

# Parents In Lake-Lehman Jointure Will Be Sick At Heart

When the clear-thinking, enlightened citizens of the communities making up the Lake-Lehman School Jointure have an opportunity to inspect the new Dallas High School, as I did last night, and to look over these everlasting hills at sunset with a jet plane spilling a golden vapor trail across the sky, they are going to be sick at heart—and what is more,—ashamed!

This is one of the most magnificent schools I have ever had an opportunity to visit anywhere—and it is costing me more than \$700 in school taxes this year!

I have no children to enjoy its facilities and have never sent a child to public schools... nor am I a wealthy man.

There are many things that I might not incorporate in this new school building, were I to be consulted. I don't like the contours of the roof. I might do away with the athletic field, the tennis courts and the band room. The cobblestoned interior courtyard with its low growing and colorful shrubs is probably a frill—for all its beauty; but some of my neighbours who have children in school think these are essential. I don't know that it is even necessary to have cold running drinking water fountains at every corner. I don't have it in my own shop, but there are those who like cold, convenient water.

So I string along with those I have helped to elect to the school board—men who I thought were capable, and men who were willing to shoulder the responsibilities and the abuse that I was unwilling to assume.

These men hired other men who they thought were capable administrators—individuals with more training and experience in school affairs—to counsel with them and advise them in making wise decisions.

I trust these men because I know them intimately. They are my neighbours—the same fellows who are in church when I go there... the same ones who shell out when a fellow citizen is down on his luck... the same ones who contribute generously to the United Fund and are Johnny-on-the-spot when the Library Auction needs a hand.

They are not wealthy men. Most of them are heavy taxpayers. Many of them have no children in school and will have none to enjoy this fine building. They are paid nothing for the hours they spend studying school problems, hours that are just as valuable to them as to you and me for golf, arguing in the saloon or working in the garden.

They, I know, are not playing politics, greedy for power or having their hands greased with graft. None of them has used his job as a stepping stone to political or business advancement. None has ever had a contract paid by the Government. They are not that calculating.

Like all of us they make mistakes. They are not infallible, but they are not living in the past. They have had a glimpse of the Atomic Age and they are not obstructionists.

I have found during fifty years in the Back Mountain Country that those who pose as the greatest friends of the people usually have an axe to grind, a selfish political ambition, a greed for publicity or a desire to save their own pocketbooks at the expense of someone else.

Those who yell the loudest about political corruption are the first to accept a county job. Those who scream the loudest about taxes turn every stone to retain unfair assessments. Those who deplore the United Fund are not the ones who keep it running or even contribute their meager share for the services they employ. Those who detest the library most were never inside its doors and never contributed a cent.

But most of us out here are not hoodwinked for long. Those sound-thinking and frugal people who were duped into signing a petition to prevent the construction of a new school for their own and their neighbours' children have signed a paper which states clearly that the new school will cost \$5 million dollars. That is either a downright deception or a statement written by persons who were misinformed and had neither the fortitude nor basic honesty to set the facts straight before going off the handle.

Maybe we are in this jam over the financing of a school—and in a lot of other governmental financial jams as well—because we have been unwilling to get all the facts and too willing to string along with the politicians who promised us "the good life, and all for nothing" without first asking "where does the Government get the money?"

I have sympathy for those who rebel against the high costs of government—even the costs of public education—but I have no sympathy for those who are willing to accept and encourage every government handout whether it is surplus food, a soft snap job, an undeserved pension, free hospitalization or a new school and then are unwilling to bear a fair share of the costs. There really is no Santa Claus!

If we are to be sheltered by a benevolent government from the "cradle to the grave" then we must expect that the government, State and Federal, will have something to say about the independence we exercise as citizens. In fact we are going to lose a lot of that independence and freedom of choice because we sacrificed our own initiative and the control of our own destiny by letting the government do for us what we could normally do for ourselves.

Where does this lead? To this simple fact: if the State Department of Public Instruction is going to expend great sums for our new schools, it is going to demand that those schools meet definite State standards. We have then lost our right to dictate just the kind of building we want to build at a cost we know we can afford—and we are going to have to pay our share of the cost just the same as the people in Tunkhannock, Montrose and Bryn Mawr. That's what happens when we sell our individual initiative and independence—our right of self determination—for the pottage of "something for nothing." In one way or the other, we are our own Santa Claus.

