

Chatterbox

Letter to the Editor

Multi-billion dollar jobs program supported by Nelligan

Recently, James Nelligan joined with 233 other U.S. Congressmen in voting for a "billion dollar jobs bill" which would purportedly provide for some 200,000 "temporary public service" jobs across the nation. When queried about the details, Congressman Nelligan said that these were sketchy because of the haste with which the bill was written. However, he said that generally, locations where unemployment is above the national average will be eligible for the program.

"I took a sharp look at the high unemployment (nearly 11 percent

in Luzerne County) in my district and saw this bill as an opportunity to revitalize the area", he is reported to have said.

Sloppy, sloppy! Perhaps next time the Congressman ought to wear his glasses when he takes such a look.

Yet, one must sympathize. Certainly no one wants the present levels of unemployment to continue. Clearly this is a waste of one of the nation's most valuable resources—its manpower. But a quick look at the basic economics involved reveals that the route to full employment and prosperity cannot lie

in development of more government jobs—either temporary or permanent. This is so because it is obvious that such jobs will have to be paid for by the taxpayers. And, equally obvious, the dollars extracted from the taxpayers must reduce their purchasing power by exactly the same amount as is spent for the "jobs" program. Public spending will be increased; but private spending will be decreased. Public jobs increase; private jobs decrease. In short, this flimsy, jerry-built, hastily put together multi-billion dollar "jobs" program is as phoney as a three-dollar bill!

This does not mean that there isn't a worrisome unemployment problem. Certainly thoughtful Americans should be concerned about effective solutions. But the fact is that business booms and depressions have been around for a very long time—as far back in time as any statistics can be found. Yet to-date, their causes and cures are mystifying.

In his epic work: "Business Cycles" the late Wesley Mitchell (founder of the National Bureau of Economic Research) after studying the business cycle in many different nations covering all time periods

for which data were available, observed that the typical business cycle occurred only in those nations which had a freely expandable system of money and credit. This represents approximately the only concrete knowledge we have of the phenomenon to date.

Hordes of economic savants have professed many explanations and proposed diverse nostrums. As yet, however, none of their "cures" ever seemed to work. Perhaps the preponderance of these suggest that government actions be taken to stimulate the economy. But one might observe that proponents of

this view have never been able to explain just why totalitarian economics (like the Soviet Union, for example) do not enjoy endless prosperity but perversely suffer booms and busts like their capitalist neighbors.

Let's hope that our great leaders will keep trying to find the cure for depression. But also let's all keep in mind the fact that no one ever got rich by taking money out of one pocket and putting it in another.

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Library News

A morning with Mrs. Crump!

BY NANCY KOZEMCHAK

Talk about a busman's holiday. Mrs. Crump called me a few weeks ago and asked if I would like to go to Scranton with her on a Thursday morning; if I would drive, she would pay for our lunch. After looking at the calendar, I told her I had some special typing to do on that Thursday morning. Her answer to that was, can't you do it at home at night? Okay, then I said I would like to bowl at 1:00 and she said, can't you skip it this week? Then I asked, why are we going to Scranton? She said, naturally, we are going to a book sale and try to buy some books for next year's library auction. To make a long story short, I picked her up at 9, drove to Scranton with one lane of traffic all the way up, got to the sale and they were not ready yet, so we had coffee, ended up buying a good amount of books out of cartons, couldn't wait till they were set up, ran out of time for lunch so we ate some fancy Greek food made and sold by one of the local churches,

left Scranton at noon, took her home to Dallas and I arrived in Luzerne to bowl at 10 minutes before 1 p.m. After that hectic morning, my first game I bowled a 193. Mrs. Crump is one tremendous person, a remarkable woman, 87 years young and still going strong! Our library is still one of her favorite pets.

Inter-library loan is a service to the public. If a patron needs a certain book and we don't have it here, we request it through Osterhout in Wilkes-Barre and if they don't have it they will try to find it. This past summer we have received books for our patrons from Tennessee, Florida, and Texas along with many from college libraries out of the district. A new service is the fiction round, locating fiction in local areas before sending out of town. We have sent some of our fiction to other areas. The Osterhout van delivers and picks up from Back Mountain Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week. One of our slogans, if you need particular book and we don't have it here, we can

try to get it for you somewhere else.

The Collectors Group will meet Wednesday, Sept. 29 at 7:30 in the library annex.

New books at the library: "Second Heaven" by Judith Guest is a passionate novel that delineates in bold and eloquent lines the lives of three people who will concern and involve readers. A rich novel with emotional exaltation so triumphantly conveyed.

