Letters to the Editor

TO THE POST

Your editorial "Hunting" is in such direct contrast to the article enclosed, Rice for a Mouse, and the expression of life therein written by my son as he spent last winter in a small cabin because of the loss of his home and possessions by fire. I thought it might prompt some reaction from you as we not only continue to kill off our wild life, but, as your editorial indicates, the danger increases of our killing off each other.

The mouse story is a true story, for as we exchanged recorded tapes during last winter this particular mouse was always part of our

conversation. Since its publication in The Atlantic Advocate my son has received numerous requests for permission to reprint. If you feel it has a story to tell the readers of your good paper, permission is granted.

> Sincerely, W. J. KOTZWINKLE Clarks Summit, Pa.

(Mr. Kotzwinkle's appropriate "Rice for a Mouse" with an illustration by Marjory Donaldson appears elsewhere on this page.—

Rice for A Mouse

A mouse lives in our cabin with us. At first, when winter began, he raided our shelves, leaving his characteristic tracks. I decided to make him less of an outlaw and more of a guest. A small tin of brown rice was left out for him, in the wood cupboard, which gives access to his inner chambers, within the walls of the cabin. Each night now, as soon as we retire, we hear him coming through the walls, and then he is at the rice pan, nibbling some, and carrying the rest back to his storehouse. One night, when I forgot to feed him, and was seated by the fire, lost in dreams, I saw his small brown face suddenly, at my feet, looking up at me. He'd come for supper and I hadn't served him. We both quickly hopped to it, me to the rice container and he to his cupboard to receive

Around the relationship, there is peace. Our dispute over territory has been settled we each surrendered something to the other. He is no pet. We've made no attempts to change him to such a degree. He is still secure in his instincts and we are forging a new one of our own—coexistence with all that lives—revence for life as Dr. Schweitzer calls this deep sympathy. Without it, man will continue to isolate himself from every other life form, plunging himself deeper into cosmic loneliness.

The mouse no longer raids the shelves, being content with the rice, and an occasional spot of cooking oil mixed into it. His tiny footsteps in the wall at night are a welcome sound, out here, deep in the woods. It would have been a small thing to kill him, in trap or poison. It is a much greater thing to live with His Rodentship. as we call him. We recognize that his world is our world, and we are not separate, neither in diet nor desire. Should his desire bring him a lady-friend in spring and subsequent little ones, we shall face that too. And we will trust in the way of nature to keep us in harmony, neither violating



the freedom and happiness of the other. Listening to him at night, going toward his dish. I have imagined myself coming the dark corridor of the wall for an offering of rice. And he, just this morning, quite unexpectedly came out. He had never before shown himself in daylight. I happened to be without my glasses, so I did not see him too clearly, but he was watching me carefully. And then he returned to his wood cupboard, some small curiosity satisfied in him as to the kind of creatures with whom he shares life. Surrender to a mouse is against tradi-

tion. They'll eat your shoes and hat and gloves, deposit excrement in your bed, and grow to impossible numbers. With gentleness somehow, we will handle the problem when it comes. In no instance will we settle for taking of life as an answer, and we extend this vow to the spider, climbing up the table leg. Into the wood pile with you, sir, carried on a sheet of paper, and blown to safe quarters behind

By William Kotzwinkle

Only those who have taken the yow will know the feeling of inner calm, and greater than that, of joyous communication with the things of field and sky. The flies have lived with us in the cabin all winter. Drunk they swoon and dancing pass along the window frame, Their wings cold, their senses numb. I hear one on the floor, buzzing on his back, unable to right himself. His buzzing buzzes through my



brain. I am he, upon the floor, a summer fly out of season, wings stiff, wondering what to do that I might continue the only existence known to me. To be a fly! And so I slip a sheet of paper under his back and carry him over to the window sill, where he sits upright, and stares with his thousand eyes out at the day, his day, our

A moose with her calf stopped by our cabin and stared in through our window. Then, Majestic, strange, they travelled on, and they are somewhere now, with themselves and their own dream of life, as real and as precious as my own, standing in the snow drifts, waiting as I am, for spring. I do not need nor want their head, their hide their flesh to sustain my own. My sport, dizzying, wonderfully satisfying, was in seeing them go their own way.

A raucous squirrel looks in the window now if I forget to give him bread crumbs in the morning. I trust he will not eat my snowshoes. And if he does, it is far better than a bullet eating through his head, destroying with one maddening ravage of pain his sensitive nose, eves, brain.

Yes, they might all eat my vaulable papers, and chew the buttons off my vest. But who am I that I should complain of dog-eared pages, and a hole in my suit? My life is neither so long nor fine that I dare shorten some other creature's in favour of my lifeless clothing. I shall trust in life to treat us fairly, if we do nothing to disturb its great and perfect balance. A man who has observed a mouse closely will see all the emotion of his own heart there, in those large curious eyes, in that quivering nose.

