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Editorially Speaking...

Three Old Friends Depart

Three of the Back Mountain Country's oldest and most respected citizens finished their careers this week. Members of those thinning ranks who knew this community when it was a rugged rural area marked with thriving farms and a bustling lumber industry, they were Mrs. Emma Carl, 91, Dallas homemaker, mother and church worker; Gordon A. Shook, 84, former Nixon school teacher and merchant; R. Bruce Shaver, 81, Idetown, founder of R. B. Shaver & Sons Well Drillers, and a former Harveys Lake steamboat captain.

Lifelong residents of the community in which they were born and died they were all sterling citizens who contributed in their own ways to the color, the leadership and the advancement of the area.

Though we saw them seldom of recent years, we at The Post shall miss them; for they were a link with that recent past when everybody out here knew his neighbor and was concerned with his well being.

Time and again they have aided us with their remembrances of the early days of this century when with youth, flashing eyes and high ideals they faced the daily problems of life in a rural community.

Rambling Around

By The Oldtimer—D. A. Waters

Sale by C. W. Space of the former Ryman property marks the second change of family ownership, for at least part of it, in the last hundred and forty years, probably longer. Peter Ryman came to Dallas about 1814 and in 1818 was assessed with 49 acres of which 6 were classed as improved, one house, two oxen and two cows. In 1823 the present Huntsville Street road was laid out, "past Peter Ryman's barn". In 1829, according to W. P. Ryman's History of Dallas Township, he bought additional land of the William Hunt tract. Several generations of the Ryman family were born on the place.

In the 1840's, Abram Ryman began to stock some merchandise in his home for sale. He drove twice a year to Philadelphia and brought back dry goods and other staples. About 1856 he built a separate building near the road for use as a store.

The big Ryman Store on Main Street, at the foot of Huntsville Street Hill, was built just after the Civil War, about 1867.

For several years just before starting to school, I lived in the house just vacated by Mr. Space, my father being employed on the Ryman farm at the time. My sister, Ruth, was born there in 1899. My own recollections include straddling the big farm horses and hanging on to the hames as the horses went down the lane from the barn to the watering trough and back a daily routine, sometimes more than once. I remember a Christmas tree in the front room by the square windows, and various incidents of daily living, which was mostly in the big room downstairs on the lower ground level, with access at the side. This room is at the back portion only, with a level entrance cellar under the front part of the house. According to stories told to me, I fell down the winding stairs from the top floor and was unconscious for three or four days.

of my own. He traveled all over the countryside and dealt the same everywhere.

Another thing was the striking coal miners, who picked up a bur-lap bag, pillow case, or anything that would hold food and foraged all over the back country every time there was a coal strike, which seemed to be frequently. They were a rough looking lot and traveled in gangs. They helped themselves to whatever they could see. The farmers hated them. We had a little dog which carried on so vigorously that the men came running from the fields on at least one occasion and the strikers departed. It was lucky there were fences on both sides of the road at the time.

Four or five years after we moved from the Ryman farm, we started to live on the Rice farm, with only one farm owned by John Welch in between. James Franklin moved into the lower Ryman house and I played all over the place with his children, Anna, William, and Arthur. By this time I was able to explore the big barns, observe the stock, and get a better idea of a big farming operation for those days. Mrs. Franklin and children used to come over to our place and spend several hours, in recollection it seems practically all day. All these years, Theodore Ryman of the Ryman Lumber Co. in Wilkes-Barre, and John Ryman who operated the Dallas Store, were frequent visitors at the farm.

For most of their residence the Space family lived in the big house presently occupied by John C. Phillips. In recent years they moved across the street, having enlarged the house. Formerly the house was occupied by a succession of men employed on the farm, the only one coming to mind being Leon Kintz and family.

Removal from town of the Space family takes away old friends and good neighbors. Mr. Space and I served together on the school board while the borough high school was being reorganized and a new building built. He interrupted his own farm work many times to do little jobs, such as plowing a garden, until he finally started to do them without pay, after which I was ashamed to ask him.

Our boys played around the Space farm for years and sometimes worked there. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Space happiness in their new home.

IT HAPPENED 30 YEARS AGO:

Petitions were circulated throughout Back Mountain townships when seven men, residents of Idetown, applied for jobs on the new rural road construction being done on Lake-Lehman road by the State. The jobs were given to men from other districts.

Construction of the First National Bank building, was to be completed by the middle of December. Twenty men were employed.

