

More Interest Shown In Idle Noxen Tannery

Only Half Dozen Former Employees Are Without Jobs

More interest is being shown in the abandoned tannery at Noxen by outside entrepreneurs than at any time since the big plant of Armour Leather Company closed there earlier this year.

During the spring and summer months at least twenty-five leather manufacturing and other firms have visited Noxen and been taken on tours of the plant by officers of NEED, the organization formed by Noxen citizens to find a new tenant or new owners for the buildings.

Within recent weeks, two manufacturing firms and one entrepreneur, have shown more than passing interest and officers of NEED are encouraged that something definite may be forthcoming shortly.

Most encouraging is the interest of a local man, who is acting as a liaison for an outside concern which wants to purchase the buildings, remodel them and lease them out to a number of manufacturing companies.

While the vacant buildings stand as mute evidence of an industry that is gone, most people in Noxen are not downhearted. And there are no empty houses to be found in town.

Of all the men who were once employed at the busy tannery, all but a half dozen have found employment elsewhere.

Leading citizens of the community feel that they have a good town, that is sometimes not appreciated by their neighbors in the Back Mountain area.

They say: "We have ample level land for industrial development. We have good highways connecting with fast interstate highways. We have a medical center, second to none for a town our size. We have wonderful mountain air, good water, a beautiful trout stream, and unlimited opportunities for recreation, hunting and fishing."

The recent reconstruction by the State of the highway leading from Noxen to Skull, a distance of three miles, opens that area for further recreational and residential development.

Dunmore Crowd Hails Key Club

The Dallas School District marching units had a busy time over the Labor Day weekend. On Saturday the Colorettes, Junior High drill team, the Keyettes, and the Key Club rifle drill team marched in the Dunmore centennial parade. The units were cheered along the parade route as they performed their precision movements before 75 thousand viewers. The youngsters were congratulated by Mr. Kay, parade chairman, after they completed their march.

Sunday afternoon the four units performed in the Danny Thomas Show at Kingston Armory. The four units were commended for their performance by Mayor Frank Slattey and also were given special honors for volunteering to make leukemia door to door collection in the Back Mountain area next Sunday afternoon. The youngsters in the four units will meet at the High School at 1:30 Sunday, September 9, and then proceed to their designated streets and canvass door to door in the drive.

George McCutcheon, advisor for the group wishes to thank the following parents, friends, and assistant advisors for their help over the weekend. Mr. and Mrs. William Wright, Mrs. Betty Hanna, Mrs. Elizabeth Titus, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Justus Letts, Mrs. Wilda Elston, Mrs. Betty Gross, Mr. and Mrs. Antine, and Mrs. Philip Heycock.

The four units will march next Monday in the Forty-Fort centennial parade.

Distribution Of Food Will Cease

Stamp Plan To Go Into Effect October

The last distribution of surplus food in the Back Mountain will be made September 13 at Trucksville Fire Hall, serving the entire area, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

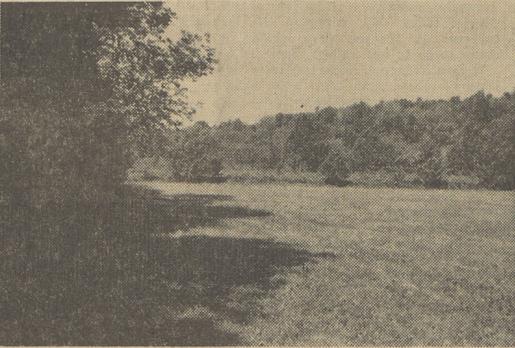
In October, the Federal Food Stamp plan will go into effect in Luzerne County. Eligible recipients will be given instructions.

Actual distribution of food will be discontinued. Food stamps will permit customers to make their own selection at the grocery of their choice. Food stamps are designated to boost the food buying power of low income groups, making possible a much wider variety of food at a fraction of the actual cost.

Dallas Township Forest Needs Road And Highway Marker



Dallas Township has its own publicly-owned forest for game-refuge, conservation, and recreation. Located near Kunkle on the old Kunkle-Beaumont road, it is open to anyone. But the old road needs grading (top left).



On the heights the visitor can see much of the surrounding Back Mountain territory. Here you can catch a view of Harvey's Lake from one of the forest peaks.



