

Memorial books donated to the library

The Back Mountain Memorial Library, 96 Huntsville Road, Dallas, announces the addition of the following memorial books to their collection.

In memory of Walter Covert, "Men and Whales" presented by Mr. and Mrs. John Covert; "Who's Who in America" presented by Mr. and Mrs. John Covert. The Heritage House, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bucan, Power Engineering Corp., Mrs. Alice Biernacki, John Wayne and Verna Miers Families, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dickinson; "Caring for your Collections" presented by Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ashbridge; "Truman" presented by Jack and Eleanor Barnes.

In memory of Richard H. Klick "Earl Mindell's Herb Bible" presented by Clifford and Ruth Melberger.

In memory of Paul Lauer "The Girls in the Balcony" presented by Luzerne County Tourist Promotion Agency; "Earth in the Balance" presented by the Luzerne County Unit of the Cocalushu Craftsmen Club; "My First Word Book" presented by the Symons Family.

In memory of Paul Schalm, Jr. "Other than you Dreamed" presented by Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Shea III; "The August Coup" presented by Barbara and Warren Koehl.

In memory of Charles Frantz "Theories of Everything" presented by Stephen and Estella Killian; "Europe in our Time" presented by Edward and Nancy Shafer; "The Atlas of Endangered Species" presented by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Epstein, Rick and Kim Ross, Janice and Joe Larock; "John Muir: Saving the Wilderness" and "Understanding Man's Best Friend" presented by Agnes Gregson.

In memory of Doris Hughes "Exploring Space" presented by Barbara and Al Czajkowski.

In memory of Mrs. Mabel Calabro "Atom" presented by Michael and Nancy Tkatch.

In memory of Mrs. Hazel Barr "College Funding Made Easy" presented by Mrs. Doris McCutcheon.

In memory of Mrs. Sally Schantz "Germany: The Reunification of a Nation" presented by the Villa Roma Restaurant.

In memory of Georgetta Akromas "Drug Trafficking" presented by Elsie Hoyt.

In memory of Dr. Lester Jordan "Biography of Frances Slocum" presented by Fred and Evelyn Eck; "The Worlds of Christopher Columbus" presented by Mr. and Mrs. William Austin; "Over the Earth I Come" presented by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mohr; "Dinosaurs to the Rescue" and "Night Tree" presented by Dallas Elementary School Students.

In memory of Mrs. Sylvia Attmayer Brook "Born for Love" presented by Mr. and Mrs. Karl Landmesser.

In memory of Edythe Smith "Rookie Coaches Softball Guide" presented by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gelso.

In memory of Earl W. Phillips "The Ultimate Fishing Book" presented by Dr. and Mrs. Charles B. Reif; "How Nature Works" in memory of the loving relationship between Earl W. Phillips and his grandsons, Morgan and Scott Phillips presented by Eleanor and

Jack Barnes.

In memory of Mrs. June Biazzo "Aren't You Lucky" presented by Mrs. Audrey Farr.

In memory of Mrs. Dorothy Gross "The Tremendous Tree Book" presented by Wyoming Valley Art League.

In memory of Mrs. Avis Peters "Babywatching" presented by Mrs. Kay Krivier, Mrs. Audrey Farr and Mr. and Mrs. W. Vetter.

In memory of Charles and Mary Frantz "Ghana" "Canyonlands" "The Netherlands" and "Mesa Verde" presented by Ridgway and Mary Espy; "Recycle!" and "The Old Ladies Who Liked Cats" presented by Josephine Offshack.

In memory of Mrs. Avis Peters "New Selected Poems" presented by Mrs. Audrey Farr and Mr. Noel Thomas.

In memory of Joan Callahan "When Gramma Kissed His Elbow" presented by Beth and Bruce Rosenthal.

In memory of Florence Banks "Ronald Reagan" and "William Tell" presented by Mr. and Mrs. James C. Thomas, Jr.; "Ernest Hemingway: The Life and the Legend" presented by Connie and Lew Kortick and Kathryn Rapson.

J.W.J.

Victims of belligerent benevolence

By J.W. JOHNSON

There's something wrong: - When 60 percent of the Superfund set aside to clean up toxic waste sites goes to lawyers, and when most of our legislators are lawyers.

- When the average Social Security recipient will receive \$178,000 from the fund when having contributed only \$39,000.

- When the United States, the world's largest debtor nation, continues to give billions in foreign aid, more than half of it to two countries, Egypt and Israel.

- When so-called "entitlement" programs, interest on the national debt and defense now account for 82 percent of federal spending.

- When Savings and Loans sharks can, with industry deregulation and duplicity by Congress, bilk the nation for \$500 billion dollars and then turn to us for a bailout.

The items above are among many which we face today. But the last item brings to mind another case of governmental meddling which occurred right here in Pennsylvania, and which perhaps is symbolic, if not symptomatic of all the items noted.

It seems that a three employee construction firm which failed to meet a Federal 'affirmative action' goal of hiring five percent female laborers was told by the U.S. Department of Labor that in order to mend its ways, it would have to follow 43 separate record keeping and compliance steps or lose the federal contract.

The Pennsylvania contractor has no office, no secretary and only three employees. The federal contract involved 11 workers, eight of whom were employed by subcontractors. The labor department's so-called affirmative action violation involved four laborers, two working for the contractor and two employed by sub-contractors.

