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MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER, A COMMUNITY INSTITUTION

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JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS

At a conference of all Police Chiefs Monday afternoon, District Attorney Louis G. Feldman ordered all commercial bingo closed in Luzerne County. The move is a good one and some think should apply to church and fire company bingo as well.

We would have liked to have seen the District Attorney go even further and force the closing of all saloons at legal hours and on Sundays. We think it would be one of the quickest ways to cut down fatal automobile accidents.

As for us, we believe the Back Mountain Region would be a lot safer and better place in which to live if there were less saloons at Harveys Lake, and if those that presently exist, were forced to obey the law and close at legal hours and on Sundays!

With thirty-three licensed places bordering one of the finest resort lakes in Pennsylvania—twenty-eight of them in Lake Township and five in Lehman Township—the quota must have been saturated long ago, yet there is still another application pending; and it is apt to be granted unless something is done by those who want to keep this a decent place in which to live!

Lawlessness at Harveys Lake affects all of us. Decent citizens—fathers, mothers and children have to travel the same highway burned up by the drunks! Police records prove that a large percentage of late driving drunks are coming from the direction of Harveys Lake and many of them are involved in fatal or near fatal accidents.

Within the past year there have been two fatal automobile accidents at Harveys Lake, one possible murder, and another near fatal accident when an automobile went into the lake. There have been several fatalities and near fatalities at Death Curve in Dallas opposite the Carvel Dairy Store. In the past three instances first cited above, and in most of the accidents at Death Curve, subsequent police investigation has proved without any doubt that all drivers had been in Harveys Lake saloons shortly before the accidents—and in most instances after legal closing hours!

With so many saloons at Harveys Lake it is logical that competition must be severe—and that those who have no regard for the consequences to their fellowman—are going to keep open after hours and on Sundays in order to meet expenses and avoid starving to death.

You, Mr. Reader, can do something about this, if instead of agreeing with this editorial, you are willing to stand up and be counted—before you, your wife or children meet a drunk behind the wheel of a car tearing down the highway from Harveys Lake!

★★★

FROM

PILLAR TO POST

By MRS. T. M. B. HICKS

There is the jolliest little Christmas carol which seems to embody the very spirit of the Christmas season, a gay little carol seldom heard over the radio, one that gives a lift of the heart. It is Old English, dating from the fifteenth century.

It must have been at least four years ago when the English Duo Singers introduced it to a delighted audience in St. Stephen's Auditorium. That talented pair from Australia sang "The Holly and the Ivy," painting a word and tone picture with their flute-like voices. As they sang, the little spotted deer ran through the forest glade over a crisp bed of frosted leaves, the slanting morning sun dappling their sleek coats, their delicate pointed hoofs beating the earth in a staccato rhythm, their arched necks and dainty heads lifted to the wild sweet wind, their fluid movements a visual image of the joy of Christmas Day.

Their zest for living, their pleasure in their soaring leaps, their innocent freedom and exuberance, seemed a fitting pattern of the joy of the world. I can close my eyes and see those graceful little creatures vanishing through the forest aisles. There is never any underbrush. The tree trunks make a vaulted cathedral, and the rising sun slants redly through the trees as through stained glass window, but there are no confining walls. Nothing but the magic of the dawn, the vastness of the silent forest, and the swift little herd, praising God for Christmas Day and for all things good and wonderful.

A second big objection is that busses would have to cross the dangerous mail line of the Lehigh Valley Railroad twice a day on entering and leaving Tunkhannock.

A third objection is that Supervising Principal Arch Austin, who has served Monroe Township Schools for a number of years would lose his present status. His chances for survival, many believe, would be better in the smaller Dallas, Franklin, Lake, Noxen jointure.

Grace Episcopal Church occasionally uses the carol in its annual carol service which is given on the Sunday following Christmas.

It can be found in a book of carols, poems, and stories for Christmas, called "Happy Christmas," arranged by Geoffrey Marlowe and published by the Boston Music Company.

To Discuss Cruelty To Dumb Animals
All persons interested in the revelations which appeared in last week's Dallas Post concerning the treatment of dumb animals are urged to attend a meeting called for tonight at 8 at Back Mountain Memorial Library. John Hewitt will preside.

Monroe Parents Favor Jointure Dallas Much Nearer Than Tunkhannock

With a fine new administrative set-up in Tunkhannock composed of more than half of the school districts in Wyoming County and providing excellent new secondary and elementary school facilities for children, many people ask why Monroe Township parents favor jointure of their school with Dallas Township in Luzerne County.

