

## SAFETY FIRST

It is time for all Back Mountain Ambulance Associations to get together and decide on a few fundamentals. All four units, Kingston Township, Dallas Community, Harveys Lake, and Lehman, have reciprocal agreements on use of apparatus, but something more is needed.

Reciprocal agreements on safety are vital. A safety commission, composed of a delegate from each unit, willing to exchange information and experience, would go a long way toward solving some of the difficulties.

Such a commission should soberly study the situation, and ask expert advice.

Fortunately, such advice is at hand. Lehman, the smallest of the units, with the least costly apparatus, is leading the way.

Before the ambulance was put into service, rules were laid down, and substantial men of the community pledged themselves not to exceed forty miles an hour in driving the ambulance. There are eight drivers. They are all of an age where the hot-rod complex is out of their systems. Stuart Marks, president of the Lehman Fire Company, instructed driver-candidates in safety rules. Mr. Marks drove an ambulance for years in Pittsburgh, a service maintained by seven hospitals. Rules were rigid.

Pittsburgh is a densely populated area, but it poses no more serious problems than those confronting a driver who transports a patient from anywhere in the Back Mountain to a Valley Hospital.

Any doctor will state emphatically that *speed does not save lives*. If a patient is at his last gasp, delivering him to the operating table so that he may breathe it there instead of in the ambulance, will not save his life.

### BUT IT MAY ENDANGER OTHERS.

We have a speed limit of fifty miles an hour on the highway.

### A speed LIMIT.

That is something which a great many of us do not really take in at all. A LIMIT is an outside maximum, not a requirement. We do not HAVE to drive fifty miles an hour if it is safer not to do so.

An ambulance with an injured or seriously ill patient on its stretcher should roll so smoothly that there is never a jolt or bump. A great many patients are adversely disturbed by the constant siren. A siren is seldom necessary if the ambulance is proceeding with proper caution.

Ambulances may proceed through a red light when necessary, or through a stop sign, but NEVER at a speed at which it is impossible to stop at once and without a jar. This means two miles an hour in low.

It is our suggestion that all Ambulance Associations appoint a driver representative to meet with other representatives, and ask Mr. Marks as a civic contribution to offer a course of instruction in safe driving.

### Accidents can happen to anybody.

But they seldom happen to commercial ambulances which make a business of handling seriously ill patients.

## FROM

# PILLAR TO POST

By MRS. T. M. B. HICKS

So many people have called up to inquire about the probable fate of a grandchild sleeping in the top bunk, that it might be as well to relieve the community mind. The young mothers with one accord turned thumbs down on the top bunk. Let some other grandchild sleep up there, was their collective view, but spare little Johnnie or little Willie or little Throckmorton. Their own offspring were fragile.

Baloney, that's my reaction. When I was a kid I dreamed about sleeping in the upper berth on a ship, told myself tall tales about sleeping in an upper berth, and even tried, without success, to promote one in my own room by mounting an ironing board upon a pair of chair-backs.

And then what happens? I grow up to be about fourteen, still with that yen to sleep among the stars, and take my first overnight trip on a steamboat going down Chesapeake Bay. There was the upper berth, its sheets and spreads and pillow invitingly taut, its little ladder reaching aloft. But did I sleep in it? Nope, I crawled into the lower bunk and wished all night that I were in the upper. It's hard to explain, but I wondered what the steward would think in the morning if he saw the lower bunk immaculate and the upper one disarranged. That's the trouble with beginning to grow up. You get self-conscious.

If those grandchildren hold it against their mothers that they never slept in a top bunk, their mothers will have to explain it to the psychiatrist as best they can. Anyway, I get A for effort.

When the large and completely uninvited dog came leaping out of the station wagon Wednesday night, Pinky duffed her tail and enlarged her eyes and spit. When Biffy said he needed a playmate and chose Pinky, Pinky climbed the wall. Things were hectic around there for a few minutes, but eased off when Pinky left home.

Biffy lolled out a pink tongue and settled down in front of the Franklin stove in the path of progress. "Is the creature housebroken?" I inquired with legitimate curiosity. "Of course," I was assured in firm accents. "And naturally, he'll have to sleep in the house. He might run away!"

"That," I murmured, "would certainly be a loss."

Biffy grinned widely, and laid a soft muzzle in my lap. I surreptitiously fed him a scrap from the table. Persis brought in a large box of dog-food and mixed up a mess in the best saucapan.

I substituted a wash-basin. "It'll be easier for him to lick it out of this smooth flat basin," I coaxed, hiding the saucapan.

At six in the morning I heard sounds down in the kitchen. It seemed hardly the time to be up and stirring, but I staggered out of bed and went down. Let it never be said that I deny a child outmeal.