It is not on the level of local School Boards, Borough Councils, and Boards of Supervisors that we in the Back Mountain Country get less than our money's worth. Look

to the County, State and Federal spenders if you would have the spirit, the desire and the gumption to do something!

People who simply sign petitions of protest are substituting ink for thought and initiative and are passing the buck to some one else to do their thinking.

This time they have passed it to calculating persons with an axe to grind who in turn have selected five others, totally unrepresentative of a progressive community, to ask for an injunction to prevent the construction of a needed school by the Lake-Lehman Jointure.

None of the five has ever taken a constructive step in the leadership of his community and some of them whom I have known for a lifetime have taken very destructive ones. The facts might well be printed here!

The sound, honest and unselfish people of the communities of the Lake-Lehman Jointure should begin to search their souls and answer only to themselves, "Why am I opposed?"

If they are first of all true to themselves, they will not be parties to the present farce that is robbing them, their neighbours, and citizens yet to come of a school that can stand on a par with the one now opening in Dallas District.

Good schools do not come without effort! Good communities are not built by obstructionists, but by young vital families. Look about you. This is the Atomic Age!

I am writing this not as an outsider, but as one who has always been interested in the welfare of the whole Back Mountain Country and as one who has been scarred in many of its battles for advancement. As a youth I attended the inferior schools in Noxen Township. As a man I shall have to pay my fair share of increased taxes on property I still retain there to give those of another generation an equal chance.

Howard Risley

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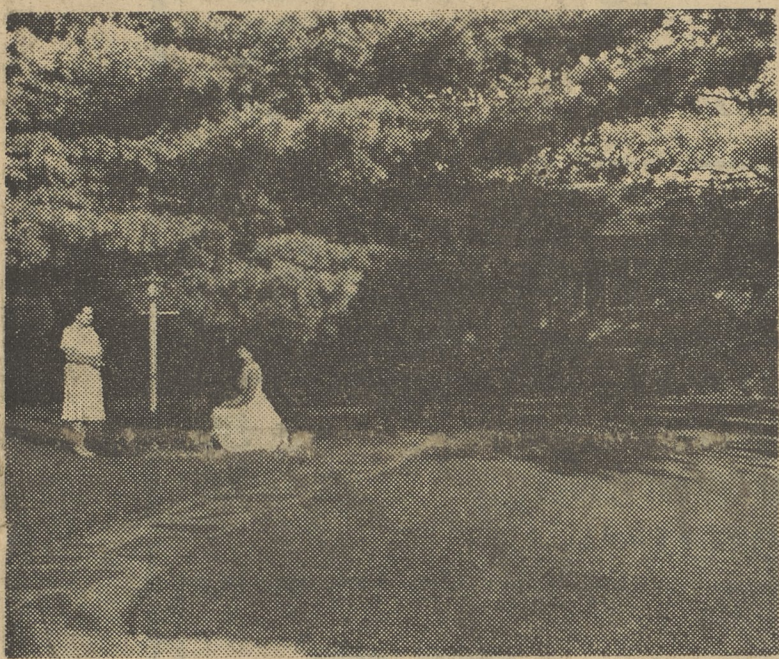
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VOL. 73, NO. 33, THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1961

## New Goss Manor Home To Be Scene Of YWCA Holiday Garden Party



Hostesses Mrs. Henry Ward and Mrs. Ward Jaquish invite members and prospective members of Back Mountain Home-Makers Holiday to a garden party next Tuesday at Mrs. Ward's home in New Goss Manor. Registration for fall classes offered by the YWCA will take place. Luncheon will be followed by a card party, for which guests are asked to bring their own cards.

The affair is presented in order to raise funds for operation of the nursery, an arrangement inaugurated last year to ease the burden on young women who have more than one pre-school child, permitting them to register all their small children for the price of one child.

The nursery, under direction of Mrs. Thomas Smith, is staffed by members of the Junior League. Customarily, thirty-five children are registered for each weekly session.

Children are cared for from 9 a. m. to 12 noon, while their mothers learn a craft or enjoy a painting class, make hats or cane a chair. Mrs. A. A. Sinirope is chairman. Classes are scheduled for eight weeks, one day a week, beginning Tuesday, September 19.