To get the answers The Dallas Post this week interviewed a number of them and got these answers: The Tunkhannock Joint School is thirteen miles from Beaumont while the Dallas-Franklin school is only six miles distant. Many students help with farm and home chores. The difference in distance means that pupils going to Tunkhannock would have to travel fourteen more miles a day.

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Two Cars Crash Head On At Bridge In Dallas

Two cars crashed at the bridge near Devens' Mill in Dallas Saturday night, with three injured taken to Nesbitt Memorial Hospital by North Bert, a witness to the accident. According to reports, Margaret Gebhart, Wilkes-Barre, leaned over to close her door, turning the wheel and steering her across the center line into the path of a car coming in the opposite direction. Two cars removed the wreckage. Miss Gebhart was dismissed without hospitalization. William Williams, her passenger, had lacerations of the face and right leg. Frank Blinstrub, Luzerne, had broken ribs and lacerated lips.

Good-Cheer Baskets Ready For Distribution



Christmas baskets and good-cheer remembrances were distributed Sunday afternoon by members of Harveys Lake Woman's Civic Club. Members gathered Saturday night to do the final assorting and packing. (Photo by James Kozemchak) Reading from left to right: Mrs. Harry Kitchen, chairman; Mrs. John Stenger, 3rd, Mrs. Otis Allen, Sr., Mrs. Robert Leinthal, Mrs. Carl Schreiner, Mrs. Burton King, Mrs. Elwood Davis. In front, with baskets, is Mrs. Donald D. Smith. Members of the committee not present are Mrs. Fuller Ashton, Mrs. William Deets, Mrs. Stephen Hartman, Mrs. Elwood Whitesell, and Mrs. Garvin Smith.

Fires Flicker Out In 1-Room Schools, Ross Pupils Move To New Building

The new school at Sweet Valley opened its doors Tuesday morning at 9 to 160 pupils who had formerly been educated in six one-room school houses of Ross Township. Excited children had packed all their belongings the day before in preparation for the event. Buses, after delivering high school students to Lehman-Jackson-Ross High School, returned to make the rounds of the small schools, starting with Mooretown.

As the busses discharged children at the canopied doorway, teachers and welcoming committee steered them through the lobby with its lighted Christmas tree into the gymnasium, where they were addressed by Lester Squire, supervising principal, and assigned to rooms.

Each grade was allowed a complete tour of the new building before settling down.

Fires flickered out in the six small schoolhouses, and the huge furnace in the new building took over the task of keeping the children warmer than they had ever been during the winter school term. Tiled toilet facilities were a revelation. The one-room schools had been heated by pot-bellied stoves, and plumbing was non-existent.

First graders for the first time were assigned to a room with other children of their own age, and were able to apply themselves to their small tasks without interference or distraction from older children's recitations.

On Monday night school board members, members of the Authority Board, teachers, cafeteria staff, husbands and wives, gathered to give the beautiful new building a final inspection, and trim the tree donated by Harold Briggs, and lay plans for the formal dedication scheduled for January 2 at 8 p. m., with open house the same afternoon, 2-4.

Visitors toured the building, admiring the pastel painted walls, the blonde furniture, the spaciousness of the one-floor layout, the modern windows, the efficient furnace room, and the cheerful modern kitchen with its gleaming equipment and spacious cabinets and shelves.

There is a nurse's room equipped with a bed as well as necessary furniture, and having its own plumbing facilities. Desks here and in the supervising principal's office are of stainless steel with brushed metal surface. In the office there is a broadcasting arrangement which connects with every room by ceiling installation, allowing any program desired to be heard in any room. Monday night's Telephone Hour could be heard in any of the six classrooms or gymnasium with equal clarity and volume.

Each classroom had a different color scheme, those on the shadier side tending toward warm yellow, those with a sunny exposure decorated in cooler tones. There is fluorescent lighting throughout. Desks and chairs are of the modern movable type, hard maple and sturdy,

with graduations in size in each room to accommodate any build of child. Blackboards are the non-glare type. There is provision for a public telephone installation in the lobby. The gymnasium has

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Heads Agriculturalists



James D. Hutchison

James D. Hutchison, Luzerne County Farm Agent for thirty-five years, was elected president of Pennsylvania Agricultural Association at Pennsylvania State College last Wednesday. He was elected vice president last year at the State Convention.

Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, Oak Street, Trucksville, hope to attend the National Convention in Salt Lake City next October. Last year they attended a similar convention in Philadelphia, and in 1951 the convention in Chicago.

Christmas Eve Holy Communion

Reverend Thomas C. Davis, pastor of the Centermoreland-East Dallas Methodist Parish, has announced a special service of Holy Communion on Christmas Eve in East Dallas Church beginning at 11:30 p.m.

From 11:15 p.m. on, while the congregation is gathering, the familiar Christmas carols will be sung. Christmas chimes and hymns will be played through the tower during the evening.

At the Festival Holy Communion, the pastor will preach the sermon and administer the Holy Sacrament. The choir of East Dallas Church will sing special music as a part of the service. All the people of the parish, and interested people from the surrounding area are invited to be present. The church will be in candlelight during the service.

Two Officials Of Bi-County League Resign

"No Co-operation," Say George Shupp And Herman Kern

Two officials of the eight-team Bi-County Baseball League have resigned, it was announced this week, because of lack of cooperation within the league.

They are George Shupp, president, and Herman Kern, secretary. Their resignation will become effective December 31.

Both men have been active in the league over a period of years and their resignations remove two of the sparkplugs who have done so much to build up the prestige of the organization in recent months.

Shupp has been president of the league for the past two years. Prior to that time he was president and manager of the East Dallas team. He has been associated with the league for more than ten years.

Kern has been secretary for two years. He has been a leader in the effort to provide clean athletic activities for young men and boys over a period of years and has been largely instrumental in placing the Teeners League for younger boys on a sound footing.

The Bi-County League just closed one of its most successful seasons under the direction of Shupp, Kern and George Gay, treasurer.

For the first time in years it has closed the year with all bills paid.

Shupp, who has just been elected a director of Wilkes-Barre Barons, said, "lack of co-operation among the managers of the league" was the cause of the resignations. "I can now also devote more time to the Barons," he added.

Directors of the Bi-County League, Robert Barrett, West Pittston and Michael J. Haslin, Parsons, had no comment to make.

Member teams of the league are: Dallas Legionnaires, East Dallas, Kingston Township Veterans, Carverton, Beaumont, Noxen, Jenks and Tunkhannock.

Attractive Outdoor Christmas Lights Dot The Entire Back Mountain Area

Outdoor Christmas displays throughout the Back Mountain region were never more attractive nor elaborate than they are this year. Mild winter weather has evidently given everybody an opportunity to do the work of outside decoration in relative comfort.

New Goss Manor and Midland Drive are especially attractive after dark. Outstanding displays are to be found at the upper end of Machell Avenue, where Haymon Hedden has erected a number of illuminated Christmas trees at his apartments.

Police Are Checking All Angles Of Harveys Lake Mystery Killing

District Attorney Orders Closing Of All Commercial Bingo In The County

Because of the cutting cold blowing across Harveys Lake Wednesday night, the crowd was not large at the bingo game operated by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Gilhool in the Casino established by Pat Flannigan. On previous warmer evenings the crowd had numbered close to 300 players.

Wyoming County Refuses To Act On Merger Plan

Monroe's Failure To Win Release Certain To Cause More Delay

Prospects of a consolidation of Monroe Lake, Franklin and Dallas Township schools appear dim after the refusal of Wyoming County Board of School Directors to consider Monroe Township's appeal to be released from Wyoming County's plans for reorganization of school districts.

In refusing to consider the appeal spokesmen for Wyoming County Board said: "Under the new law, Act 184, any new jointure will have to have the approval of the County Board and the State Department of Public Instruction. Since the Luzerne County Board has not changed its reorganization plans for the Westmoreland and North Central Administrative Units we see no reason for the release of Monroe Township from Wyoming County. We are not going to attempt to tell Luzerne County how to set up its administrative districts."

The spokesman said: "This does not mean that the Wyoming County Board will not consider Monroe's appeal if the Luzerne County Board and the State Department of Public Instruction approve a different administrative set-up for Back Mountain Schools."

Present plans of the Luzerne County Board call for two administrative districts: The Westmoreland District includes Dallas Borough, Dallas Township, Franklin Township and Kingston Township. The North Central District includes Lehman, Jackson, Ross, Lake and Noxen Townships, Noxen having been previously released to join with Lake Township.

