

THE DALLAS POST

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER, A COMMUNITY INSTITUTION

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Enemy Of The People

Within a few weeks Dallas is going to open its eyes and find, maybe, they are black.

Take for example this bad publicity that has a lot of Luzerne County folks thinking there is something corrupt about Dallas Borough finances and that what we enjoy most is a fight among ourselves.

From the sensational charges and black headlines you'd gather that James Besecker, Borough Secretary, had gotten away with one of the jewels from the Pearly Gates instead of slipping up on the technicality of filing a copy of the Borough Audits with the County Clerk of Courts. From the same charges and the threats of a \$39,000 fine anybody outside the community might get the impression that the job of Borough Secretary or Auditor is as profitable as running a Bingo for the fire company. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Self-righteous and possibly well-intentioned persons have stirred up these charges—for what reason we do not know; but the results have so far only blackened the reputation of the community and of individuals. Perhaps this is the substance of McCarthyism; but so far nothing has been revealed that benefits the community.

Not only is Mr. Besecker involved in these charges but so are the Borough Auditors who served during the period when it is charged the Borough Audits were not filed. These men filled an unwanted job for a paltry sum, simply because nobody else would take it.

They are Henry Peterson, Robert Lewis, Richard Owens, David Evans and Edwin Creasy.

They are sure to be involved if Mr. Besecker comes up for trial on these ridiculous and silly charges, for here's what the Borough Code Section 1035 (e) page 36 has to say under Duties of the Auditors:

"After such report (the audit) has been prepared and executed by the Auditors, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Borough to retain a copy and to file a copy of the report with the Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the County and the Department of Internal Affairs. Such reports shall be filed by the Secretary of the Borough not later than the fifteenth of April. Any Secretary refusing or wilfully neglecting to file such a report shall upon conviction in a summary proceeding, be sentenced to pay a fine of five dollars for each day's delay beyond the last day for filing such report, and costs. IF THE FAILURE TO FILE SUCH REPORT WITHIN THE PERIOD SPECIFIED IS DUE TO THE FAILURE OF THE AUDITORS TO PREPARE THE STATEMENT UPON WHICH SUCH REPORT IS TO BE BASED, SAID FINE SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON ALL THE AUDITORS."

It seems to us unfair that civic-minded and upright gentlemen should have to face the possibility of a fine or the humiliation of a trial for failing to file with the Clerk of Courts a copy of an audit for which no receipt is ever given, especially when that audit has been previously advertised in the community newspaper and filed with the Department of Internal Affairs.

As for us, we are one taxpayer who is positive there was no refusal or wilful neglect on the part of the Borough Secretary or the Auditors to file the copies.

Let him who never makes an error in his own profession or in his service to the community—cast the first stone.

FROM PILLAR TO POST

By MRS. T. M. B. HICKS

A car is a remarkably convenient thing, but it is paid for not only in coin of the realm (courtesy of bank or finance company) but with a long list of intangibles. They are things that no car-borne visitor to the Back Mountain can have any conception of. Roadsides to a good many motorists are just a place to dump garbage or to denude of flowering laurel, a stretch of scenery to be traversed as quickly as possible, eye on the ultimate destination.

Folks who have been offering me lifts during the past four years of unexpected pedestrianism will probably give three rousing cheers that Mrs. Hicks is now rolling along on four wheels again. But Mrs. Hicks is regretful.

For comfort, for ease, for a broadening of restricted horizons, I have traded these things:

The first wild strawberry blossoms and a little later tiny scarlet strawberries hidden under their leaves.

Budded laurel, faintly pink, following the wild azalea.

The coolness of the rocks and the dim woods after a walk through blazing sunshine on a July day.

Baby rabbits frozen in their tracks vanishing in a flurry of white cottontails as a monster threatens them by her presence.

Blue-Jay fledglings which must be lifted and placed on a low branch, with no cooperation at all from an irate mother bird scolding shrilly from her own safe perch.

The silence of the stars at midnight, the road invisible, the only indication of the path a break far ahead in the dark trelaine.

A plane above, winging its lonesome way across the sky, lights twinkling, engines muted by distance. The blaze of Autumn coloring, and the crisp feel of fallen leaves under foot.