Through the wandering Dr. Schooley demonstrates the sitting comfort of an old split-rail fence, and shows the qualities of birch-bark for Indian canoes. Closer to the road are many wide fields, ideal for sports.

Friday, the donor, Dr. F. Budd Schooley took the Post photo in its seventeenth year as the Dallas Township Forest, the 56 acre tract of rugged mountain-land and meadow near Kunkle remains virtually unimproved. The only work done on it has been some yearly forestry.

Friday, the 24th, Dr. F. Budd Schooley and Post reporter-photographer Leighton Scott looked around the property, once farm-land. Dr. Schooley bought the land, and gave it to the Township in 1945.

There will come a time, noted the doctor, not too far in the future when beautiful forest-land in this area will be very scarce. And here is something for our grandchildren to enjoy, for recreation and wildlife refuge.

In 1945 Dr. Schooley gave 76 acres of such land to Noxen Township for use as a natural beauty and recreation spot. Like Dallas Township Forest, the land has all

variety of trees, plants and animals, and it also has a creek.

As a result of investigations made for the Rural Building and Loan Association, Dr. Schooley noted the quality of a 56 acre tract to the West of the Kunkle-Beaumont highway, the old Samuel Hess farm. Through the courtesy and understanding of the John Parsons family, owner, Dr. Schooley bought the land to be deeded to the Dallas Township Board of Supervisors.

Trees were purchased from the State Department of Forestry for cost and transportation, and planted with their help, and that of the Wyoming Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Dallas Township High School students.

Walter Elston, board-member, proposed at a meeting of the Dallas Township Board of Supervisors two years ago that a road be cut up into the land. It has not been done.

Actually there is an old log road there now which needs only a little clearing, and some fill for about fifty yards where it has been eroded close to the highway.

According to Dr. Schooley, the reason for the Board's hesitancy in working on this road is that it would increase taxes. On the other hand, the state of Pennsylvania has published a pamphlet on the desirability of local forests, showing that they are not only a beautiful heritage to pass on to future generations to enjoy, but that they are economically "money in the bank" for township treasuries.

A community forest in Switzerland, for example, has been yielding \$20 per acre profit in recent years, in lumber and game.

Starting from the highway, there are five or more level fields that could be made into ball-parks with a couple of mowers and some chalk.

Each of them is surrounded by fine trees and old stone and split-rail fences.

On up the old log road there are countless groves of evergreen trees in different stages of growth, beautiful for picnics. The woods surrounding are filled with all manner of songbirds, deer, and wild flowers.

Deer-runs cut through fern, moss and ground-pine. Little stone fireplaces, in various states of disrepair, show where scout troops have camped under the stars. From the high points, there are breath-taking views of all the surrounding valleys.

The Dallas Township Forest is the first such forest in Luzerne County. Planting of trees is supervised by Sheldon Mosier, township high school teacher, and is done by high school students. Selection of trees is done by the Township Supervisors, with the help of Senator

DRIVER REVERSES A TREND

Driver Goes Over Embankment From A Different Direction

A Back Mountain resident changed the trend of frequent accidents at the intersection of Route 118 and Harveys Lake Highway early Sunday Morning.

Most wrecks happen there because

Harold E. Flack and State Forester T. R. Jones. Total number of trees planted so far is 28,000, with 5,000 on order for next year. A total planting of 75,000 is planned. Included in the purchase of the land was sufficient land extending down to Route 309 as to guarantee a place for a marker for the Forest.

drivers coming from Lehman ignore the warning signs and stop-sign and cross the Lake Highway, plunging through the opposite guard rail.

Robert Bolton, Kunkle, on the other hand, made what seems to have been the first left turn made at that junction while proceeding from Harveys Lake to Dallas, and crashed through the same rail. His car tumbled down the embankment, landing right side up in a wheat-field, and burst into flames.

Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Company extinguished the blazing car with 400 gallons of water.

Bolton was taken by private car to Nesbitt Memorial Hospital dispensary for treatment of a lacerated lip and a possible fractured nose, and released.

Although Dallas Township Police and State Police were there, neither officially "investigated".

Clyde Birth's wrecker towed the mangled car out at dawn, and took it to Bolton's Diner, owned by Donald Bolton, Robert's father.