On the committee for the garden party are these members of the steering committee: Mesdames Kenneth Bayliss, Michael Bucan, G. Douglas Cassar, Donald Davis, Wayne Freels, Paul Goddard, Carl E. Hontz, George Jacobs, William King, Donald Peterson, Loren Samuel, Willard Seaman, Charles E. Sprengle, Alan Wilkinson and Ward Jaquish.

Registration will be for these courses: art, braille, bowling, Della Robbia wreaths, first aid and survival, millinery, needle-craft, and beginners sewing.

## Harter's Dairy Tops Lazarus 2-1 To Win Little League Play-off

Harter's defeated Lazarus for the playoff championship on Monday night in a ding-dong battle right down the wire. Although they were outbatted by six to two the Dairyemen came away with the victory by a 2 to 1 count. Kern and McCrea tangled in the best mound duel of the season. Hits were few and far between and strikeouts predominated the hill battle.

Dubil started the scoring in the game with a blast over the fence in the fourth inning and this seemed like the margin of victory until the top of the sixth as Lazarus came up for a last ditch try. Kostraballa led off the inning with a triple and Parry followed with his second hit of the night to drive in the winning run. Kern got tough and got the next three batters with no more trouble. In the bottom of the sixth the Harters gang bounced right back to get the win. Coombs singled and Vandermark was put in as a runner. Sponseller reached first on an error and Vandermark went all the way to third. McCrea struck out the next hitter, but Dubil strolled to the plate and hit a hot smash in the infield that was erred and the winning run scored.

The big hitters for the day were Kostraballa with a triple and single and Parry with two singles.

Lazarus AB. R. H.  
McCrea, p-3b 3 0 0  
Dennis, ss 3 0 1

Kaschak, c	3	0	0
Kostraballa, 3b	3	1	2
Parry, 2b	3	0	2
Cheney, cf	3	0	0
Hudak, 1b	3	0	0
Berkey, lf	3	0	1
McDonald, rf	2	0	0
TOTALS	26	1	6
Harter's AB. R. H.			
Sponseller, 2b	3	0	0
T. Jones, 1b	3	0	0
Dubil, ss	3	1	1
Kern, p	2	0	0
Bertram, 3b	2	0	0
K. Jones, cf	1	0	0
Yasur, lf	2	0	0
Coombs, lf	2	0	0
Vandermark, rf	0	1	0
TOTALS	20	2	2

\*Ran for Coombs in 6th.  
(See results of other play-off games in Section B—Page 5.)

## Sordoni In Florida

Andrew J. Sordoni, who has been spending the summer at his home at Harveys Lake, flew down to Miami, Florida, Monday for a few days, leaving here at 5 A. M. and arriving there around 11 A. M.

## Out Of Hospital

Chief of Police Irwin Coolbaugh has returned to his duties in Dallas Township after several days as a patient at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital.

## Police Continue Investigation In Extortion Effort

### Chopack Charged With Blackmail Of Idetown Amputee Gun Collector

State Police investigation is continuing on the black mail and extortion attempt on Eli Mengines, Idetown, a gun collector and World War 2 amputee.

John Henry Chopack, 40, a Star Route, White Haven construction worker, was arrested and arraigned last Thursday following an attempt to extort \$15,000 from Mengines. Edgar Kenney, 47, 142 Poplar Street, Wilkes-Barre was arrested the same day in connection with the case and released under \$500 bail on a charge of accessory after the fact.

Chopack was charged with blackmail, a felony, and committed to Luzerne County prison in lieu of \$2,000 bail.

The extortion case began approximately one and one-half years ago when Mengines purchased a group of guns from several men at his home for \$1,700. Mengines was confronted by an unidentified man at Harvey's Lake a short time later and told not to sell the guns.

They were stolen from Mengines in January, 1961.

Three weeks ago Mengines received a letter telling him to follow instructions because the guns had originally been stolen from a wealthy man, and if the theft were reported to police, this would get Mengines in hot water.

State Police investigation revealed the guns were acquired legally.

Mengines was then ordered to place \$15,000 at a designated place along Route 118 near Shades Glen last Tuesday morning. Police were notified and eight plain clothed State Troopers were staked near the scene.

