

**60 Years Ago - Nov. 1, 1935
DROUGHT, FOREST FIRE
HAZARD CONTINUE**

As a result of the theft of several articles from the quarters of the Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Co. of Dallas during the last few weeks, a new policy was announced affecting individual or groups desiring to use the hose house. In the future the building will be locked and applications for the use of the hose will have to be made in writing and presented at a regular meeting of the fire company for approval.

Fires continue to dot local mountainsides this week as a result of dry conditions. Fire Warden W.E. Crispell who is stationed at Dallas tower has asked that hunters be extremely careful, since light rains recently have not moistened the leaves and brush enough to prevent the quick spreading on any fire.

You could get - Long Island Ducklings, 23¢ lb.; gr. beef, 2 lbs., 33¢; sausage, 29¢ lb.; dressed Sea Trout 10¢ lb.; Post Bran Flakes, 9¢ pkg., Bokar coffee, lb. can 21¢.

**50 Years Ago - Nov. 2, 1945
DALLAS WOMEN START
LAST WAR BOND DRIVE**

Pa. Game Commission issued a warning to sportsmen and others to beware of souvenir guns brought back from the war theaters. The American serviceman is inherently a souvenir collector. This tendency is very apt to prove a disastrous boomerang in many cases of returning servicemen if they have their Japanese or German military rifle converted into sporting firearms chambered for American-made ammunition, the commission asserts.

In an effort to raise one third of the \$300 needed to furnish a room in the new wing of the hospital, Shavertown Branch Nesbitt Hospital Auxiliary will hold a Dessert Card Party at the Shavertown Fire Hall Nov. 16. The balance of the fund will be raised at a later date.

With a quota of \$6,000 and equal amount of energy and determination Dallas Woman's Club opened its "Last War Bond" drive this week. The drive opened Oct. 15 officially with the motto, "They finished their job - let us finish ours" and lasts until Dec. 31.

**40 Years Ago - Oct. 28, 1955
NATONA WORKERS
SELECT UNION**

Back Mountain Community Chest Fund went over the top, rolling up a grand total of \$9,964. It exceeded its quota by a larger percentage than most other areas. The drive as a whole was completely successful for the first time in eight years.

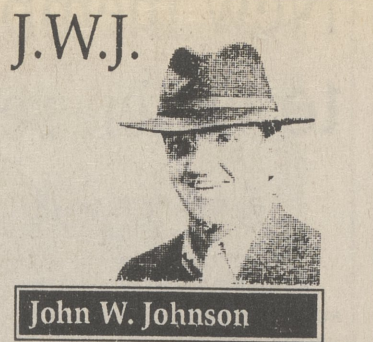
Receiving far less attention than the forthcoming County election, but probably of equal importance to the welfare and economic development of the Back Mt. area is the NLRB supervised election scheduled for next Wednesday at Natona Mills. The outcome will determine who is to be the bargaining agent for more than 400 employees of the lace plant. Representing the employees for 10 years, is Branch A-23 Levers Aux. Section an independent union. Now the United Textile Workers, an affiliate of AFL, wants to take over that function.

**30 Years Ago - Oct. 28, 1965
NOXEN TANNERY
CHANGES HANDS AGAIN**

Dallas Rotary, Dallas Kiwanis and Dallas Lions in a joint session for the 5th annual dinner at Irem Temple Country Club will tap an outstanding community minded person for "Citizen of the Year." Identity of the recipient is a carefully guarded secret until announcement is made at the dinner. It comes as a complete surprise to the person being honored.

The former Armour Tannery at Noxen was reported sold Friday afternoon to Jones Safety Device Enterprises Inc., with the prospect of plant improvement and eventual manufacture there. This week a bulldozer appeared on the property, an evident first state of operation.

You could get - Leg O' Lamb rump half, 19¢ lb.; Hawaiian Punch, 3-4 oz. cans, 93¢; Ideal corn, 4 cans/69¢ Fla. oranges, doz. 39¢.



John W. Johnson

**Legalizing
drugs may
save lives**

taxed and distributed, but legalized.

Our society has—with it voracious consumption of drugs—made the enforcement of drug laws impossible by making the drug trade so profitable.

For example, during the same discussion noted above, one of the participants observed that a young acquaintance of his made casual note of the fact that another young friend's wealth, driving around in a luxury car and purchasing expensive gifts for a girlfriend, was made possible by the young man "dealing."

The acceptance of this illegality was matter-of-fact. And when a person fresh out of high school can make a \$1,000 a week as a drug dealer or courier, how can law enforcement personnel stop such a process?

When leaders of drug rings can (and do) make billions each and every year, how can any drug enforcement agency—short of our military taking over the country of production—stop it?

And isn't it also true that present anti-drug laws mean federal, state and local law enforcement unites and organized crime shares a vested interest in retaining drugs as "criminal"? The criminality of drugs is, in fact, the chief cause of terror and crime in our society today.