Lehigh Valley Hauls Little Beyond Dallas

What is the future of Bowman's Creek Branch of the Lehigh Valley Railroad? That is the question that is on many lips, since it is known that the right of way of the railroad will have to be relocated between Luzerne and Trucksville to make way for the new highway.

For the past year there has been little railway traffic beyond Dallas. Only an occasional freight runs as far as Alderson since the closing of the Armour Leather Company plant at Noxen.

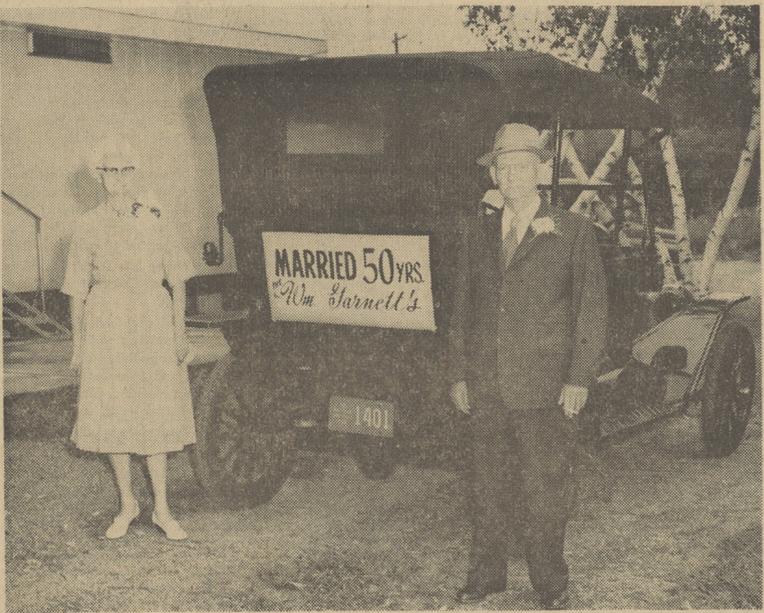
Bulk of the freight handled is comprised of carload lots of feed to Devens Milling Company in Dallas and Huston's Feed Store at Fernbrook. Other miscellaneous freight includes cable, wire and poles for Commonwealth Telephone Company, lumber for Whitesell Brothers, Back Mountain Lumber Company and Shavertown Lumber Company. Most of these shipments could be handled by trailer trucks, but perhaps not as cheaply. There are very few outgoing shipments from Back Mountain farms or industries.

Within recent weeks there has been indication that the railroad might abandon its lines from Dallas to Noxen, or at least from Alderson to Noxen. The right of way from Noxen to Towanda was abandoned years ago, and the railway station at Noxen is now a deserted shambles.

Thomas Jordan Grows Mammoth Cucumbers

Six pounds of Burpee hybrid cucumbers, contained in two enormous specimens, were brought into the Dallas Post Wednesday afternoon by Thomas Jordan. One measured fifteen inches, one fourteen.

Married Fifty Years



Mr. and Mrs. William Garnett, who observed their 50th Wedding Anniversary September 3, were honored at a family dinner at O'Connell's Kingston House on Sunday. They were chauffeured to the Kingston House by Karl Bachman driving a 1913 Ford owned by Russell Frantz.

Attending were: Mr. and Mrs. William Garnett, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Mroczkowski, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Hislop, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Livezey, Ken and Marilyn; Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Rogers, Mrs. Carl Harrison, Robert and Cheryl Ann; Doug Trumbower, Karl Bachman, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Lutz, Ben Cobleigh, Mrs. Anna Kocher, Mrs. Eva Thompson, Lois; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Callahan.

Open House was held on Monday at 2 p.m. at their home. The three-tiered anniversary cake was made by Mr. Garnett's seventy-year-old sister, Mrs. Eva Thompson.