(Continued on Page Five)

## Georgia Woman Asks About Next Summer's Ninth Annual Auction

Postmaster Joseph Polack, shortly before Thanksgiving, received the following post card:

"I read recently of the Auction you all have each year for the library. I am wondering if you can advise me at this time just when the Auction will take place next summer. I want to come. Thank you. Mrs. John M. Brown, Garmon Road, Atlanta, Georgia."

## Besecker Fine Appeal Upheld

Pointing out that the alleged offense lacked the element of willful intent, Judge Thomas M. Lewis last week sustained the appeal of James F. Besecker, Dallas Borough Secretary, from an alderman's conviction and sentence of \$26,405 fine and costs for failure to file Borough Audits with the Clerk of Courts Office on time.

Judge Lewis also found that the directive to file the audit with the Clerk of Courts is listed in the Borough Code under duties of the Auditors.

Besecker was convicted and fined by Alderman Francis V. Murphy, Wilkes-Barre, for failing to file the audit for 1945 to 1952 inclusive. The fine was imposed under a provision assessing \$5 for each day's delay beyond April 15 filing date.

Prosecutor was Dr. F. Budd Schooley. Atty. James Brown represented the plaintiff. Atty. William Valentine represented Besecker.

After declaring Besecker not guilty, Judge Lewis placed costs on the county.

## Four Lehman Boys Crash Pole On Chase Road

Ronnie Jones, Richard Mekeel, and Mike Schuitz, juniors, and Jack Kern, sophomore at Lehman-Jackson-Ross high school, crashed a pole Saturday night near the Wilbur Hoyt home on Chase Road, on their way home from a dance at Jackson Fire Hall. None of the youths was seriously injured, nor was Ronnie's car badly damaged.

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## Lehman To Have Christmas Home Lighting Prizes

### Auxiliary Of Fire Company Asks All To Join In Project

Lehman Township is having a Christmas Home Lighting Contest this year sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fire Company.

Prizes in the amount of \$10, \$5 and \$3 will be awarded to the homes adjudged best decorated by a group of judges selected from outside the township.

Members of the Auxiliary Committee in charge of the project are Mrs. Myron Baker and Mrs. Lester Squier. All who wish to enter the contest may obtain application blanks by getting in touch with either of them.

Purpose of the blanks is to let the committee know where to send the judges.

In connection with the home lighting contest, Lehman Firemen will have charge of community lighting and will erect, decorate and light a large tree in Lehman Center.

Widows, shut-ins, and aged persons who would like to have assistance in trimming their homes may call Stuart Marks, president of the fire company, as several firemen have offered to assist.

Mrs. Stuart Marks, president of the Auxiliary, said yesterday that a number of home owners have already filled out application blanks and are at work on plans for their home lighting projects.

## Lions Present \$500 To Lehman

### Firemen Will Use It On Truck Or Ambulance

Harveys Lake Lions Club has presented \$500 to Lehman Volunteer Fire Company for the purchase of new equipment for either the fire truck or ambulance.

The presentation was made informally this week by George Alles, treasurer of the Club, to Wesley Moore of the Fire Company.

For a number of years the Lions Club has presented \$500 on alternate years to community organizations in Lake and Lehman Townships in addition to carrying on its extensive primary objective, sight conservation.

Last year the Club gave Daniel C. Roberts Fire Company \$500, and the year before that it gave Lehman Township Police Department a resuscitator.

Funds for the Lions charitable and community work are obtained from club's annual Lady of the Lake contest.

Thomas Garrity is president of the Lions. Stuart Marks is president of the Lehman company.

## Shavertown Branch Bank Is Approved

The Back Mountain region will shortly have another branch bank. Wyoming National Bank of Wilkes-Barre was notified this week by the Comptroller of the Currency that its application for a branch bank in Shavertown has formally been approved.

Albert M. Bossard, president of Wyoming National, said the Branch will open in approximately sixty days, depending on delivery dates for the vault and other equipment.

The branch will be located in the building built especially for the purpose two years ago adjacent to Back Mountain Lumber and Coal Company.

Mr. Bossard said the new office will enable the 125-year-old financial institution to serve more efficiently old and new customers in the Back Mountain area. All banking facilities will be available for customer use.

## Emergency Polio Cans Brought In \$254.74

The Back Mountain region raised \$254.74 during the recent Emergency March of Dimes for the National Foundation For Infantile Paralysis. Communities and amounts were: Dallas, \$74.19; Kingston Township, \$81.45; Lake Township, \$99.10.

## Break Ground For Store

Ground was broken this week for Gerald Frantz's new gift shop and apartment on Memorial Highway near Stevens' Service Station in Shavertown. Hoover & Milbrodt have the contract for excavation and Whitesell Brothers have the general contract.

