. Later Harveys Lake, Noxen and Monroe met, with no action taken by Monroe.

Dallas-Franklin presented a plan and finally Dallas-Franklin, Lake, Noxen and Monroe held a conference.

During this period of various meetings, the voters of Monroe chose (by a small majority) to become a jointure.

Now this is the first time since that vote that a building program is in progress and not in the planning stage.

The Tunkhannock Joint School District has all the children services in operation and a building program. This joint district now includes all the schools listed for the Central District as planned, with the exception of Noxen and with the addition of Mehoopany Township.

The present plan calls for elementary centers (grades one to six) at Tunkhannock, Mehoopany and Beaumont with the junior and senior high school at Tunkhannock having a total enrollment of 1,761 pupils."

Lt. Bill Wagner Receives Medal Gets Bronze Star For Korean Service

Fort Sill, Okla.—Lt. William L. Wagner, son of Mrs. Gladys Wagner, R. D. 3, Dallas, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for service in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in Korea between February 21, 1952 and April 2, 1953.

During that time he served as reconnaissance and survey officer and as communications officer with Headquarters, 987th Field Artillery Battalion, "displaying superior qualities of leadership and determination. His conscientious application and broad professional knowledge were instrumental in the smooth and efficient functioning of the battalion." During World War II Lt. Wagner served in the Pacific Theater. Bill is a graduate of Dallas Borough High School.

Lt. Wagner and his wife, the former Rosemond Howells, daughter of Mrs. Rae Howells of Dallas, reside at 1804 Irwin Ave., Lawton Okla., with their children Sharon, 5, William, Jr., 3, and Maureen, 1.

Wins Savage Rifle

Don Evans won the top prize, a .222 calibre Savage Rifle with Weaverscope at the clambake and trap shoot recently held by Harveys Lake Rod & Gun Club.

Fernbrook Champions of Little League



Fernbrook won the league championship, taking Trucksville three games out of five. Fernbrook was also victor during the first half of the season, with eight wins and two losses; Trucksville was second, with seven wins and three losses.

Summing up the season, Back Mountain Little League, showed a continuing prestige with an attendance of 40,000 fans; improvement to the best field in Northeastern Pennsylvania; and the distinction of being runner-up to the winner in the All-Star games of District 3. Operation Doorbell, carried out early in July, netted the organization \$806. This defrayed expenses for the annual picnic for major and minor league players and their families at Twin Lakes; a trip for major leaguers and players of twelve or over to Philadelphia to see the Yankees, and a trip to Williamsport for minor leaguers of

Franklin Hemenway, manager, H. Martin, coach.

active status, August 28. Personnel were included in all trips. Charles Steinhauser, commissioner and president, says nobody could have foreseen the success of Little League Baseball in this area. He commends residents on their support, and wishes to extend special thanks to Merton Coolbaugh, vice president; Verne Pritchard, treasurer; William Strauser, secretary; and to team managers and coaches who gave liberally of their time, as well as sponsoring organizations which furnished uniforms and equipment.

All bills will be paid, and Robert Whalen, CPA, will issue a statement upon completion of auditing the books.

Corps Answers Seventy-Fifth Ambulance Call

Asks Assistance In Establishing List Of Blood Donors

All members and any others interested in becoming members are urged to attend the first fall meeting of Kingston Township Ambulance Association at Shavertown Fire House on Monday evening, September 21.

Thomas Morgan, president, has advised that if enough new members wish it, a new and more extensive training program will be launched. Such a course will also serve as a review for those who took the original course. He especially appeals to young men and former service men to join the corps.

The Corps answered its seventy-fifth call for ambulance service last Friday night. It has also had many demands for the use of oxygen. In June alone twelve patients received oxygen. In all instances those receiving oxygen reached the hospital where they could receive professional care. Not all, however, recovered from their illness.

Since the oxygen equipment was presented to the Corps by persons living in all parts of the Back Mountain area, the Corps makes no charge for its use. There is, however, a service charge for use of the ambulance by persons living beyond the confines of Kingston Township.