Those who called to extend best wishes for another 50 years were: Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Wilson, Mrs. Anna Kocher, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Livezey, Ken and Marilyn, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Hislop, Ben Cobleigh, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Koehler, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Cobleigh, Jackie, Cynthia, Jerry and Donna, Mrs. Daniel Gabel and Sandra, Mr. and Mrs. William Cragle, Mrs. Jessie Shupp, Karl Bachman, Robert N. Rogers, Harold Koehler, Jr., Dallas; Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Rogers, Spring Lake, N. C., Mr. and Mrs. Herman Lutes, Cambra; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Callahan, Davisville, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Mroczkowski, Temple, Pa.; Mrs. Mary Craig, Courtdale; Doug Trumbower, Robert Kunkle, Sweet Valley; Daisy Crispell, Harveys Lake; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cobleigh and Delbert, Binghamton, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Orville Cobleigh, Endicott, N. Y.; Mrs. Bernadine Turner, Buffalo, N. Y.; Mrs. Eva Thompson and Lois; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thompson, Forty Fort; Mr. and Mrs. William Warman, Plymouth; Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Thompson, Kingston; Mr. and Mrs. Burton E. Stelz, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Naugle, Bradley and Lloyd,

Jr., Pikes Creek; Mrs. Garnett is the former Lydia Cobleigh, daughter of the late George and Eliza Whitesell Cobleigh, Loyallville. Mr. Garnett is the son of the late George and Hester Rogers Garnett of Outlet. The couple was married September 3, 1912, in Luzerne by the late Rev. William Day and went to housekeeping at Outlet where Mr. Garnett followed the carpenter trade. They later purchased the Cobleigh home-stead and farm where they now reside. Mr. Garnett is now retired.

There are three living daughters, Mrs. Stanley Mroczkowski, Temple, Pa., R. D. 1; Mrs. Conrad Hislop, White Birch Trailer, Dallas R. D. 1; Mrs. Stanley Livezey, Dallas R. D. 2; also six grandchildren, William Harrison, Brunswick, Ohio, Robert and Carl Harrison, Sweet Valley, Mrs. Richard Rogers, Spring Lake, N. C., Marilyn and Kenneth Livezey, Dallas R. D. 2; also five great-grandchildren. The Garnetts attend Maple Grove Methodist Church.

Fall Festival Attracts Good Sized Crowds

Despite inclement weather, the Jonathan R. Davis Firemen's Festival, Idetown, was a smashing success last weekend. Occasional rain and cold weather several nights failed to stop the crowd from growing well over the size of last year's attendance.

Although actual results will not be known until this weekend, it has been estimated that twice as much money was raised this year as last. Mrs. Louise Boyce, Tunkhannock, won the color TV set on one chance.

The biggest crowd gathered Friday night to hear the famous Lake-Lehman High School band, but the most money was spent Saturday. Some of the crowd was drummed up by a large parade Friday afternoon opening the event. Fire Companies from Idetown, Lehman, Lake Silkworth, Luzerne, Swoyerville, and Kunkle heralded the procession through Idetown and around Harveys Lake.

State Senator Harold Flack and Representative Daniel Flood accompanied the parade in convertibles. Each of five lovely young ladies who sold tickets for the festival were also in convertibles, and several had adorned themselves with umbrellas by the end of the parade. A light drizzle began about half way around the Lake.

Dan Meeker's ancient Packard truck, complete with puncture proof solid tires and colorful frills and frillery, made a valiant effort to stay with the parade, but had to stop and rest. Two other antique cars stayed to the end.

The champion Back Mountain Little League All-Stars had their own trailer, and were warmly received. Manager Bill Sponseller was with them.

On Saturday night, the crowd was put into a gay money-spending mood by a wandering German band. There were games of chance and skill to tempt the dauntless, and for the kids there were several rides and a Ferris Wheel supplied and manned by the Hobby, Pa., Fire Company.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission had a tent full of wildlife exhibits, and supplied several of

Downend Makes Long Trip To Class Reunion

There was no doubt who came the greatest distance to attend the fifth reunion Saturday night of Westmoreland High School Class of 1957 at O'Connell's Kingston House.

It was Navyman Nelson Downend, secretary to Captain J. D. Pulp, Jr., second highest Naval officer in command in Alaska. For the past year Nelson with his wife and family has been stationed on Kodiak, an island of 5,000 population, 2,500 of them Naval personnel.

Nelson left Kodiak on Monday, August 27 by Naval plane. Two hours later he was in Anchorage, and eight hours later, still flying and in another Naval plane, he was in Seattle.

From Seattle the going became rougher for Nelson had determined to hitchhike across the continent. "I must have had a hundred rides from Seattle to Chicago," he told the Post this week. "I was picked up by bread trucks and all sorts of conveyances."