The first snowstorm, bare trees pencilled against the sky, cars stealing along on tiptoe.

A fringe of crystal icicles trimming the overhanging rocks.

Deep winter, with a North wind cutting off the breath at the big curve where the Upper Road leaves the Lower, where the sun never shines from November to March, and where footing is hazardous because of underlying ice. The delight of emerging into the thin winter sunshine after the deep freeze. The snow squeals under-

foot, and the road is mine alone. The first hint of green, with snow still pocketed among the rocks.

The first hepaticas, fragile orchid blossoms rising from leather leaves.

A landslide from a rocky slope, with pine trees left standing starkly on their roots, clasp the rock ledge.

Spring and summer again, with the years cycle complete.

Study Tannery Waste Disposal

Armour Takes Option On Large Noxen Farm

Armour Leather Company is making a survey of the Wilson Harding farm at Noxen to determine the feasibility of constructing a big new filter plant which will permit the company's Noxen tannery to operate without interruption during the summer season when water is low in Bowman's Creek.

Heretofore the tannery has been forced to curtail its production during periods of low water when refuse could not be dumped in Bowman's Creek without polluting the stream. Some years ago the tannery ran into difficulties when pollution from its filtering plant killed large numbers of fish in Bowman's Creek.

Since that time its curtailed production and thrown numbers of its employees out of work during periods when the stream was low. So far this season two weeks of work have been lost.

The company has obtained a 90-day option on the Harding Farm. This option will expire on August 19, and it is believed that the company will shortly make an announcement of its plans.

Auction Chevrolet Helps Water Skeeter Sales



THE CHEVROLET SEDAN—purchased at the Library Auction by Paul Gross is here shown in its new role as advertising car for demonstrations of the Water Skeeter manufactured by Coal-O-Matic Company for Dallas Engineers Inc. The popular Water Skeeter has been shown and demonstrated at water resorts, lakes and shore points in lower New York, Connecticut, northern New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania where it has received an enthusiastic reception. Designed by Hanford Eckman, Sr., chief engineer at Coal-O-Matic, in collaboration with his son Hanford, Jr., the Water Skeeter is a new means of locomotion on water. It is of all metal construction, and has two bright red pontoons with bright yellow noses surmounted by a plywood seat for two or three persons. Usual means of propulsion is by foot-powered paddles, but there is also a motor powered version. It is very safe and will not tip over or sink, the pontoons always keeping it afloat. Dealerships have been established throughout the east and already are pouring into the Coal-O-Matic plant. The August issue of Motor Boating, national publication for boat enthusiasts, carries a story and picture of the local product. Recently the Water Skeeter was shown at Larchmont, N. Y., and franchises have been issued to dealers in the east where there is a ready market for Water Skeeter at summer camps, clubs, cottages and boat concessionaires. Nich Arnone, proprietor of Jay's Boat Rental, has the dealership at Harveys Lake and has two of the Water Skeeters on rental. Fishermen acclaim them as superior to a boat. The picture above was taken with Huntsville Reservoir in the background.

Leinthall Players To Present Three One-Act Plays At Lake

In order to raise money to buy a new fire engine, Women's Auxiliary of Daniel C. Roberts Fire Company, is sponsoring The Leinthall Players, a mobile stock company directed by Franklin Leinthall, in an evening of one-act plays, Saturday night, August 14 at Lake-Noxen High School. The plays to be present are "A Long Stay Out Short" or "The Unsatisfactory Supper" by Tennessee Williams, "Fumed Oak" by Noel Coward's "Tonight at 8:30," and "A Pair of Lunatics" by W. R. Walkes.

Mr. Leinthall, who was born in Nanticoke, and lived in Scranton and Harveys Lake, is a teacher at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City. He has acted in stock, motion pictures and television. He began his dramatic career while attending Lake Township High School and Wyoming Seminary. His brother, Rev. Guy A. Leinthall, is minister of Wyoming Methodist Church, and another brother, Walbridge E. Leinthall, is on the police force at Harveys Lake.

The Leinthall Players has as its nucleus a group of young actors from the Pilgrim Players, a successful off-Broadway group in New York City, directed by Leinthall.

Tickets may be obtained from Mrs. Malcolm Nelson, Harveys Lake, or by telephoning Harveys Lake 9-3127 for reservations.