## Ambulance Association Decides On Cadillac Superior



Here is the new Dallas Community Ambulance, which will be ready for service in a few days, replacing the one wrecked November 13 at Union and Mercer Streets, Kingston, on its way to General Hospital shortly after 1 a.m. Left to right are: Leslie Barstow, Bill Berti, Russell Honeywell, Nort Berti, Mrs. T. M. B. Hicks, Robert Laux, Charles Flack, Harry Brown, William Wright, Howard Johns, and Alvin Shaffer, all of whom were present at the Board meeting Sunday afternoon when the ambulance was decided upon. Photo by Kozemchak

## Nineteen Fire Police Sworn In

### Will Serve At All Kingston Twp. Fires

Nineteen Kingston Township men representing all sections of the township were sworn in as special fire police at Trucksville Fire House on Monday evening November 15 by Arthur Smith, Police Commissioner, Donald O. Coughlin, Solicitor and Marjorie T. Thompson, Notary Public.

The men will be authorized to attend all fires and have full police powers during the time of the emergency. They will receive \$1 per year for their services and will work both with Shavertown and Trucksville Fire Departments or at any fire anywhere in the township.

If they run into any trouble they will report to the Police Commissioner. All men will be issued badges.

Men sworn in were: Vought Long, W. Martin Porter, Fred W. Malkemes, Raymond A. Finney, Robert A. Sulger, Stanley C. Krzywicki, Michael Silic, Ralph F. Gerhart, D. D. Whitesell, George J. Bednar, James M. Weiss, William Hewitt, Asher M. Weiss, Stephen D. Finney, Miles N. Shales, Larry H. Johnson, Lowther Brown, F. Allan Nichols, and Fred H. Case.

In addition the Township will still have available for emergency service at fires its regular police officers and special officers. Regular officers are Chief Jesse Coslett, Asst. Chief Herbert Updyke and special officers Joe Layaou, Herbert Jenkins, Evan Evans and Ralph Swan.

## Joseph J. Ruda Back In Prison

### Stole Cars, Used Knife As Threat

Burglaries at Sheldon's Restaurant, Pikes Creek, November 18 and 23, were laid at the door of Joseph John Ruda, RD 1, Hunlocks Creek on Wednesday. Chief Edgar Hughes and assistant Walbridge Leithal heard his confession at Shickshiny State Police Barracks.

Ruda was found sleeping in Plymouth in one of the twenty cars he stole during the past two weeks. Recently released on probation from the Eastern Penitentiary, Ruda had a hide-out in a closed cabin at Lake Silkworth. Burglaries of the Sheldon Restaurant, made through a screened back window, were mostly for the purpose of obtaining food. Amounts of money taken amounted to only \$6.42.

Ruda, 23, terrorized women in Wilkes-Barre by leaping from a car with a butcher knife, and demanding their pocket books.

## Christmas Lights Go On Next Week

Christmas street lights in Dallas Borough will be turned on early next week according to Fred Welsh who was appointed chairman of Borough Council's Christmas Lighting Committee this week by Council President Joseph MacVeigh after the annual holiday street lighting project appeared to be bogging down.

MacVeigh's action followed closely after Chief of Police Russell Honeywell took the bull by the horns and collected \$145 from local merchants to pay a part of the costs of the project. These funds will be used to buy replacement bulbs and wire and pay for erection. Borough Council pays for the current used.

## Dallas Community Ambulance Board Votes Purchase Of Cadillac Superior

### Story Hour Begins Tomorrow At 10:30 In Library Annex

Story and music hour for children aged five to ten will start tomorrow at 10:30 in Back Mountain Memorial Library. Mrs. H. A. Smith will tell stories, and there will be recorded Christmas music to enjoy. Parents will find that small children will be enthralled, leaving them free to do the family marketing or browse in the library, which opens on Saturdays at 10 a. m. At 11 a. m., the story hour is over.

There will be a fireplace fire for cheer. Children may bring a cushion so that they can sit comfortably in front of the fire, but this is only a suggestion, not obligatory. There are plenty of chairs and small stools. Any child in the age group mentioned is welcome. There will be story hours on three successive Saturdays, and the story hour will continue into the winter if there is enough demand.

## Proceeds From Minstrel \$1453

### Seniors, Juniors, Share In Revenue

Dallas Senior Woman's Club Board met at the home of Mrs. Ralph Dixon Monday night. Mrs. Walter Elston assisting as co-hostess, and Mrs. Harris Haycox presiding.

A Christmas tea is planned for Wednesday evening at 8 in the Library Annex. The Choral will sing, and a sketch will be presented under guidance of Mildred Cheney.

Mrs. Byron Creasy, in charge of Christmas baskets, asks that members bring usable toys in good condition, warm clothing, and canned goods. The Junior Womens Club has offered to donate underwear.

Mrs. Francis Ambrose announced proceeds from the Plantation Party Minstrel as \$1,453.68, an amount to be divided between the Senior and Junior clubs. Important business will be transacted at the Club meeting.