But he made the journey from Chicago to Philadelphia in four hops, arriving in Dallas Saturday morning at 10, just eight and a half hours before the Class dinner.

After a brief visit with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Downend Sr., Nelson will return to Kodiak to his wife the former, Kathleen Smith of Kingston, and their two children, Susan 1 1/2, and Patricia Louise 2 1/2 months. In the meantime he has talked with them by short wave radio and told them that he made the dinner and expects to start the return journey sometime today.

Fire Enthusiasts Stay For Free Show

As a result of a stump-fire on land owned by Dallas Outdoor Drive-in Theater Tuesday night, about three-quarters of the audience, attended the early show for nothing.

Scores of cars followed Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Company into the theater about 8:15 to watch them extinguish a flaming tree-stump. According to one of the firemen, only eight or nine of them came back out with the engine.

Rotary Students Criticize Ease Of High School

Area Teachers Learn Dutch Ditchdiggers Speak 3 Languages

At a general teachers meeting in Dallas Senior High School auditorium Tuesday, the assemblage learned more from first-hand experiences of Rotary Exchange Students than from reports of teachers' summer schools about improvement of techniques in teaching.

Lynn Jordan, newly returned from the Netherlands, stopped the show when asked to compare American high school with schooling abroad. "Those kids", she noted, "were worried about passing exams so they could get someplace. We went through high school here without even thinking we'd flunk out. But there they never know whether they're going to or not."

This candid revelation evoked a ten-second silence from the auditorium full of teachers, who rubbed their faces and looked at each other fleetingly, until moderator Edgar Hughes nervously laughed: "Do you think we teachers ought to make students worry more, Lynn?"

It was fairly obvious from their own remarks on how seriously students in other lands took their work that the five Rotary students on the panel thought it might not be a bad idea.

Almost to a man these young ambassadors of American good-will had run into the same response in their European and Asian foster homes: Americans are right in disliking communism, but they are irresponsible leaders. They have had life so easy that they think all peoples in the world exist for the welfare of Americans. This is wrong.

The Exchange Students' observations on foreign life and education provided marked contrast to the other part of the program, reports by teachers who this summer had attended graduate schools on new educational techniques. Such techniques included more do-it-yourself learning in the form of audio-lingual laboratories and geology field-trips.

The science of teaching, in a word was moving ahead, while the science of awakening students to education and world affairs was still hanging on the first turn. As George Jacobs, student last year in the Philippines, noted: "Student interest in political systems in the Philippines, as in some of the other countries we have talked about today, is negligible. Even in the United States we do not care anything about government. But some day one of us is going to be President."

The other students, in addition to George and Lynn, Annabelle Ambrose, Netherlands, Marilyn Eek, Rhodesia, and Maryalice Knecht, Sweden, discussed the education offered in foreign schools. Generally, in the other countries, there was almost no extra-curricular concern. Marilyn Eek found that education offered Rhodesians was hopelessly narrow, that well-trained student technicians did not know the structure of a sentence, and were often terrified by the prospect of public speaking.

Maryalice Knecht, on the other hand, found Swedish education too broad. Students got a smattering of almost every subject. But, at the same time, there were no quizzes or term-papers demanded of the Swedish student, and examinations, while long in time, were not large in substance. Maryalice felt the most valuable thing she learned was Swedish.

Annabelle Ambrose was impressed with the number of languages the average Hollander will learn. "Even if you are going to dig ditches", she observed, "you have to take three languages at a Dutch high school". The Netherlands has the lowest illiteracy rate in the world.

Lynn Jordan was impressed by the antiquity of the Netherlands. She was also surprised by first-hand accounts of bombings in the Second World War. "I couldn't imagine what it would be like to look out my window and see bombs falling on my neighbors' houses", she commented.

George Jacobs felt the Filipinos were definitely in a rut by the nature of their fatalistic attitude toward poverty. Thirty million people are living in an area not as big as California. George was the only one of the students to attend a university while abroad. "I understood", he told the audience of teachers, "that I was to attend a Filipino high school. But, it seems they only have four years of high school, so I was ahead of them. And besides", the over-six-footer chuckled, "they didn't think I could make it through the high school door."

George spent much of his working in small villages travelling around the many. He was outspoken about his apathy toward the plight of the students were asked.

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