Mr. Morgan said the Corps has received many unusual requests for assistance from those it has helped. Some of these requests were for wheel chairs, walkers and hospital beds. In all instances the Corps has received excellent cooperation from local organizations who could fill the requests.

Dallas Women of Rotary, he said, provided a walker for one shut-in at the request of the Corps.

There have also been requests for replacement of blood. The Corps is now preparing a list of persons willing to give blood during emergencies. Mr. Morgan said blood used from hospital blood banks must be returned in the ratio of two pints for every pint used. Blood received from the Red Cross is returned in the ratio of pint for pint.

Persons who are willing to give their blood for this purpose or those who have rare types of blood are asked to notify Miss Myrtle Major, Main Street, Shavertown, Dallas 4-6441, who has charge of this phase of the Corps work.

Back Mountain Will Welcome Sgt. John Vavrek Next Week

Commander Lewis Reese Urges Everybody To Display Flags Starting On Monday

Sgt. John Vavrek, one of the last prisoners released in Operation Big Switch, will be given a rousing welcome next week when he returns to his home in DeMunds after thirty-three months spent in a North Korean prison camp.

Commander Lewis Reese of Daddow-Isaacs Post has announced that the American Legion will spearhead the home coming ceremonies and asks everybody in the Back Mountain area to join in.

Sgt. Vavrek is expected to arrive in San Francisco on Sunday according to a wire received this week by his mother, Mrs. Alma Vavrek, from Major General William E. Bering, Adjutant General of the Army.

General Bering said: "Secretary of the Army has asked me to inform you that your son, Sgt. John F. Vavrek is a passenger aboard the USNT General Black and will arrive, Port of Embarkation Fort Mason, San Francisco September 13. He will be processed at Fort Mason or Camp Stoneman and placed on leave without delay. Army will do everything possible to welcome relatives who are in San Francisco to greet returning servicemen. However, Army will not provide transportation to San Francisco or meals or lodging. If you plan to meet the ship, suggest you wire or write San Francisco Port of Embarkation and give name, detailed information. Information may be obtained from Port of Embarkation, San Francisco, Telephone 6-2200."

None of Sgt. Vavrek's family will meet him in San Francisco. His mother suffered a heart attack on the day she received word of his release from prison.

It is expected, however, that the Dallas Township soldier will arrive in Wyoming Valley about Thursday if he returns by air. A definite time will be announced as soon as his family hears directly from him. In the meantime the Legion is going ahead with its welcoming plans, and asks all Back Mountain residents to display their flags next week.

As now planned, members of Sgt. Vavrek's family, a delegation from Daddow-Isaacs Post, and possibly one of the high school bands, will meet Sgt. Vavrek on his arrival in the valley.

Commander Reese says he hopes to have a large motorcade to escort Sgt. Vavrek to his home at DeMunds, where simple welcoming ceremonies will be held and where Sgt. Vavrek will be made an honorary member of Daddow-Isaacs Post.

Mr. Reese urged all citizens to be on the alert to watch for the arrival time and make every effort to give Sgt. Vavrek a sincere welcome home. One of the nicest things, he said, would be to have a flag displayed on every home beginning next Monday.

Rotary Attends Game

Twenty-two members and friends of Dallas Rotary Club attended the Philadelphia-Cardinals baseball game at Shibe Park, last Thursday.

Former Lake Girl Will Sing Title Role Of Aida In Rome

Miss Helen Koslosky, formerly of Harveys Lake, will return to Italy on September 15, after having visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Koslosky of 709 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn 13, N. Y.

Miss Koslosky will appear at the Rome Opera House during the coming season in the title role of Verdi's "Aida," opposite Marie Del Moaco, world renown tenor of the Metropolitan and La Scala opera companies. Miss Koslosky will be heard in opera and concert throughout the continent, including an engagement at the Vienna State Opera.