"Master of the Game" by Sidney

Sheldon is the story of the Blackwell dynasty which takes place over a period of 100 years. The story races from the diamond fields of South Africa to the back streets of Paris and the stately homes of England. An exciting family!

Pressures of your job have you down? Throw away those tranquilizers and visit the Back Mountain Memorial Library, a place where tensions disappear as you relax while you read.

Editorial

Don't forget fall!

It arrived on Thursday, Sept. 23 at 4:46 a.m., and will hang around until Dec. 21 at 11:39 p.m. During its visit, it will treat us all to some of the most glorious sights we'll ever see, especially around the Back Mountain.

Rarely will a day pass that someone won't comment on the changes in the countryside, awesome and stupendous! What nature does in the few short months of autumn is impossible to rival on a man-made scale. The colorful cascade which greets us as we leave our houses to head for school, work, or wherever—awakens something in our souls, sparking to life a part of us which too often lies dormant.


We are fortunate to be so blessed. Where else can you drive to a milk store on Huntsville Road and pass through a panorama of greens, reds, golds and oranges such as some travel hundreds of miles to see? And around the corner, you can stop at your local farmhouse to pick up a bushel of fresh apples or just pressed cider? And how many others can easily catch an autumn sunset at Harveys Lake, where the blue of the water fairly shimmers with the glory of the surrounding mountains? Piles of pumpkins will soon be spotted on the roadside,

ready to decorate our homes. And the Luzerne County Tourist Promotion Agency will be placing its map of our neighborhood on the autumn tour schedule.

People from town will make a point of driving out on a Sunday afternoon. And all we need do is look out our window.

The problem with autumn is that it often turns to winter before we appreciate it in its fullest. With the cooler weather, many of us are smitten with an added burst of energy, and not unlike the squirrels and inhabitants of the forest, begin to prepare for the long cold months of winter. The hum of the chainsaw replaces the whine of the lawnmower, and we put our gardens to bed, while canning or freezing the results of the months of loving care and attention.

While engrossed in all of this preparation, we must remember the beauty and brilliance which typify fall are fleeting at best. Take a few moments to stop and look around. Walk with your family. Catch nature in its most daring change of face and let it overwhelm you. Get high on fall and let yourself feel pretty special and very lucky to live in the Back Mountain where the season is at its best.



'Gripe Line!'

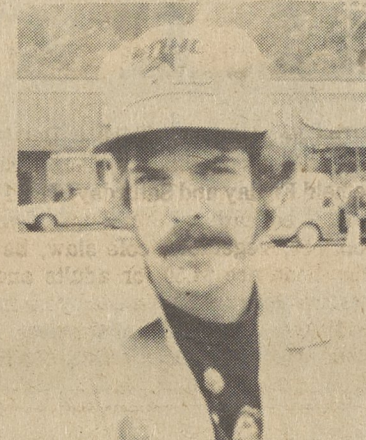
Got a gripe, complaint or criticism? Want to get it off your chest? All you have to do is pick up the phone and dial 675-5211 and tell our "listening machine" what's on your mind. Be nice. Be constructive. Criticize with the goal of changing things for the better not just to bellyache. We would appreciate you identifying yourself since it shows that you are not afraid to "gripe" and also shows that you believe in what you are saying. But... we will withhold your name if you desire. The "Gripe Line" is an easy way to get your message across...

(Please call weekdays after 5 p.m. and anytime on Saturday and Sunday.)

Askin' & Tellin'

State lawmakers are preparing to pass legislation to provide mandatory sentencing for drunk drivers. It is said that everyone has an opinion on the subject of drinking and driving. Here is what some of your neighbors think should be done to drunk drivers.

Dave Mitchell, Kunkle: "I don't think the fine should be stiffer for the first offense. A lot of people don't drink all the time, just at a party or something. Why should they get nailed for that? They should crack down on second and third offenders."



Del Smith, Shavertown: "Stiffer fines would help to keep our highways safer, and help the drivers who have a problem with alcohol, get them to recognize their problem."



Cathy Dymond, Sweet Valley: "It's a really serious problem. I think they need stiffer fines."



Bernie White, Trucksville: "They should prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law. Get them off the road."



Kim Wright, Noxen: "Put them in jail for about a week for one thing. It's a terrible problem, especially when someone is killed."



Letters To The Editor

The Dallas Post welcomes letters to the editor. We do request, however, that each letter include the writer's signature, address and telephone number for verification purposes. If you do not wish your name published include that request with your letter. Letters should be addressed to "The Dallas Post", P. O. Box 366, Dallas, Pa. 18612.