FRANKLIN LEINTHALL

President Henry Peterson then moderated a general discussion of the shortage of water in the Dallas area. Each man had an opportunity to voice his opinion after President Peterson commented on some of the advantages and disadvantages of the purchase of tank trucks. He stated that a gallon of water weighs one-fifth more than a gallon of gas. A used 2,000-gallon tank truck with chassis would weigh about ten tons. Considering this, many expressed the opinion that this would cost too much money to purchase a chassis and that it would be too troublesome to get into many spots in the area.

Some also suggested water tanks spotted in the region but that was ruled out when freezing temperatures were considered. It was also suggested that pressure be put on the water company to supply an adequate amount of water in spots where some domestic users are without water for as many as three hours a day.

Chief Besecker also stated that an effort will be made to add a 450-gallon tank on the old pumper which would make a total of 1,000 gallons on both trucks. During the discussion it was decided that President Peterson should appoint a committee to look into all phases and make a report within two months.

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Laing Firemen Discuss Tanker

Robinhold Resigns; Dungey Is Treasurer

Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Company met Monday evening with twenty members present. Five new members were introduced.

After the minutes, nominations for treasurer, left vacant by the resignation of Daniel Robinhold, were in order with Art Dungey and Charlie Flack getting the nod. Flack declined and Dungey was elected.

Chief Besecker reported on the recent fire at the American Legion, stating that before any discussion of the water shortage, he would like to suggest the installation of cisterns throughout the Dallas area. Besecker also asked that a letter of thanks be sent to all fire companies attending the fire. He also stated that a fire school will start in September. A minimum of twenty men are needed to start with a maximum of forty.

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William Wright To Head Auction For Year 1955

Annual Event Classifies As Big Business

William Wright was introduced as the 1955 Auction chairman at Monday night's Library Auction Committee meeting held in Back Mountain Memorial Library Annex. Robert Bachman, 1954 general chairman asked for constructive suggestions toward making the 1955 auction an even greater success than the eight auctions preceding it, and wound up business for the July 9 and 10 sale.

Howard Risley, stating that the annual auction had now become big business, suggested possible appointment of a business manager to coordinate efforts.

A variety of suggestions was offered during informal discussion. The consensus was that while the flags were waving and the crowds cheering, it was easy to get cooperation, but that the morning after it was difficult to enlist aid in cleaning up the shambles, the burden falling too heavily upon a few people. It was decided that each committee should be asked to appoint a clean-up squad to work without benefit of praise and publicity after the fun is over.

A tighter-knit organization with more specific delineation of responsibilities was recommended, with better carry through after the auction.

Stefan Hellersperk got a vote of thanks for his superior handling of the grounds, and Explorer Scouts were praised because of their participation in trucking furniture and acting as runners and barn helpers.

Mrs. Dan Robinhold reported for refreshments; Mrs. Fred Howell for the antique committee; William Wright for Kiwanis barbecue; Mrs. Mitchell Jenkins for general solicitation; Charles Rinehimer for new goods; Mrs. George Jacobs for books; Mrs. Bud Silverman for picture frames; Lettie Culver for chances; Mrs. T. M. B. Hicks for publicity.

Necessity for having men on the refreshment committee was stressed Sheldon Evans, reported Mrs. Robinhold, was invaluable at the booth.

Baked goods, is was brought out, could do twice as much business. Sticky buns and cherry pies and fresh gingerbread disappeared before they reached the counter, so great was the demand. Ways of getting more baked goods were discussed. Lists are kept each year as a foundation for solicitation next year. Telephoning friends personally was one suggestion.

The matter of having another smaller sale in early autumn or late summer was brought up. There is still material enough in the Barn to bring bidding from a good sized daytime crowd at bargain prices. Many residents have expressed interest in certain items, things which were not brought to the block because of lack of time. If this plan is carried out, there will be plenty of advance notice through papers and radio.

Present were Robert Bachman, chairman; Mrs. Arthur Ross, auction secretary; H. W. Smith, Stefan Hellersperk, Mrs. Mitchell Jenkins, Mrs. Herbert Smith, Jr., William Wright, Mrs. Silverman, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Culver, Mrs. Howell, Mrs. Jacobs, Sheldon Evans, Mrs. Hicks, Howard Risley, Charles Rinehimer, Arthur Ross.