Assistant State Attorney of Chicago, who visited his brother-in-law L. A. McHenry, said "Chicago's crime is not as bad as it is painted." But he characterized the feudal warfare between Chicago gangs as "dog eat dog."

Dallas Borough School Board renewed two \$1,500 notes when \$1,388.88 of past due appropriation from the State was late arriving. Dr. John F. Cannole, confused by bright lights of an oncoming car crashed his sedan through guard rails and down a 20 foot drop into Bowman's Creek near the Crooked Bridge on Dallas-Tunkhannock Highway.

William A. Austin, Beaumont, was elected principal of Monroe Township schools to fill vacancy left by George Robinson's resignation.

W. R. Garinger, Huntsville, exhibited antiques taken from the effects of the late Suzanne Warden who died at ninety-eight and eight months, in Dallas. A 160 year old candle lantern, of the type manufactured by Paul Revere, was among the most interesting antiques.

Trolley service from Dallas to Idetown was replaced by bus service.

Sam Sarocco and Placido DiCarlo were put under \$4,000 bail when their \$10,000 farmhouse distillery near Carverton Road was swooped down by Federal agents who disturbed the profitable industry.

Seventy-two fewer rabid dogs were reported in Pennsylvania during that year according to Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The Scott-Freeman reunion was held at Benton Park.

Pony skin coat was on sale for \$30.00.

Four cans of tomatoes sold for 25 cents and a tall can of salmon for ten cents.

IT HAPPENED 20 YEARS AGO:

State Highway Department promised to aid Kingston Township officials in safeguarding three intersections for school children's crossing.

Cedric Griffith, Staub Road, Trucksville, was badly shaken up and bruised when his car overturned near Benton.

Bill Griffith, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Griffith, Fernbrook, severely injured his leg when he fell from a chicken house roof where he was playing.

Water mains in Dallas were relocated to make way for the new highway.

Chief Ira Stevenson, Harvey's Lake condemned six more sewers in his effort to improve sanitary conditions.

Michael Kutcha, whose work as Dallas District Manager for the Commonwealth Telephone Company increased his company's coverage to 2,000 homes in this area, became manager of the company's Clark Summit line.

Nearly 3,000 students were enrolled in Back Mountain schools.

Raymond E. Kuhnter became supervising principal of Dallas Township High School.

Hiram Craft, lifelong resident of Lehman township and veteran employee of Lehigh Valley died at 84.

State paid a direct relief check of \$35,790 to 6,712 cases in Luzerne County one week, a decrease of 260 cases from the previous week.

The 30th annual reunion of the Hoover family was held at Norris Glen. Mrs. Mabel Hoover was elected president.

William Gackebach, 17, Carverton died of a blood infection. Rev. Charles Gilbert conducted private funeral services at Carverton Methodist Church.

Elston family held a reunion honoring Marvin Elston, who celebrated his birthday, at Shady Side Grove, Kunkle.

IT HAPPENED 10 YEARS AGO:

New construction and real estate sales in Back Mountain area reached a new peak for the season in an effort to get ahead of Government restrictions on new home construction effective October.

Col. Norman Smith, coach and Director of Athletics for twenty-five years at Wyoming Seminary resigned to become Recreational Director at Spring Lake Camp, Outingsville, Vt.

Yellow margarine (minus the messy yellow capsule) went on sale after Governor Fine signed a bill making it legal.

Shirley Martin became the bride of Pvt. Wayne F. Hoover, Pikes Creek.

Janet L. Wright married David Eddy in Plymouth Methodist Church. Marriage of Agnes Elencik to Frances Manzoni, took place in St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Church, Plymouth.

... SAFETY VALVE ...

WORTH RE-READING

Dear Howard: Congratulations on your commendable article which appeared at the top of page one of the Dallas Post.

There is much food for serious thought in your statements, beyond the school issue. I hope that others will reread your article, as I have done several times, and fully appreciate its content.

Cordially yours,
Austin C. Line,
101 Mt. Airy Rd.
Shavertown, Pa.

WELL-REASONED

Dear Howard: I hasten to congratulate you on your front page editorial in this week's Post. It is well-reasoned and impassioned. This, in my opinion, is effective, good citizenship. Sincerely,
Frank Anderson, President
Miners National Bank of Wilkes-Barre

To The Editor—Dallas Post

As the father of a boy who is about to enter second grade in a building already condemned by the State of Pennsylvania, I would like to congratulate The Dallas Post for printing the only true facts given anywhere concerning the proposed Lake-Lehman School.