Others present were Mesdames: E. J. Davis, L. L. Richardson, Wilson Maury, Robert Maturi, William Wright, Robert Bachman, James Huston, Milford Shaver, Marion Harter, Ross Lewin, William Clewell, Harry Ohlman, Herman Thomas, Byron Creasy, Sheldon Evans, Arthur Culver, Robert Van Horn, Misses Mary Weir and Patricia Reynolds.

## Register Tomorrow, 1 to 8 With Back Mountain VFW

Back Mountain Veterans of Foreign Wars, formerly Kingston Township Veterans Association, will be open tomorrow from 1 to 8 p. m. to register any veterans who bring their discharge papers, according to Sandy McCullough, financial secretary. Temporary officers have been appointed and a charter applied for. Regular officers will be elected in January. Present chairman is Dale Parsons.

## Daddow Isaacs Tonight

There will be an important meeting of Directors of Daddow Isaacs Post Home Association tonight at 8 in Dallas Borough Building.

## Careless Lone Hunter Blasts Elmcrest Home

### Other Areas Report Guns Are Fired Too Close To Residences

A few days ago the attractive home of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Mitchell, Elmcrest, was the target for a volley of shot fired at a racing rabbit by a hunter who was within a few yards of the property.

John C. Behel, State Game Protector and Peter Fritsky, Assistant, together with State Police investigated the incident and sent a report of their findings to Harrisburg.

The siding along the entire back of the house was badly marred with upwards to sixty lead pellets embedded deeply in the clapboards. Some of the shot extended around a dining room window opposite which Mrs. Mitchell sat when the shot was fired.

Due to the wide area of damage, Game Protectors and State Police concluded that the bullets must have hit a rock a few feet off the property and ricocheted against the house.

Mrs. Mitchell said she was shocked but unharmed by the experience and that the vibration from the blast caused fragile stemware in a china cabinet near the window to topple over. Her first thought was that a construction crew working a few houses away had set off a dynamite charge, but the barking of a hound just outside the window changed her mind.

Investigation revealed the hunter standing a few feet off the Mitchell property line, "aware," Mrs. Mitchell said, "of what he had done but not the least apologetic."

"His only excuse," said Mrs. Mitchell, "came fully twenty-four hours later after police had visited his home and the Game Protector had brought him back to the Mitchell property to take a good look at his handiwork."

Other residents of Elmcrest say they have frequently been disturbed by hunters shooting too close to houses, and running their dogs on Sunday and at the crack of dawn.

There have been numerous other complaints throughout the Back Mountain area of hunters shooting too close to property. There have been instances at Fernbrook and along Overbrook Avenue, as well as in Dallas where there is an ordinance against the discharge of firearms within the Borough limits.

## Traffic Signals To Be Automatic

### Center Street Lights To Operate Magnetically

Magnetic, automatic traffic signals similar to those in operation at the intersection of Carverton Road and Memorial Highway have been approved by the State Department of Highways for installation at the Center Street intersection in Shavertown.

The changeover will be made this week end or early next week by Thomas Electric Company who made the installation at the Carverton Road intersection.

The cost will be approximately \$600 according to Arthur Smith, Kingston Township Road Commissioner. Excavation and some of the rough work will be done by Street Department employees in order to hold costs to a minimum.

Magnetic signals are operated automatically when cars approach from the secondary streets. After the car passes through signals return to their normal cycle. They can also be operated manually by pedestrians.

## Hunters Invade Woods At Dawn, Many Bucks Shot First Day

Back Mountain Deer-slayers took to the woods long before daylight on Monday, awaiting the official hour of opening of the deer season. At one minute past 7, rifles cracked, and by 9 o'clock, jeeps started to jolt down logging trails bringing out the bucks. Schools were dismissed, supervising principals bowing to the inevitable, with a mental eye on sparsely settled classrooms. Many students made their first kill.

Westmoreland freshman Lee Baker, 14, got his first deer at Sugar Hollow, an eight-point buck, the first time he ever took a shot at any game.

Dallas Township High School reports three deer: James Finn, 9th grade, a four-pointer, weight 135 pounds, his first, killed near Me-

shoppen with a 30-06 rifle. Art Prutzman, 9th grade, an eight-point buck, 160 pounds, shot near Noxen with a 16-gauge shotgun, his first kill. Allen Stash, 8th grade, five points, 130 pounds, shot with a Marlin rifle in East Dallas.

Lehman-Jackson-Ross High School, three deer, shot by seniors: Charlie Hoyt, eight point, 185 pounds estimated weight. James Barton, three points, 135 pounds. Charles Stockage, Sweet Valley, no specifications.

Bud Scouten, 14, of Lake-Noxen schools, hunting with his father, Welford, on acreage back of Harveys Lake, got his first deer forty minutes after hunting season opened. It was a three-pointer (Continued on Page Five)