This is an enormous undertaking. It is further from our present minds than the further from our present minds than the moon. For each of us the beginning is an act of kindness toward another living creature. It is, perhaps, the one hope for emotion which can turn back the tide of war. Rice for a mouse, bread for a squirrel, it will bring good luck to the world, don't doubt it.

Illustrations by Marjory Donaldson

Dallas Senior High School

by Nancy Popielarz and Mike Kasper, Karen Purvin, Assembly

Junior Class Dance The Junior Class will sponsor remember. a dance Jan. 14. Steve Chiogna has been chosen as chairman. We hope all students come and support the dance. The profit will go towards the Junior-

Christmas Dance The Christmas activities at school include a semi-formal direction of Mrs. Sherwood, dance Dec. 22, with music toured Wilkes-Barre Dec. 15. provided by the Shenandoah. They entertained at the The committee, headed by Veterans' Hospital, Valley Priscilla Kloeber, are working Crest, the Sutton Home, The very hard to make that evening Court House, and the United a special one. Kathy Futch, Penn Bank.

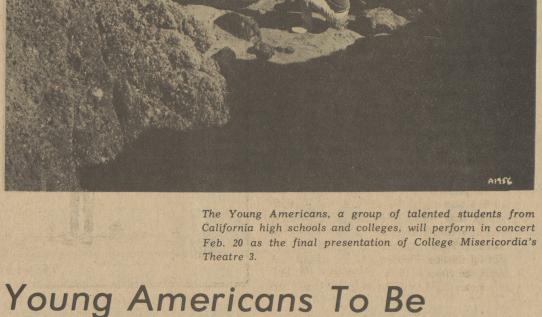
Patti Van Etten Diane Masoner, and Dave Lieberman had also contributed concert was presented to the to try to make Dec. 22 a night to students by the band and chorus

making this activity a success. Senior Prom. We would like to His committee did a fantastic have an unforgettable prom so job. We hope to see more don't forget the dance Jan. 14. movies in the future.

> Chorus Trip The Choristers, under the

A preview of the Christmas Dec. 17, in the high school auditorium. We would like to Movie night was a SUCCESS. take this opportunity to thank A big thanks goes to Wayne all the people involved in the Evans for his special effort in program. Many hours of hard work proved successful.

> Pedestrian infractions-Traffic law infractions that contribute most to pedestrian accidents include crossing between intersections, walking in the roadway, walking diagonally across the road, stepping from behind a parked car and crossing against a signal.



Final Theatre 3 Concert group of 35 students from their programs. Southern California high schools and colleges, will be the third and final presentation for College Misericordia's Theatre U.S. City. They have also par-3 this year, according to pro-ticipated in over 20 major T.V. gram director Robert J. Gower.

Formed in 1962, the group features students between the ages of 15 and 20 who were the Young Americans plan to chosen for their combined found a resident school of the Dog License Prices vocal, instrumental, dancing, Philosophies and the Performand academic abilities. Be- ing Arts to graduate certified Unchanged Since 1921 cause of the many and varied teachers, foreign service diplo talents of the young people in- mats, and professional entervolved, the group is able to pre-tainers.

Temple Auditorium Feb. 20.

The Young Americans, a sent a wide variety of music in by the Young Americans,

appeared in almost every major shows and have made three The Young Americans will albums and two movies.

from performances is used for operating activities and for scholarships for members of the group. In the future, however,

Oak Hill

Several Oak Hill Civic Association members displayed an abundance of Christmas spirit by bringing presents to local nursing homes and by singing Christmas carols at many Oak Hill doorsteps. Oak Hill's choral group consisted of Eileen and Charles Batka, Fran and George Ellev. Gerri and Leo Bartz, Julie and Ray Iwanowski, Jane and Tom Yoniski, and Vince Correale. By the time the group arrived

at the Correales', they were full of the Christmas spirit (86 proof) and adjourned to Mrs. Correale's kitchen for a pizza party, dancing, and two gallons of black coffee. The group was so well received by Oak Hill residents that they plan an encore Thursday evening

Happy to hear that George Capinas is home recuperating after being a surgical patient at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital.

Congratulations to Cindy Osborne upon her acceptance at Bloomsburg State College. Sincere condolences to Toni

Onzik upon the recent death of her father. Belated birthday greetings to Michael Wojnarski, son of

Bernice and John of Hemlock Drive, who celebrated his third birthday Dec. 20.

