

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

Bob Brown-banker, politician, family man

by Joan Kingsbury
Banker, politician, family man—all three describe Dallas resident Robert W. Brown.

Bob has been a resident of the Back Mountain since he moved here with his parents in 1939. He is a graduate of Dallas Borough High School as is his wife, the former Marjorie Evans. Following a tour of duty with the Navy, Bob began his banking career in 1950 when he went to work for the First National Bank of Dallas, which is now the United Penn Bank.

Throughout his career Bob has served at seven different banks. In 1957 he joined Hanover National Bank where he instituted the consumer loan program. Following his years at Hanover, Bob joined

the staff of the First National Bank of Sayre. Bob and his family returned to the Back Mountain when he became cashier of the Plymouth National Bank, which later merged with First Eastern Bank. Presently Bob is vice president and consumer loan officer at First Eastern Bank.

Bob has attended Wilkes-Barre Business College, Pennsylvania School of Banking at Bucknell. He has also studied at Rutgers University and Columbia University School of Business. This September he will be teaching a 12-week course for the employees of First Eastern Bank. Bob was also an instructor for many years for the

American Institute of Banking.

Bob was instrumental in establishing a program to provide tuition financing for medical students. Funds are available for medical and dental students from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and from HEAL, federally guaranteed funds from the department of Health, Education and Welfare, for medical, osteopathic and pharmaceutical students. In addition to these programs, First Eastern Bank offers an in-house medical financing program. To qualify for funds students must have proof of acceptance at an acceptable medical school.

Bob is a director of the Advisory Board of the American Bankers Association installment lending division. One of approximately 120 boards nation-wide, this board has jurisdiction in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Bob is also a director of the Consumer Counseling Service of Northeastern Pennsylvania. A Mason and member of the Shrine, Bob was an active participant in Back Mountain Little League for many years.

For 20 years Bob was active in Dallas Borough politics. From 1957 until 1965 he served as borough secretary. Bob is a former member of the Dallas Borough Board of Health and formerly served as Justice of the Peace. An original member of the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority, Bob was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Dallas Borough Mayor Tom Morgan in 1965. Elected to borough council in 1971, Bob served a full term as council member.

Concerning his political career Bob reflected, "I donated 20 years to Dallas Borough politics. I enjoyed it while I was in, but you can become frustrated when you see things you want to do that can't be done. At the present time I don't think I would become a candidate but I am still very involved in what goes on."

Bob and his wife, Marj, agree that they are very family and home-oriented. The Browns have two children. Their son, Bob, is a graduate of Dallas High School, Wilkes College and Hershey Medical School. An M.D. specializing in internal medicine and infectious diseases, Bob is director of Kingston Family Practice. He and his wife, the former Karen Walk, and their children Amy, age seven, and Benjamin, who is two and a half, live in Dallas. The Brown's daughter, Shirley, is a graduate of Sayre High School, College Misericordia and

Marywood College. Shirley, who is married to Albert Breymeier, is employed by the Luzerne County Intermediate Unit.

Marj, who was a charter member of the Dallas Junior Woman's

Club works part time at Payne Printery. She also is on the advisory board of the Dallas United Methodist Church.

Gardening and working in the yard are Bob's way of relaxing from his busy business schedule.



Robert Brown

LIBRARY NEWS

Auction history

by Nancy Kozemchak

The 1979 Library Auction is now history and thanks to so many wonderful, dedicated hard-working people, it was the most successful yet. Some new ideas, many new faces and an awful lot of community spirit made the auction again a great place to be. Bill Spurlin as chairman did an outstanding job and thanks to all the volunteers, the library will have financial help with the budget.

I have been taking a collection of books and magazines to the Senior Citizens Center at Mercy Center each month, which allows them to browse through them in some of the time they spend at the center each day. I rotate the collection and take different books each month. The members seem to enjoy these and they are constantly making new crafts and looking for ideas on what to do in their spare time. The center is really very efficiently run and is a great place for senior citizens to spend time.

New books at the library: "Sophie's Choice" by William Styron unfolds a story as absorbing and effective and memorable as any work of fiction in our time. The mastery of its style and the power of its narrative never falter. A hauntingly evocative love story.

"Broca's Brian" by Carl Sagan, one of our leading astronomers, is about reflections on the romance of science. This book is concerned with preliminary solutions. This is a wonderfully lucid account of recent astronomical discoveries. This is a book on the joys of finding out how the world works, on the romance of the scientific endeavor.

Shirley J. Botsford has a new book titled, "Between Thimble And Thumb" which is an inventive sewing book for the beginner or the expert. This book demonstrates fourteen sewing techniques and fourteen corresponding projects, with interchangeable blocks.

We are gradually getting the inside of the main library painted and would like to thank the Back Mountain Kiwanis Club for the contribution towards some paint.

For the male half of the 'small fry set', now is baseball time, tennis time, and swimming time, almost anything but school time and concentration-on-book time. It's also the ideal time for parents to suggest a trip to the Back Mountain Memorial Library for very practical reasons. . .to seek advise and instruction on how to throw a curve, return a tennis serve, or learn the skills that make for safe and happy water sports.

Invite your youngster to consult the experts who have written books when he wants to increase his proficiency and enjoyment in sports. This is a wonderful season to demonstrate to your boy that books are practical and helpful in almost every phast of life.