And assuming that the contractor would not have been expected to employ an individual who is two-fifths female, the deficiency boiled down to the contractor's failure to employ one female among the four laborers.

Lest it seem otherwise, the issue is not the employment of female workers. When I was an employer, I hired the best qualified people; as it turned out the majority of them were female, including

those in management positions.

No, the issue is another example of government's over-government under the dubious banner of social progress.

How did we get to this ridiculous state in our evolution as a nation?

It began long ago. Compromises ultimately evolved out of the debate over what our constitution should and should not be. Representative government seemed to be preferable to mob decision making. Congress was given the authority to make decisions on behalf of the people.

And it's clear that legislators at both the state and federal levels—witness the S&L mess, and the 'rubber check' scandal—have failed miserably in this constitutionally mandated responsibility.

In turn this has resulted in the evolution of two other public bodies which now hold unconstitutional sway over every citizen.

The first of these is the Judiciary. The disintegration of Congress backbone has been mirrored for many years by a steady increase in the power of the Judiciary over the making of public policy—the establishment of law. Perhaps this was first made apparent in the mid 1800's Dred Scott slavery case where Congress avoided making a decision about slavery and the Judiciary stepped in, effectively setting policy. The Judiciary has been parked out front ever since.

The issue is not the court's decision. The issue is that the Judiciary made the decision, and it is a body which is effectively removed from voter scrutiny, the farcical dog and pony show of state judicial elections here in the Commonwealth notwithstanding. Since the Dred Scott case, citizens have become accustomed to the concept of Judicial interference in the making of public policy, which an ever more cowardly Congress has permitted.

There is no convincing evidence that the Judiciary sought the role of both initiator of law, and then interpreter of law. It's clear that the Judiciary has often acted out of an honest desire to deal with problems which obviously required remedies.

What's frightening is that it was not the people, through elected representation, which faced those problems; rather it was the Judiciary which is largely unaccount-

able to the people, and unaccountability is the cornerstone of a republican democracy.

The second beneficiary of Congress' failure to assume its constitutional responsibilities is the fourth branch of government: the Bureaucracy.

Congress has discovered in the Bureaucracy another way to remain politically pure and chaste. Congress simply sloughs off those responsibilities to a faceless, nameless, unaccountable mob and says: "Who, us?"

What Congress does is pass a vaguely worded statute that simultaneously creates a rule making body. In most cases the statute's goals are as worthy as motherhood and apple pie.

Then enter the rule making body, the Bureaucracy. That petty horde of paper shuffler is without, in the majority of cases, a clue about the real world realities of the problem being addressed by the new statute. The Bureaucracy promulgates rules—the 43 record keeping rules, and the proposed rules governing parental leave, as examples—and the citizen and business are left to flounder on the shoals, victims of bureaucratic and belligerent benevolence.

Does the citizen or businessman have recourse? It does no good complaining to congressional aides who draft most of the legislation, or to the bureaucrats who then set the rules. Neither is accountable to the voter. Neither owes the citizen or businessmen anything.

It's clear that our concepts of both the Judiciary and the Bureaucracy need to change. The Judiciary should evolve a procedure whereby it would refer social policy decisions back to Congress. Perhaps shame could achieve what political expedience leaves begging.

And, in the final analysis, citizens need to elect legislators who understand where is a time for compromise and a time for principle, and whose time in office will be spent doing more than just assuring re-election. The last suggestion is probably the most important. We the people have the right to expect Congress to exercise its constitutional responsibilities. To abdicate that right by not voting, or by not knowing for what or whom you are voting, is also abdicating the right to complain afterward.

Religious services

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - 196 N. Main St., Shavertown. 675-3859. Pastor Harold R. Baer, Jr. Worship, 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month. Visitors welcome. Tuesday Bible Study 9 a.m.

DALLAS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 4 Parsonage St., Dallas. 675-0122. Rev. Michael A. Bealla, Pastor. Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.

SHAVERTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 163 N. Pioneer Ave., Shavertown. 675-3616. Pastors, Rev. James A. Wert, Rev. Harriet L. Santos. Music Director, Rosento E. Santos. SATURDAY: 5:30 p.m., Chapel Service. SUNDAY: 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Worship Services.

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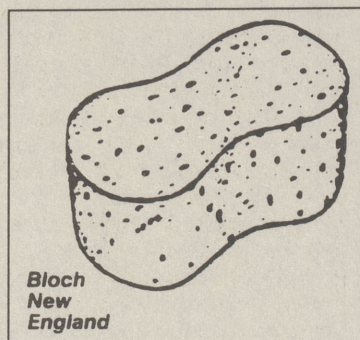
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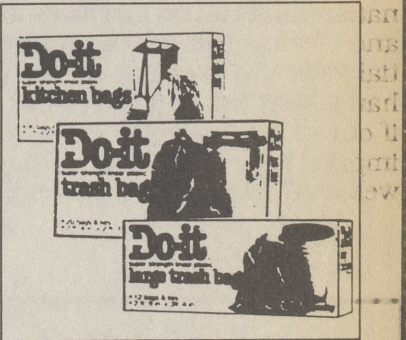
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