It seems a shame that in this modern age, when the whole world is in a turmoil, the education of our next generation must be used as a political football! Obviously this country will never run out of politicians—but just as obviously we will shortly run out of good, conscientious men who will devote three years of their time, gratis, toward trying to provide educational facilities for our children.

It would surely be ideal if our schools could please every taxpayer 100%—but we all know this is impossible. The other alternative is to place our faith in the elected members of our school board and trust that they will furnish the finest educational opportunities and facilities for a nominal amount of money. Until now we can at least feel that they have been honest with us, the public, which is more than we can say for the people behind the now infamous petition against a five million dollar school.

William C. Frey
Oak Hill
Dallas, R. D. 4, Pa.

BY OUR OWN VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Risley, I wish to convey to you words of commendation for the fine editorial printed in the August 17th issue of the DALLAS POST. Like yourself, I am not involved in the Lake-Lehman School Jointure affairs. Also, I would probably fail to qualify as a literary critic in the field of journalism.

However, I want to express my hearty approval of the complimentary statements you made concerning the elected officials who represent their constituents. I also endorse the forthright manner in which you point up the fact we have reached our present status by our own volition. Actually, I presume I am most appreciative of your article because I agree with the things you have stated so well.

The purpose of these brief statements is to give you encouragement to continue your good work in publishing good and honest editorials.

Sincerely,
G. Wesley Lewis
Mount Zion Road No. 1
Pittston, Pennsylvania

"CIVIL DEFENSE"

Lake-Lehman residents check your blueprints:

With all the pros and cons regarding the Lehman School, let's use a little foresight, while it's still in the blueprint stage.

In the event of an attack during school hours, children may not have time to get home and therefore will be helpless.

We would like to be assured of their protection from radio-active fallout. This fallout can be carried by the wind for many miles. It may not always be seen or felt, but it can kill!

Is there a warning signal planned for your school? Are the cafeteria, gym, and library built underground and planned so that they quickly convert into a shelter, stocked with pre-cooked canned foods, and other foods, a safe water supply, cooking and heating facilities, toilet and garbage facilities, that could operate without power if the need be, battery operated radios and lights, extra batteries, medical supplies, bedding, tables and chairs set up in a manner whereby partial classes may continue, similar to the one-room schoolhouse, bobby material and Bibles?

The children may have to stay two weeks or until fallout decays. This is the "Space Age." New churches should follow similar plans. Let's hope disaster never strikes, but let's be ready in case it does.

Miss Jean Louise Williams, Norton Avenue, became assistant dean at Sweet Briar College, Virginia.

Virginia Lewis, Sunbury, became the bride of Richard Case, Fernbrook at Northumberland Church.

Mrs. Jane Stroud, 99, Dallas' oldest resident passed away.

Jackson took the Little League Championship.

One hundred eighty people attended the thirty-eighth Crispell family reunion.

When our children leave home for school, we want to rest assured they will be cared for. All education, no matter how gloriously staged is inadequate without a shelter, if our children are harmed or destroyed.

"Foresight Flora"

BETTER COME TO CHURCH

Dear Howard: That was a splendid editorial you wrote concerning the Lake-Lehman School in the paper on Thursday. I think it is one of the best you have ever written and which I have read. You are to be commended for your insight and convictions. I could make a comment on one statement you made concerning your (insight) seeing these neighbors in church when you go.

It was good nevertheless.
Your friend
Russell Lawry
The Dallas Methodist Church

FROM AN OLD FRIEND

Dear Howard: I don't know whether you will recall who I am or not but I remember you very well from Seminary days. We had something in common for our fathers were country store keepers, mine in Lehman and yours in Noxen.

When I am in Lehman visiting my sister, Mrs. Elston, I usually look at the Dallas Post and I have been interested in your editorials. I particularly want to comment on the front page one concerning the new school building in Lehman. I thought it was most excellent and I definite think it would have a definite influence on the readers who can think but who have failed to do so.

My husband was a school man—superintendent of Berwick schools until his death five years ago—so of course I have a keen interest in public school education. I do not condone extravagance in buildings and equipment but I do think it is one of the last places in which we should be penurious. The oft repeated comment that children don't have such luxury at home infuriates me. In Berwick, which is primarily an industrial town, unless we can set the sights of the children higher than the homes from which they come we have failed miserably. A small percentage of Berwick children go to college and so the public schools must pretty much determine what they are to be as citizens.

We had a two and a half million dollar high school built five years ago, which was part of the cause of my husband's death. I am sure, and of course, we had to listen to complaints of too much luxury in the building, etc.; but it is only a building geared to the greatest efficiency, but with an attractive finish, which the children are proud to keep beautiful. When the girls get married and make homes of their own they will have the knowledge that there is harmony of color and good taste in furnishing their home which they could not have learned in their own homes. I could go on but I will spare you.