100TH PROJECT—The Luzerne County Industrial Development Authority marked the completion of their 100th project at a reception and dinner during the past week at the Westmoreland Club. Among principals at the event were left to right George Hartnett, Air Products vice-president and general manager of the Industrial Products Department; George Medzerian, plant manager for the Wilkes-Barre plant; and Alfred H. Ackerson, chairman of the Luzerne County Industrial Development Authority.

LCIDA completes 100th project, aids Air Products

The Luzerne County Industrial Development Authority announced today the successful completion of the 100th project of the local Authority, which was established by the Luzerne County Commissioners in September of 1969. The announcement came from Alfred H. Ackerson, L.C.I.D.A. chairman.

The project is the expansion of the Wilkes-Barre plant of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., which is completing the addition of 40,000 square feet of plant space by enlarging two construction bays used in the manufacture of cryogenic equipment.

The cost of the Air Products expansion is estimated at \$3.5 million and was financed by the Authority with Ballard, Spahr, Andrews and Ingersoll, of Philadelphia, as bond counsel.

The site, approximately 15 acres of land adjacent to the Air Products property on the Sans Souci Parkway, was acquired by Air Products

for the expansion through the Redevelopment Authority of Luzerne County and the Hanover Township Urban Renewal Project.

Ackerson paid tribute to the cooperative efforts of many individuals and agencies in consummating the expansion, which is expected to generate 68 additional jobs, bringing the plant's total employment to approximately 438. Among those involved were congressmen, state legislators, the Department of Transportation, Conrail, and other agencies.

The expansion required the assurance of retention of a railroad right of way, permitting the transportation of the huge pieces of equipment to be manufactured. The cryogenic equipment includes storage vessels, air separation plants, and heat exchangers, used for processing gases to convert them to liquids for ease in transportation.

Ackerson also reported that, in the ten years since

the Authority's establishment, the Authority has processed and completed projects totaling \$88,950,817, for which it helped to finance loans of approximately \$83,507,305, with the remaining equity provided by the participants.

Since the establishment of the Authority in 1969, it has fulfilled its purpose with the creation of an estimated 2,800 new jobs. In addition, 3,900 existing jobs were protected through new construction and additions.

Loans arranged by the Authority are generally negotiated at interest rates from 2½ percent to 3 percent below commercial lending rates, on the basis of Pennsylvania's Industrial Development Law of August, 1967. Interest earned by financial institutions on these loans is exempt from income tax.

The completion of the Air Products expansion project was celebrated at a cocktail reception and dinner at the Westmoreland Club.

Participants included the officers and directors of the L.C.I.D.A.; George Hartnett, Air Products vice-president and general manager of the Industrial Chemical Department; Hank Mason, the firm's works manager for all divisions; Ronald Barkley, corporate treasurer; William Reynolds, assistant corporate treasurer; George Medzerian, plant manager for the Wilkes-Barre plant; Henry Woodeshick, personnel director; Harleth Davies, special projects manager for all liquid natural gas projects and public relations director; Charles Smith, traffic manager.

Attorney Ralph J. Johnston is solicitor for the Authority, and Ballard, Spahr, Andrews and Ingersoll were represented at the meeting by Joseph Flanagan, Esq., and Thomas O'Neill, Esq., of Philadelphia. Remarks were made by Ackerson, Medzerian, and Hartnett.

Also on hand for the occasion were Edgar

Lashford, president of the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, and County Commissioners Frank P. Crossin and Edmund C. Wideman, Jr. The board of the Authority, appointed by the commissioners, includes; Alfred H. Ackerson, chairman; Frank M. Fay, vice chairman; Oscar W. Schnell, secretary-treasurer; Paul E. Cadden, assistant secretary-treasurer; William Cherkes, George J. Ellis, Stanley V. Genetti, Michael Romancheck, Jr., and Berneice Hollock.

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., was founded in 1940 to design and build equipment for the onsite generation of industrial gases. Today, it is a diversified, technologically strong company with 14,300 employees in 11 countries, and assets of \$1.2 billion. Among the 500 largest U.S. industrial companies listed by Fortune magazine, Air Products ranks 253rd in sales, 178th in net income, and 35th in earnings per share growth over the past decade.



EDWARD EVANS
Drafting and Design Supervisor
Commonwealth Telephone Co.



NINA EVANS
Foster Wheeler Energy Corp.

"Our Associate Degrees from Penn State were real door openers for us when we entered the working world."

"We wanted meaningful careers when we chose Penn State. Its two-year Mechanical Engineering Technology program fitted right into our interests.

"Our education and training produced jobs which are rewarding to us both in many ways. We're grateful that Penn State has helped make it possible.

"Our common interest in our work is now shared in our marriage."

Two-Year Associate Degree Programs offer career futures in:

- Mechanical Engineering Technology
- Biomedical Equipment Technology
- Electrical Engineering Technology
- Letters, Arts, and Sciences
- Mass Communications—Broadcasting
- Nuclear Engineering Technology
- Agricultural Business
- Highway Engineering Technology
- Surveying Technology

FIRST 2 YEARS OF 120 BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAMS.

Let us give you full information. Call John Murphy at 675-2171. Just a phone call can make a big difference in your future!

Saturday Interviews by Appointment

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY, WILKES-BARRE CAMPUS
P.O. Box 1830, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18708

MGB gives you everything you want



The fully convertible top is standard equipment on every 1979 MGB



MIDWAY MOTORS
2010 Wyoming Ave., Wyoming
287-3114

Mon-Thurs. 9-9 Fri. & Sat. 9-6