Birthday greetings also go out to Fred Tomaselli who celebrated his birthday Dec. 21. Several local women visited

the Maple Hill Nursing Home, Route 118, Wednesday evening to help bring some joy to the guests. Singing carols and distributing gifts were: Helen Kishkill, Rose Mohen, Yolanda Tomaselli and Bridgette

Jane and Tom Yoniski enjoyed a Christmas party Friday evening at the Treadway. Their 'Christmas spirits' took two days to wear off and Tom's neighbors heard him com-

by Bridgette Correale 639-5759 plaining about banging doors and heavy breathing.

> Robert Callahan and Louis Correale were elves giving pre-Nursing Home on Route 309. Their third grade class at Gate of Heaven, under the guidance of Sister Shawn, made lovely Christmas trees for each

> Happy birthday to Paige Belasco, daughter of Marie and Ed of Hemlock Drive, who will celebrate her seventh birthday during the Christmas holiday Congratulations to Nancy Rollman, Nancy Callahan and

Lisa Schleich, who have achieved honors at Central Catholic High School. A sincere thank you to the

Jonathan Davis Volunteer Fire Company for conducting a Christmas party for the youngsters at the firehall Dec. 21. A Flintstone cartoon was viewed by the children while they enjoyed milk, cookies and ice cream. Santa dropped in, via fire truck, and presented the youngsters with presents.

Along with my Grandma, mother, (oh, I better mention my mother-in-law, she reads the column too), Isabelle Chilson is the greatest cook around. We all diet for the holidays to get into our fancy duds and then we go to the Chilsons for a dinner party and on comes the food. Enjoying the fun and cusine were: Joe and Elli Gerchak, Vera and Hayden Evans, Betty and Harry Marquis, Joyce and Dick Culver, yours truly and her

A journey through our streets today helped increase my Christmas spirit. The hard work of decorating a home for the Christmas season is quite evident. Homeowners went out of their way to create ingenious displays for the yuletide season. A very Merry Christmas from our nouse to yours.

Following the performance College Misericordia will con-As a group, they have toured tract three new presentations 10 foreign countries and have for the 1972-73 academic year, according to Gower. The three presentations will be announced with the commencement of Theatre 3's annual benefactor

campaign in June. appear in Wilkes-Barre's Irem Currently, money received to Ticket information for any Theatre 3 presentation may be obtained by contacting Robert J. Gower at the college

Dog owners in Pennsylvania can't complain that their 1972 dog license's cost will send them to the bow-wows financially. And inflation won't bite them in this respect either.

The price continues the same this year as when the state license requirement was instituted. more than half a century ago in 1921, according to State Agriculture Secretary Jim

License for female dogs is sents to guests at the Lakeway \$2.20 and \$1.20 for males and spayed females. But dogs six months or older must be sporting the new tags by Jan. 15, 1972 for compliance with state law.

Licenses are sold by the state through the county treasurer's office in the state's 66 counties, excluding Scranton City, which issues its own licenses

Auxiliary Hosts

Christmas Party

The auxiliary to the Daniel C. Roberts Fire Company of Harveys Lake held its annual Christmas party Dec. 13 at the

Dollar gifts were exchanged. Mrs. Charles Murphy was in charge of games and prizes.

Hostesses Peggie Truska and Pauline Davis served punch and cookies to the following: Mrs. Joseph N. Desiderio, Mrs. Leo will be duly advised with res-Yankoski, Mrs. Howard Jones, pect to further procedure.' Mrs. Richard Williams Sr., Mrs. Richard Williams Jr., Mrs. Russell Taylor Jr., Mrs. Michael Clark, Mrs. Theo Davies, Mrs. Carl Swanson, Mrs. Waldridge Leinthal, Mrs. Otis Allen, Mrs. Michael Drobnicki, Mrs. James Mc-Caffrey, Mrs. Thomas Coburn Jr., Mrs. Thomas Fetsko, Mrs. Arden Kocher, Mrs. Charles Murphy, Ret Nelson, Pauline going on.' Davis, Peg Truska and Anna

The next meeting will be Jan. 10 at the fire hall.

WIN a one-year subscription to help finance our system-imthe Dallas Post by entering provement program. Obvious-Daring's "First Baby of the ly, we will have to cut back in will be awarded by Daring's to am pleased that the commission

Christmas Eve

Huntsville Christian

There will be a service of caroling, communion and candle lighting at the Huntsville Christian Church, Christmas Eve, at

Prince of Peace

A special children's service will be held at Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, Dec. 24, at 4 p.m. The service will include lessons, carols and candles. At 11 p.m., the Eucharist will be celebrated with the senior choir singing. The Eucharist will also be celebrated Christmas Day at 10 a.m.

Trucksville United Methodist

There will be a service of carols, candles, and communion at the Trucksville United Methodist Church at 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve. Communion will be served in the pews. Special music will be provided by the Wesleyan, Aldersgate and Chancel Choirs. The Rev. Dr. Laurence T. Beers, pastor, will present a threepart meditation entitled: "The Happening At Bethlehem."