You have done the Back Mountain communities a real service over the years and I surely commend you for your efforts.

Yours,
Helen Neely Terry,
1003 Market Street,
Berwick, Pa.
August 22, 1961.

Mr. Risley: I wish to express my sincere thanks for the fine editorial in favor of the new school at Lehman. I'm sure all the deep-thinking people of the Back Mountain agree with you. I do. If our children are not given the opportunity for the best education possible to fit them for future citizenship, what kind of people are we?

The taxes will be higher sure but I for one am more than willing to pay them. Here's hoping others are, too.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Calkins,
Idetown.

Old Friends Dine At Wheeler Hess Home

A get together of old friends was enjoyed at a dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler Hess, Noxen, Saturday evening. Present: Dr. and Mrs. Harry Henry, minister, Central Methodist Church, Wilkes-Barre; Mr. and Mrs. Steven Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bell, Mrs. Lena Appleton, Pearl Averett, Ruth Lameroux, Mrs. Bertha Anderson, Shavertown; Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Eddinger, East Dallas, the host and hostess.

Ganoga Lake

This past week was an active one for the old stables at Ganoga Lake. They stabled four of Dr. Arthur Davenport's horses and three of Dr. William Bond's Horses traveled the many trails and pastured in lush fields.

Twenty-five 4-H riders were met by the Bond's at Painter Den on Sunday and had made many trips with his surry full of children.

The Charles Johnson's and Ellsworth Stockbower's are still tied for sailing honors. The Miles Little's were in competition this week and Pam and Jan Butterbaugh made a noted effort on their little sailfish.

Dr. Maurice Martins da Silva and family, Washington, D. C. were at their cottage last weekend for the first time this summer, following several months in Europe.

A family style corn roast, clam bake was held Saturday night at Stone House.

With the bath house and beach finished, the baseball diamond is now under construction.

Labor Day weekend activities will include a dinner dance for members and guests at Stone House Saturday night.

New officers of the Lake Ganoga Association will be elected at the meeting to be held Sunday.

Weekend guests at Stone House this weekend include Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Stockbower, Dale, Loren, Greg, Martha, Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. George Thomas and Norma Dallas; Dr. and Mrs. William Bond and Randy, Bloomsburg.

WORTHY OF ATTENTION

Dear Mr. Risley: Congratulations! The newspaper article, Dallas Post, August 18, 1961, regarding the Lake-Lehman school situation and tax assessment was one of the finest editorials I have read in some time.

From Pillar To Post...

The covey of miniature cars in the Dallas Post parking lot causes a regulation size car to look like the Leviathan.

The breeding grounds to date this season have produced, in addition to the usual Thunderbird and the ancient Austin, a Volkswagon, a Dauphine, a pocket edition of a Rambler, two Renaults, another Austin, a Simca, and a Saab.

No Sprite to date, though almost any time now, one may be expected to grin its way into the parking lot, elbow to elbow with the Volkswagon.

And no Fiat, though there is one down in Virginia which would like to join the other miniatures.

"You don't exactly get into a Fiat," explains the lanky grandson. "You just sort of wrap it around you."

It is astonishing how a miniature car can accommodate a man six feet two in height without causing him to crowd his chin with his knees.

It does make you wonder, however, the first time you settle yourself at the wheel of an Austin and start fiddling with the gear-shift lever.

Especially after you've been, for some years, accustomed to the luxury of an automatic shift.

Let's remember, now, from experience with former cars, away back when.

Depress the clutch, you nitwit, and let it up gently, gently . . .

GRRRRR. Not gentle enough. Try again.

Stick driving, complicated by four speeds, and a reverse gear where the stick has to be slapped smartly into place, is a challenge. That's the ticket. Take it easy now.

What happens if you meet up with something larger on the road, coming right at you?

Avoid this at all costs. An Austin is capable of running right under the tailgate of a large truck and reducing itself to a pancake. What's that button marked "B" underneath the dash? It's an English car, dummy, and "B" means Bonnet.

Dear me. Just fawncy that.

Where does the heat turn on? And how do you set the speedometer for a total trip mileage?

What, no radio?

Oh well, I never used the radio anyhow. Can't keep my mind on two things at once, and a radio is apt to drown out the approaching siren of a motor-borne traffic cop.

This new car is guaranteed to reduce speeding to the vanishing point. So close to the ground, speed is noticeable.