When the blackmailer picked up the purse, minus \$15,000, Sergeant Edward McGroarty jumped from the shadows and grabbed him. The state trooper was left holding the man's boots, as the blackmailer escaped across the highway and down a 30-foot embankment. McGroarty recognized the suspect when State Police went to his home near Shades Glen Thursday. Chopack's trial will be held at the next Grand Jury session this fall.

## To Crown Queen At Shickshinny

Governor David L. Lawrence will crown the Queen at the Shickshinny Centennial Ball Wednesday evening, according to announcement of the Executive Committee.

Governor Lawrence is scheduled to arrive in Shickshinny at 8 p.m. He will tour the town in a convertible, and make a short informal speech at the corner of Main and Union Streets.

Crowning of the Queen will take place at 9:30 in Northwest High School gymnasium.

Plans for the gala celebration of Shickshinny's 100th birthday are at fever pitch with Centennial Belles and Brothers of the Brush preparing for the most memorable event in the town's history.

The celebration opens officially at (Continued on Page 2 A)

## NO FIGURES YET AVAILABLE FOR CHURCH AUCTION

No figures are yet available on results of the Center Moreland Methodist Church Auction, but response was amazing. The huge field was filled with parked cars, every bench on the auction ground was occupied, and the chicken barbecue did a thriving business in a large tent, open to the cool breeze. The weather, rainy in the mornings both Friday and Saturday, was perfect by late afternoon and held through the evening.

## Falls Forty Feet From Decayed Elm

Marcy Evans, 28, Follies Road, fell forty feet from a dead elm tree which he was removing from in front of a Lincoln Street residence in Wilkes-Barre Monday afternoon. Taken to Mercy Hospital in a police cruiser, he was found to be suffering from broken ribs, an injured spine, and extensive bruises and burn-burns. His mother, Mrs. Florence Sordoni Evans, watching from the window of a friend, saw him high in the tree, and the next instant flat on his back on the stone pavement, with a large dead branch falling on top of him.

## Kingston Twp. Accepts Housing Carverton Road Site For Vanguard Village

Construction of seventy-two low cost homes on Carverton Road east of Checkerboard Inn was approved by the Kingston Township Board of Supervisors at their meeting last week. The project was previously accepted by the Trucksville Planning Commission.

The project, known as Vanguard Village, is sponsored by the United Home Improvement Company. Homes, priced at \$9,000, will be situated on 75' x 150' lots. Six different Colonial and contemporary models will vary the housing pattern.

Each home will have three bedrooms, a living room, kitchen-dining combination, bath and a large storage area.

Frank LaBar of the Home Improvement Company said twenty-five homes already have prospective buyers and there is a demand for low cost housing in this area. Construction will begin this fall.

If the company gets approval through FHA to install public sewage, 120 homes will be erected on the twenty-three acre site, instead of the presently approved seventy-two.

In other business at the supervisors' meeting, a resolution was approved giving the Commonwealth Telephone Company permission to fill a dry well on Lewis Street, discovered while the phone company was working on a conduit from Lewis Street to Carverton Road.

Austin Line, chairman of the board, was authorized to buy a new jack and two new tires for the police cruiser.

Lester Hauck and other members of the Planning Commission explained the thirty-foot building line on new construction applies to both sides of a corner lot. However, if a real hardship should exist in order to comply with this footage, (Continued on Page 2 A)

## Bldg. Authority Votes Yes On Lehman School

### Residents Stampeded By Circulation Of Misleading Petition

A large number of residents of the Lake-Lehman jointure area, who signed a petition to cancel out building of the proposed new school under the impression that the school would cost \$5 million, say that they are now anxious to get their names off the list.

The petition, circulated widely, gives the figure of "approximately \$5,000,000" as the expense to the tax-payers of building a high school, a figure it claims, "which is unreasonable, arbitrary, and unjust." Edgar Lashford, president of the joint school board, says that the figure of five million would indeed be unreasonable, arbitrary, and unjust.

The only trouble with the estimate is that it is untrue.

The figure for building the new Junior-Senior High School is \$1,727,510.

The remainder of the proposed construction program of \$2,088,510 is to make necessary modifications at Lake and Lehman Buildings.