To date Luzerne County Board of School Directors has refused to reconsider any change in administrative set-up until Monroe obtains its release from Wyoming County.

Review of the plans by the School Facilities Survey hinges on Monroe Township obtaining its release and the release being approved by the State Council of Education.

The Luzerne County Board of School Directors would then ask the State Department of Public Instruction for a survey to see if a third administrative district composed of Dallas, Franklin, Lake, Noxen and Monroe Townships is feasible.

In brief the ball is being tossed back and forth between Wyoming County Board of School Directors and Luzerne County Board of School Directors and it remains to be seen whether the Lake, Noxen, Monroe, Dallas, Franklin Township quintet can break through the guards and make a basket. Present indications are that the game will run overtime.

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As the last of the players left, Mr. Gilhool, a former prominent scholastic football official, and his assistant and buyer, tall, handsome Paul Graver prepared to check the day's receipts and close for the night. Other employees, Florence Bna-Mocha of Wilkes-Barre, a Mr. Shedlock of Dupont, busied themselves with the final tidying up. Mrs. Gilhool's sister, Joan Casey, and her companion George Lewis were also there. Attractive Mrs. Gilhool, a graduate of Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, decided not to wait for her husband.

She would ride home with Florence Bna-Mocha after stopping at Jack Nohoff's cafe for a sandwich and a shuffle board game with Florence, Joan and George.

Although the cafe had been closed since 12:15, it was reopened to admit the four friends who frequently stopped there after the bingo games.

Tending bar was William Dougher of Harveys Lake. Another who shortly stopped for refreshments was Jack Kehoe of Harding. He was in an expansive mood and spent freely, buying round after round of champagne and double drinks for the crowd.

As the evening wore on, he and Mrs. Gilhool danced to the strains of the juke box. Mrs. Gilhool ate little but enjoyed the drinks and the companionship.

Over at the Casino, Mr. Gilhool and Paul Graver took a look around to see that all was in order, then Mr. Gilhool got in his car with the night's receipts and drove home followed by Mr. Shedlock in his car. Gilhool turned left on Vaughn street. Shedlock proceeded to Dupont.

Gilhool said he then went to bed, unconcerned that his wife had not accompanied him, because she would come home shortly with Florence Bna-Mocha.

Back at Nohoff's Mrs. Gilhool and Kehoe continued to dance—with Kehoe showing his drinks and becoming abusive.

After Gilhool left, Paul Graver, who lives in an apartment in the Casino while his wife and family remain at Lehighton, dropped in at Nohoff's to join his friends.

Joan Casey, Mrs. Gilhool's sister, and her companion, George Lewis, left for their homes at 3 o'clock.

Mrs. Gilhool came over to Graver's table to complain that Kehoe was not liquored and abusive. Graver advised her: "You have no business dancing with him when he's drunk." She resented the remark. "Now, you're getting nasty," said Paul, "I'm going home." At 4 he left the saloon and went back to his room in the Casino, where, he later told police, he made a sandwich and went to bed.

The liquor was taking effect on Kehoe. He was no longer able to enjoy dancing. He passed out. Someone loaded him in his car and his chauffeur drove him home.

The party was over. It was 5:30 Thursday morning.

Mrs. Gilhool told Florence she had forgotten a package at the Casino and borrowed a flashlight from Bill Dougher to go back and get it. "It'll be right back," she told Florence as she left.

About 10 o'clock Florence went over to the Casino, aroused Paul Graver and told him Mrs. Gilhool was missing. It was the first he knew something was wrong.

In Kingston as Mr. Gilhool awakened Thursday morning about 9 he noticed the hall light still burning. He went to his wife's adjoining room. She had not returned as he had expected. He called her mother and sisters and other relatives. He called at the Lake. At 1 o'clock he notified the State Police that Dorothy was missing.

Harveys Lake police received the notice at 4:30 and Joseph Ide, Lehman Police Chief, was notified at about the same time. They went to the vicinity where she had been last seen questioned neighbors and started a painstaking search.

State Policemen Louis Shupnick and Vincent Nelson, in plain clothes, and working on another case at the Lake, heard the word that Mrs. Gilhool was missing and joined in the investigation. Shupnick was a neighbor and old acquaintance of the Gilhools.

That evening, Mr. Gilhool arrived to open the bingo for the night's activity, but now there was real concern for Dorothy and it was de-

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