St. Andrews Eastern Orthodox

Schedule of Christmas services at St. Andrews Eastern Orthodox Church, Huntsville Road, Lehman, includes Compline Decide at 7 p.m. Dec. 24, and Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. Dec. 25.

St. Therese's Church

The Rev. Joseph Sammons, pastor of St. Therese's Church, Shavertown, has announced that the first Mass of the Christmas season will be said at midnight Christmas Eve. Masses on Christmas Day will be at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. The usual Saturday night Mass at 7:30 will fulfill the Sunday obligation. Confessions will be held Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. and Friday, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Friendship Class Plans Christmas Eve Service

The Friendship Class of John Shannon, organist of United Methodist Church, Leh- First Church and head of the man, is sponsoring a Christmas music department at Wyoming Eve service for the entire Leh- Seminary, will be organist. man Charge with Communion at 7 p.m. The First United will be the soloist. Methodist Church of Wilkes-Barre is invited to attend. Lehman, Idetown and First tion.

United Methodist Church choirs

will combine to present a pro-

The Rev. James Wert, First Church, will give the medita-

Harriet Santos of First Church

Friendship Class is in charge of the service, assisted by the Rev. Fred Whipple, pastor.

Alderson Charge Plans Christmas Eve Worship

the Alderson Charge will be held Dec. 24 at First United Methodist Church, Noxen, at 7 sung and at the close of the ser-

sented by The Last Hope teen come to attend the service." choir. The choir is under the direction of Pastor Westfield and the Christmas

Paster Westfield announced has 30 members. The pastor rethat Christmas Eve Service for ported that Allan Kitchen will

be the organist. Several solo numbers will be vice, the congregational can-The program will be a dles will be lighted. Pastor musical Christmas cantata pre- Westfield said, "All are wel-

Pastor Westfield announced

UGI Gets Rate Hike

commission stated it was lengthy suspension or postponecognizant of the complaints and ment of the increases would noted that public hearings will have seriously jeopardized our be held on these unless they are ability to furnish adequate, rewithdrawn.

Atty. Brown declared that the complaints would not be with- Carter, Lower Merion, was the drawn. "I cannot understand only dissenting vote in the fivehow PUC can grant this rate hike-before it has the complaint hearings," he said.

decision, Atty. Brown immediately wrote a letter to the Mr. Carter served as assistant part:..."We are sure you would rules of court . . . I believe this matter should be taken up with the acting counsel, who I am informed is Edward Muncie, and the public is informed of what is going on in the public's

business. The letter Mr. Brown referred to in the above statement was from Will Ketner, secretary, Pennsylvania Public Utility

Commission, and was dated Nov. 8. Mr. Ketner's letter read: "Receipt is acknowledged of your letter closing an original and three copies of complaints complaints have been docketed and sent to respondent for answers within 10 days. You

Mr. Brown stated unequivocably that he has not been advised of any procedures by PUC to date. He added, "We think PUC is required under the law to conduct hearings if protests are filed. We believe eight to 10 protests, including several municipalities have filed protests. We think it would be nice if PUC would notify us of what's

Vice president Richard Demmy was quoted, "The \$2,100,000 rate increase PUC has agreed to accept is almost a 13 percent reduction in revenues we anticipate we will need to meet higher costs and to Year Contest." A FREE ham some areas. At the same time, I the winner. ENTER NOW!!! did act promptly and positively

(continued from PAGE ONE) In PUC's recent decision, the on our request for rate relief. A liable electric service.

PUC Commissioner Louis J. man commission's decision. Mr. Carter, who was appointed by Milton Shapp in April of this Upon learning of PUC's year, contended the \$2.1-million increase would still be too high. commission, which read in counsel to the Public Utility Commission from 1955 to 1967 not violate the expressions set At the time of his appointment, forth in said letter and the rules he said he viewed utilities as of decency coupled with the special corporations with extraordinary powers which require

Former Dallas Student Homebound by Illness

intense regulation.

Robin Methot, a former resident of Shavertown, is confined by illness to her present home in New England and would very much appreciate hearing from her former friends and class-

Robin, formerly a student at Dallas High School, may be reached by writing her at 52 Clover, St., S. Burlington, Vt.

Review fire escape plan-With heating systems in homes running hard during the winter months, it is a good practice to take a little time every few weeks and review your family's plan for emergency escape in the event of fire. If you don't have a plan, devise one, and stage some practice drills, urges the Cooperative Extension Service Farm and Home Safety Committee of The

Skating on the smooth ice Seems something like paradise Sometimes I fall It's still a ball Skating is such fun

In the bright sun.

Pennsylvania State University.

Janine Szczechowicz Dallas Inter.