This morning at Luzerne County Court House Judge Jacob Shiffman will hear a defense to an injunction procured against the building of the school.

Last Thursday night, the Building Authority passed a resolution to build the school.

John Hewitt, chairman, did not vote.

Ben C. Banks explained at length why he did not want the school, then voted for it.

Dr. Lewis Thomas voted to go ahead.

Edgar Darby, strongly in favor of construction from the start, voted in favor.

Sheldon Cave resigned, claiming that being on the Building Authority was wrecking his business.

## Released From Nesbitt Hospital

### Escapes Death In Head-On Collision

Mrs. William O'Brien, Huntsville Road returned home from Nesbitt Hospital Tuesday afternoon, her torn knee repaired with thirty sutures.

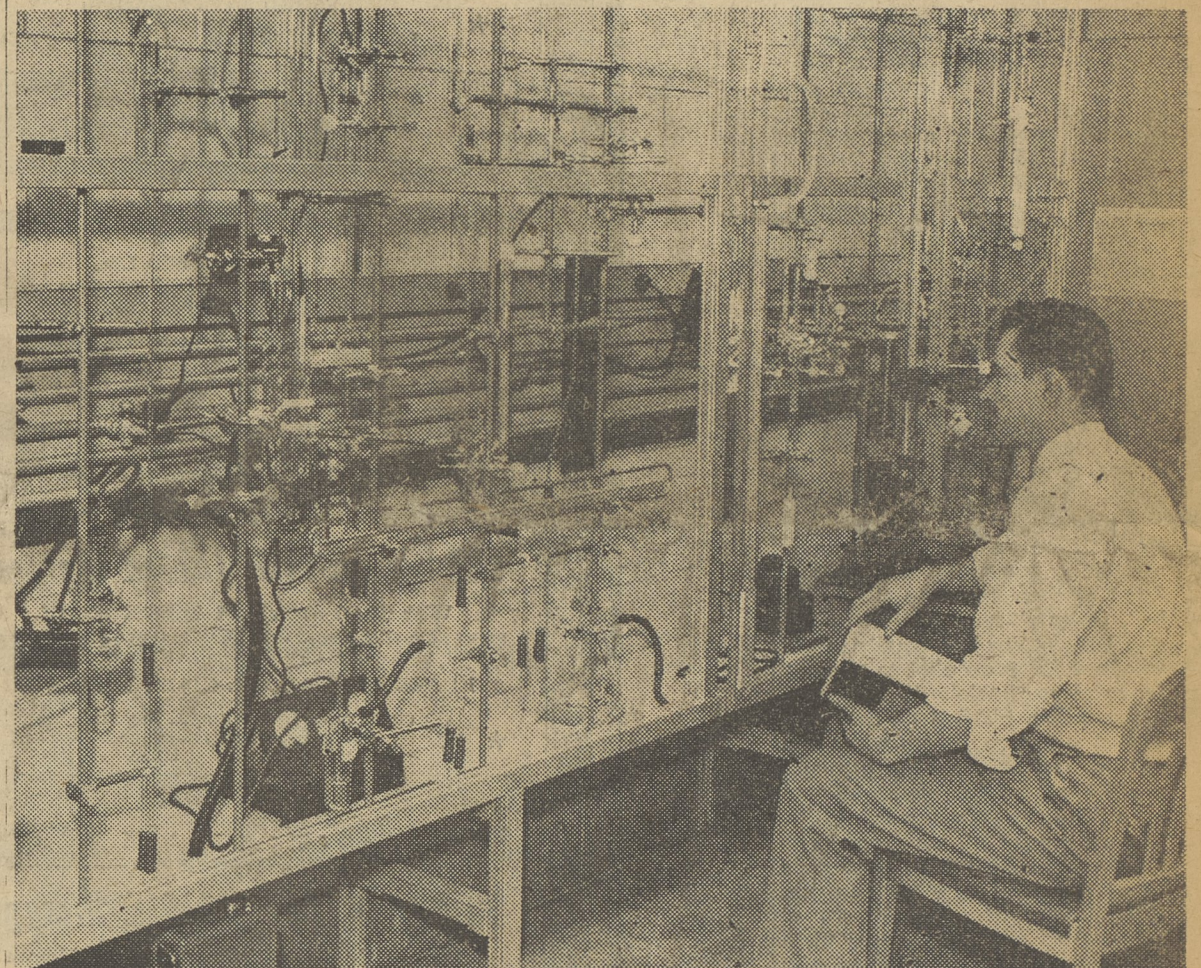
Mrs. O'Brien, heading west on Memorial Highway early Saturday morning, signalled for a left turn onto Highway 118 at the Game Commission building. Her car and that of a Wilkes-Barre driver were involved in an almost head-on collision at 2 a.m.