The young artist, who is known professionally as Elena Crelli, made her European debut in the title role of Puccini's "Turandot," one of the

most challenging dramatic soprano roles in opera, at Pavia, Italy. Her greatest thrill was having her photograph placed in the office of the manager of the Pavia Opera Theatre with such notables as Beniamino Gigli and Licia Albanese, who also made their debuts at this famous theatre.

Miss Koslosky is a graduate of the Rossini Conservatory at Pesaro, Italy, where she was a scholarship student and protegee of the famous soprano, Madame Maria Cabone.

In America Miss Koslosky was heard in concert and opera in the East and was a winner of the Leonard Warren auditions. The Koslosky family are former residents of Harveys Lake.

Milk Contracts Go To Dallas, Harter Dairies

Jointure Board Approves Proposed School Institute

Dallas Borough-Kingston Township joint school board met Friday night, three days in advance of the usual time which would have fallen on Labor Day.

Business included routine reports, award of milk contracts, discussion of new State rulings on reimbursement, and acceptance of proposed participation in the Anthracite Institute foundation for study and development of schools.

Visitors were asked to retire while the meeting went into a fifteen-minute closed session.

Richard Prynny, father of a kindergarten child who lives some distance beyond the first pick-up point for the parent-sponsored kindergarten bus, raised the question whether a partially filled regular school bus could transport the child to Checkerboard Inn where the private bus could pick him up on its regular route. James Martin, supervising principal, explained that such action would set an unfortunate precedent, that if it were allowed in one instance it could not be refused to other parents, and that the proposal must be regretfully declined. Parents, he went on, must be responsible for transporting their children to kindergarten, whether by privately engaged bus or by private car, as there is no State reimbursement for such transportation below the first grade.

The board authorized attendance of Mr. Martin and Charles James at the American Educational Conference in Harrisburg, September 30 to October 1. Subject matter will be reorganization of administrative units, a timely discussion for supervising principals of Luzerne County at this period when larger jointures are being urged by the State.

Dan Shaver raised the question as to why it was necessary for both principals to attend such meetings, to which Mr. Martin replied that there were several workshops, and one man could not take in all of the necessary material. That by collaboration and comparing of notes, all angles could be covered.

Award Milk Contracts
Bids were awarded to Dallas Dairy for Dallas Borough School, and to Harter's Dairy for Westmoreland, Trucksville elementary and Shavertown schools, milk to be supplied in half pint bottles at legal price fixed by the State, arrangements for service and delivery to be acceptable to Mr. Martin. Dallas will use approximately 140 half-pints, to be delivered at 10 a.m.; Westmoreland, 340, at 10:30; Shavertown, 100, and Trucksville 70, at 10 a.m.

State Police extended an invitation to sixth and seventh grade school children to attend an exhibition of horsemanship and motorcycle riding at Artillery Park, Friday, September 18. The Board approved of dismissal for any student wishing to attend, subject to regulations for authorized excuses signed by parents. Parents must furnish transportation.

State reimbursement, by recent ruling, will be figured on number of teachers in the kindergarten, not number of students. Parents from outside the jointure may send their children, at a tuition cost of \$90 per school year.

Mr. Martin drew attention to a Saturday Evening Post article, holding that school begins too young for many children, and urging parents not to consider pressing for admission of children under legal age for the first grade.

A communication from E. S. Tefer, County Superintendent, advises the Board that the Anthracite Institute for Developing Schools is being formed, with twenty schools necessary to make the work practical. The joint board voted to participate, at a cost of approximately \$100 for the year. Eugene Hammer, who will head the project, is widely known in educational circles.

Mrs. Horton Bell was placed on the list of available substitutes.

Lawrence Kintzer, 152 Shaver Avenue, Shavertown, was appointed assistant custodian at Westmoreland.

Visitors were Richard Prynny, Carverton; Hub Pesavento, who requested a copy of the jointure audit; Theodore Poad, and John Wardell, prospective member of the board.

James Hutchison and Mitchell Jenkins were absent.

New Organist

Lois Wood has been appointed organist at Prince of Peace Church replacing June Colwell who is teaching in Westfield, New Jersey.