Agreed - who doesn't shudder at the thought of legalizing drugs? Of adding hard drugs to the already existent hard drug, alcohol?

But the problem is already here, folks. The wolf is already at the door. A report by the American Medical Association noted that, in a Boston study, one out of four traffic accidents were drug related. One out of four, folks!

As long as drug profits are so high, and as long as we want to continue living in a country where the freedom of movement is relatively unconstrained, then we will continue to have a major drug problem.

Yes, education about drug use (including that insidious drug, alcohol and its dangerous cousin, tobacco), and the potential dangers should continue, and be stepped up for our children.

But it is becoming increasingly clear that as the death toll, terror, financial and human cost continues to spiral upward, legalizing other drugs might be an alternative to a problem which has no perfect solution.



**Reporter's
notebook**

Grace R. Dove

Like 50 colored pennants, they hang on lines and wave slightly in the breeze. A closer look reveals their heartbreaking, bitter and sometimes triumphant messages.

A black long-sleeved t-shirt with its wrists chained together.

A crop top emblazoned with "Why, why, why?"

A shirt printed with "Raped. Used." hanging alongside another proclaiming that "The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom shall I fear?"

These and many others are part of The Clothesline Project, on exhibit at College Misericordia's MacDonald Art Gallery through November 5 in observance of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Seeing the t-shirts, made as part of their healing therapy by women who have survived domestic violence, should be required for every middle and high school student in the Back Mountain.

Nicole Brown Simpson was not an isolated case. There but for Creator's goodness goes your sister, sister-in-law, aunt, cousin, mother or neighbor. She could even be your best friend. You won't know until she gets up the courage to tell you.

Abuse is a way to control another person, by hitting them with hands, objects or words. It includes sexual abuse, threats, destruction of property or pets and economic abuse - the tacky old line about "keeping her bare-foot and pregnant."

Why would a woman stay with an abusive husband? Sometimes she thinks she can change him. She may be tied down with young children and no job skills. She may have tried to leave but had her application for public assistance rejected because her car is worth too much money or some

**Modest t-shirts carry
an important message**

other ridiculous reason. She may have been repeatedly told it's her fault, that she's unsupportive of his needs. She may simply be too physically and spiritually worn down to work full-time to support herself while still trying to deal with his abuse.

Domestic violence isn't something that can be worked out. It isn't "just a spat." It isn't just a minority or low-income problem. It's here, right in the Back Mountain. Maybe in your neighborhood.

One shirt was made by a girl raped at the age of seven by her grandfather, while another contains a simple drawing of black tears falling on stick figures of little girls.

"Why? I was only a child!" screams another.

"My child still cries, but my spirit lives," says another.

Ironically, college personnel were unpacking the T-shirts Friday, October 13, when the announcement came over the radio that a man convicted of molesting a child had been sentenced by an altruistic judge to the equivalent of a slap on the wrist - six months house confinement and two years probation. Mind you, he lives in another county. Who will enforce the sentence? What will prevent him from entertaining visitors to his home? What message about Luzerne County does this give to other child molesters?

Sadly, pedophilia is only one of the many ugly faces of domestic violence. The O.J. farce has given

us an excellent introduction to one of its others, wife-beaters who sometimes end up killing their lady loves. Nobody deserves to be beaten up, raped, threatened, injured, maimed or murdered. Nobody deserves to have her spirit chewed up and spat out with a litany of malicious invective.

A knife with blood dripping from its end adorns a red t-shirt.

"You can't cure love with hate."

A broken heart is applied to a shirt bearing the message, "I was raped."

"When denial stops, so will abuse."

A woman rises from flames on one shirt, while on another an eagle breaks the chains it holds in its talons. Both shirts proclaim, "From the ashes of bondage to wings of freedom."

Some Native American tribes believe that a people isn't defeated until its women are defeated.

We mustn't allow domestic violence to defeat us. We are our sisters' keepers.

If you are being abused, call your local police for help. Set up a safe place and transportation to it so you can retreat there if you're in danger. Memorize the phone number of the Domestic Violence Service Center (823-7312) and the Help Line (825-1341) for help.

If you know someone in an abusive relationship, let her know you care. Encourage her to learn where she can call for help. Remember that sometimes it's hard to ask for help.

Is Your Smoke Detector Working?
More Americans have smoke detectors than ever before. But nearly half don't work.

CHANGE YOUR CLOCK

CHANGE YOUR BATTERY

Without a working smoke detector as an early warning device, fire can spread unnoticed through the household, blocking escape routes and filling rooms with deadly smoke.

Make sure you're protected. Start a lifesaving habit this October 29. When you change your clock from daylight-saving time, change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

A message from Luzerne County Chapter, Pennsylvania SAFE KIDS Coalition 67092 Energize! Brand Batteries International Association of Fire Chiefs

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