Teen-Agers Hurt In Car Crash

Laura Perkins And Paget At Nesbitt

Two Back Mountain teen-agers who were seriously injured Friday morning at 6:30 on their way back to work at a Pocono summer resort area, are making good progress at Nesbitt Hospital. Laura Perkins, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Charles Perkins, and Roger Kent Paget, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Paget, were hospitalized at Stroudsburg immediately following the crash but were transferred to Nesbitt Sunday evening.

Both were badly lacerated when the car crossed highway 611 on a long straight hill, hit a tree, plunged into a gully on the wrong side of the road and turned over. Both remained conscious. Roger thinks he may have closed his eyes for a moment at the wheel.

Laura, 18, has a long scalp wound and a badly lacerated knee. Roger, 17, has scalp wounds and a badly lacerated arm, exposing tendons, with possibility of glass still imbedded.

Laura had a vacation job at Cliff View Inn; Roger at Buck Hill Inn. Both had Thursday off, and spent the day with their families here.

Legion Members Will Decide On Home Location

Post Owns Four Large Lots On Memorial Highway

Membership of Daddow-Isaacs Post American Legion will meet Monday night at 8 at the Borough Building to hear reports of loss during the recent fire which destroyed its building and to discuss rebuilding plans.

Frank Ferry, chairman of the Board, will preside and has announced that tentative construction plans have been requested from four contractors and probably will be presented at this meeting.

The Legion owns four large lots along Memorial Highway at Center Hill Road, as well as the property on which the former building stood on Huntsville Road.

The membership will be asked to decide where the new home will be located. Current sentiment is in favor of the Memorial Highway location.

A survey of losses of equipment, fixtures and building made by a special committee appointed for that purpose show that the Legion's loss was far greater than the \$30,000 insurance carried, but officers feel confident that the membership and the community will generously support the construction of a new and finer home.

There are presently about 200 members in the Post and 300 members in the Home Association. Only Legion members will attend Monday's meeting.

New Directory Due August 2

Four Hundred Phone Numbers Are Changed

In order to render more efficient service to meet the expanding needs of the Dallas District, Col. H. H. Butler, vice-president and general manager, Commonwealth Telephone Company announced today that approximately four hundred telephone numbers in the Dallas, Harveys Lake, Centermoreland, Sweet Valley and Harding exchange areas have been changed.

These new numbers as well as those of additional subscribers will be shown in the new Dallas, Tunkhannock and Shickshinny Directory which will be distributed on or about August 2nd. Approximately 13,400 subscribers will be listed in the new directory covering these three company districts.

Colonel Butler also stated that pressurizing of Commonwealth Telephone Company's Dallas to Wilkes-Barre cable has been completed. The cable has been filled with nitrogen gas under six pounds pressure. Purpose of such pressurizing is to keep moisture out of the cable should cracks appear in the lead sheathing.

Should moisture begin to effect the cable in any area, the gas pressure wards off any immediate trouble or service disruption and, at the same time, sets off a signal at the central office warning of the cable leak or break. The cable is pressurized in sections by means of dams so that the returning warning signal discloses in which section service trouble may be imminent thus facilitating its immediate repair.

This system of pressurizing cable is employed by the Bell System as well as Commonwealth Telephone Company has used it several years in cable in the Montrose, Clarks Summit and Troy areas.

Gould's Jaguar Misses By Hair

Elston and Gould missed first place in Giants Despair hillclimb by seven tenths of a second, taking second and third places in their class. The English Jaguar would have walked away with the race if it had been three thousand miles older. Delivered only a few days before the race by Danny Meeker, Kunkle dealer, the powerful little car had not had time to be completely broken in. Tiny Gould owns the car, Ray Elston drove it.

Elston and Gould hold the licensing authority for North Eastern Pennsylvania territory of Sports Cars Club of America. Charlie Glace, Trucksville is representative for the area. John Dukes, secretary, will soon be a Back Mountain man with a summer home near Farmers Inn.

Bob Morgan, Sweet Valley, drove a Crossley with a Ford V 8 engine in the hillclimb. There were 88 entries, 64 in the road races. Most entries were from other localities.