As Mrs. O'Brien's car rebounded, it struck a car being driven by her husband, who had also signalled for a left turn.

A car driven by a Forty-Fort man, slowing down to avoid hitting the three cars, was rammed from the rear by a Swoyersville driver.

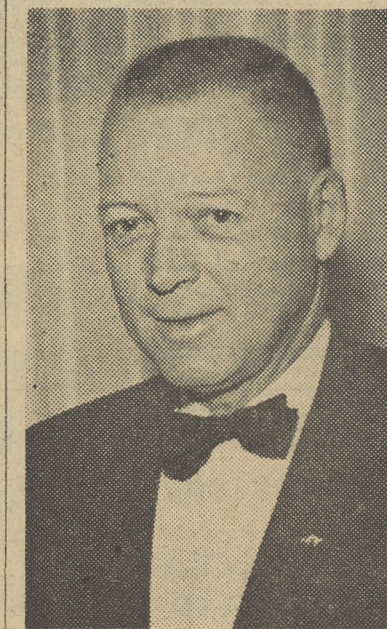
Mrs. O'Brien was taken to Nesbitt in the Dallas Community Ambulance, staffed by Donald Bulford, Ray Titus, and William Berti. Investigating Chief of Dallas Township Police Irwin Coolbaugh was assisted by Lehman Chief Joseph Ide, and a passing motorist Harold Kocher of Dallas.

## Three Scientists Establish Laboratory Here



Dr. George J. Young, president of Surface Processes Research and Development Corporation, supervises a research project for a client. Dr. Young with two associated scientists has established a new research laboratory on Country Club Road, Dallas.

## Area Chairman



JOHN LANDIS

John Landis, Oak Hill, district manager of the Commonwealth Telephone Company, has been named chairman of the Back Mountain section of the Torch Campaign of the Wyoming Valley United Fund.

Landis' acceptance of the Fund Campaign post was released by J. J. O'Malley, Chairman of the 1962 Torch Campaign.

The Back Mountain section includes Dallas Borough, Dallas Township, Jackson, Lake and Lehman Township. It will be Landis' responsibility to organize and direct the solicitation of small businesses in those areas.

Landis is active locally in Dallas Rotary, George M. Dallas Lodge No. 531, F. & A. M., Caldwell Consistory and the Irem Temple. He is a member of the Red Cross, Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce and Keystone State Chapter of Independent Telephone Pioneers Association. Landis also served on the highly successful Industrial Fund Campaign.

## Three Young Scientists Establish Laboratory On Country Club Road

### Alfred University Professor and Associates From Surface Processes Research Corporation

Three young scientists, friends and associates for a number of years as college instructors and as students, have staked their all on a newly formed independent chemistry research organization, Surface Processes Research and Development Corporation, and have selected Dallas as the location for their new laboratories.

President and treasurer of the firm is Dr. George J. Young, until this summer associate professor of chemistry at Alfred University, Alfred, N. Y., in the Finger Lakes country. Secretary is Joseph Peter Hall Jr., an associate of Dr. Young's during Lehigh University days.

Third member is Ralph B. Rozelle a former student of Dr. Young's at Alfred University and also an instructor in chemistry there until the formation of the new research organization.

Their recently completed laboratory is located on a seven-acre plot just off Country Club Road, a short distance from the old Irem Horse Show Grounds. The laboratory is the first of three attractive structures that will be set on landscaped grounds. Eventually the homes of the members of the firm may be constructed in the vicinity of the laboratory.

## Water May Be Discolored

Dallas and Shavertown Water Companies advise consumers that engineers will be in the area August 24 and 25, to conduct flow tests. There is possibility of colored water, and/or interruption of service for a short time on these days. Such annoyance will be of short duration.

(Continued on Page 8 A)