It's all too reminiscent of the ancient gags about the Model T. At twenty-five miles an hour the doors begin to flap. At thirty-five, the fenders vibrate. At forty-five, they drop off. At fifty, an organ under the seat starts playing, "Nearer My God to Thee."

It will be a relief not to get any more speeding tickets, I reminded myself as I pulled into Danny Meeker's garage for a quick once-over.

It's been stalling a little at intersections," I explained. Danny fiddled with the carburetor. "What kind of gas have you been using?"

"Regular gas. Isn't that OK?" "For the couple cents a gallon difference, you better use high test. All you need is a dollar's worth of gas every two weeks." "Fill'er up."

Brimming with a dollar's worth of high test, and with the carburetor cleaned and reinstalled, I went into gear.

I shot out of there like a startled jack rabbit.

What did I mean, I'd never have to worry about breaking the speed limit?

The small Austin fled up the hill as if pursued by demons. I'll have to watch my step. I can't afford to get pinched again.

100 Years Ago This Week...in THE CIVIL WAR

(Events exactly 100 years ago this week in the Civil War—told in the language and style of today.)

"A SPIRIT OF CAUTION"

Lincoln Raps Fremont's Martial Law Edict

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Sept. 2—President Lincoln today pulled the legal rug out from under the controversial declaration by Maj. Gen. John Charles Fremont of total martial law in Missouri.

The unpredictable Fremont rocked the nation three days ago with a Ciceronian manifesto in which he:

- Split the state of Missouri in two with an imaginary line.
- Decreed that any person in the northern part of the state caught with arms destined for anti-Union purposes would be "court-martialed and, if found, guilty, shot."
- Threatened to seize the property of anyone "who shall take up arms against the United States or who shall be directly proven to have taken an active part with their enemies in the field."
- Promised that all slaves held by subjects arrested under terms of the "proclamation would be 'declared freemen.'"

Apparently it was the last proviso—the arbitrary freeing of slaves—that the President found most difficult to swallow.

"THE CONFISCATION of property and the liberation of slaves of traitorous owners will alarm our Southern Union friends and turn them against us, and perhaps ruin our rather fair prospect for Kentucky," the chief executive told Fremont in a letter sped to St. Louis by messenger.

He asked that Fremont modify his decree to conform with the Confiscation Act passed by Congress Aug. 6.

Referring to Fremont's threat to court-martial anyone adjudged in violation of the sweeping proclamation, Mr. Lincoln warned: "Should you shoot a man, according to the proclamation, the Confederates would very certainly shoot our best men in their hands in retaliation; and so, man for man, indefinitely."

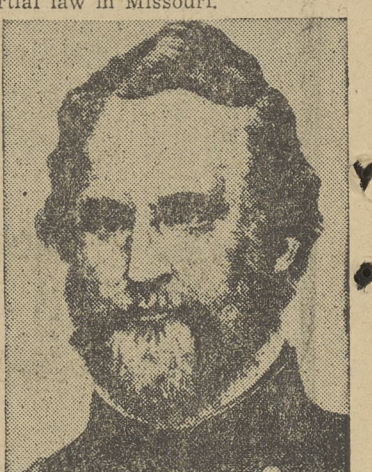
"It is, therefore, my order that you allow no man to be shot under the proclamation without first having my approbation and consent."

ALTHOUGH clearly a rebuke to the impulsive Fremont, who commands all Federal forces in the West, Mr. Lincoln's message was softened with this ambiguous phrase: "This letter is written in a spirit of caution, and not of censure. I send it by special messenger, in order that it may certainly and speedily reach you."

CAIRO, Ill.—Sept. 3—Confederate forces have occupied Columbus, Ky., on the bluffs of the Mississippi just south of this strategic Union station.

Aldes of Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, now Union commander here, said the move-in apparently was bloodless.

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GEN. FREMONT
Rebuked—but Softly

FREMONT's brief stay in St. Louis has been a stormy one, and visitors from the East have been astonished at the operation of his headquarters.

He has stationed himself and staff in a plush mansion that rents for \$6,000 a month from a relative of his wife, Jessie Benton Fremont, daughter of Sen. Thomas H. Benton of Missouri.

His chief aides are Italian and Hungarians, most of whom were associated with Fremont in the historic treks through the West that earned him the name, "The Pathfinder."

These bee-clicking, gaudily-garbed European mercenaries are in vivid contrast to the dusty, ill-suited, slow-motion hill folk that form the non-rigid backbone of Fremont's force.

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