

The Mount Joy Bulletin

Jno. E. Schroll, Editor and Publisher

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EDITORIAL

Here's news for bread winners in a family. Now's the time you start paying for your Christmas present.

Instead of counting sheep trying to get to sleep, why not count the cars in a drive-in theatre.

A man is jailed for stealing your watch and readily forgiven for stealing your time.

The farmers throughout Lancaster County enter the New Year of 1950 with a degree of satisfaction. Practically all their tobacco is sold and at a price that was as easy to take as a plate of ice cream.

Several weeks ago a few independent dealers began buying a crop here and there at 20 cents thru. Later they paid 25 and 15. Later still 27 and 15 and when several of the county's largest dealers broke the ice about a week ago, practically three-fourths of the entire crop was bought at 30 and 15.

Here and there was an extra special crop sold for 31 to 32 cents.

This gives the farmer ample time to decide just what he wants to do as far as acreage is concerned, the coming season.

SHEER NONSENSE

The December issue of Fortune features a lengthy article on the government's anti-trust suit against the largest American chain store system, the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co., written by M. A. Adelman, assistant professor of economics at M. I. T. Mr. Adelman discusses in detail various legal and economic ramifications of the action. Near the end, he says: "Economic life is a little more complicated than it seems and...one needs to look at the whole picture. Various studies have done so and the verdict has been unanimous. Of all trades, food retailing is the most difficult to imagine as ever approaching monopoly. It is simply too easy and too cheap to enter. The independent retailers, wholesalers and food forced by chain-store competition to improve their methods in order to survive, but survive they have. There is no sign of their disappearance."

There is another remarkable phase of the A and P case which deserves mention. We have always thought of monopolies as combinations in restraint of trade whose goal was to gain a corner on something in demand and sell it at the highest possible price to helpless consumers. But A and P crime, according to the government, is that it has used its buying power and its other assets to sell goods cheaper. Yet that is what any good merchant, in any line of retailing tries to do. It is an inevitable product of competition. And it is one of the reasons for our high living standards.

In any event, the government has entered a legal morass which just doesn't make sense to the practical lay mind. Every customer of A and P, or any other retailer, has a choice of many other stores which would like to have his trade. No store can "command" trade--it earns it in competition or it doesn't get it. To talk about a monopoly in any branch of retailing is the sheerest nonsense.

Do you want to know how to make an atom bomb? In the December issue of Harper's Magazine, Dr. J. Arthur Campbell, assistant professor of chemistry at Oberlin College, who worked from

1943 on Manhattan Project research, tells you how, and in a very few pages.

However, don't get excited in the belief that Dr. Campbell has come out in a magazine of general circulation with the most "top secret" information conceivable. That he hasn't is the point of his article. For what he gives is an outline of a method, starting with the ore and ending with the explosion, which is known to physicists everywhere. The "secrets" of the bomb, he argues, are not in the method or the materials. Rather, to use his own words, they "are in the minds of thousands of men who have worked on the bomb project, the men who personally accomplish the myriad small steps leading to the final explosion." Later on, he offers this contribution to an extremely controversial question: "There is a very real question...whether further tightening of secrecy regulations will not merely result in the discovery of fewer secrets, and thus weaken, rather than strengthen, the security of the United States."

Be that as it may, the country has been stirred by allegations, started by a very popular radio commentator, to the effect that during the war atomic materials and much valuable information were given to the Russians, and that some very high government officials insisted that they be given it. There has been a series of denials, charges and counter-charges. No one knows at this writing what the truth is. But, regardless of these developments, it is now generally believed that Russia, through infinite effort and with the aid of captured German scientists, has the bomb, has exploded at least one, and is producing bombs.

When this was first learned it came as a shock--many American experts had leaned with happy confidence on the idea that Russia couldn't make the bomb before about 1957 at the earliest. Now there seems to be a similar kind of confidence which holds that, even though this forecast proved as wrong as wrong could be, the Russian technology is in so low a stage of development that she can't produce enough bombs, to stay in the same league with us. No one can prove whether that view is correct or not. But it takes no expert to understand that it could be suicidal to depend on it. A good general always considers the worst possible eventuality when he plans his campaign.

Recent events again have demonstrated how the A-bomb is coloring all our lives. Its dark shadows lie over the entire world and how to make it is no secret.

STRIKE FOR WHAT?

In 1949, the leadership for which coal miners pay high salaries was responsible for a \$1,420,000 fine for lawbreaking. The miners paid.

The same leadership in March cost the miners two weeks' pay for a strike ordered to protest the appointment of James Boyd as director of the United States Bureau of Mines.

It has failed to negotiate a new contract to replace the old one expired June 30.

It put the miners on a three-day week in mid-summer with heavy loss in pay.

It called a second strike for 52 days which ended November 10.

It has dissipated the welfare fund -- no coal mined, no 20-cents a ton royalty.

It insulted the head of the U. S. mediation service.

The current report of one of the leading coal companies for the nine months ended September 30, 1949, shows that on a five-day week basis from January 1 to November 9, the mines lost 82 days due to strikes. The loss in wages to the miners in this particular company for the period in question was \$1,250 per union employee.

Labor leadership in the coal mines has kept them closed for long intervals for many years, and the miners' loss in wages has been enormous. Wages in other lines of business and industry have increased without disastrous strikes each year.

The United Mine Workers' long continued policy of insolence show the lengths to which an uncontrolled monopoly will go to gain its ends. It has forced hours, working conditions and wages on the coal industry, regardless of the laws of economics, that make it impossible for that industry under normal conditions to pay those wages and operate at a profit.

The Bulletin's Scrapbook!

Week's Best Recipe

Shrimp Casserole: 2 c white sauce, 1-4 c finely chopped green pepper, 1T minced onion, 6 hard cooked eggs, sliced, 1 c canned shrimp, drained, 1 1-2 c canned peas, 1 c buttered bread crumbs, on bottom of greased baking dish. Add green pepper, onion, sliced eggs and shrimp and peas to white sauce and mix gently. Place in pan and top with remainings of the crumbs. Bake in hot oven until crumbs are brown, about 25 minutes. Serves 6.

MRS. ALWINE WAS NAMED TEACHER AT WOODLAND

The Mount Joy Township School Board met Tuesday evening at the Flgin School. President Joseph Greiner was in charge. Mrs. Paul Alwine, Elizabethtown was elected teacher at the Woodland school.

The proposed merger of the Elizabethtown Borough and Mount Joy school districts was discussed but no action taken.

Stimulate your business by advertising in the Bulletin.

A&P CHARGES SUIT AIMED TO PREVENT REAL COMPETITION

The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company charged today that the current anti-trust suit against the company is really "a suit against efficiency and against real competition."

The company announced its intention of running a series of advertisements, telling about "previous suits brought against A&P by the anti-trust lawyers in which the charges were proven to be false."

"In case after case they made charges against A&P which were proved in court to be utterly without foundation," the ad stated.

Today's ad cited one such suit in which it was cleared of anti-trust charges of conspiracy to fix bread prices. Under the caption, "The Washington Bread Case", the decision of Federal Judge Allen T. Goldsborough is quoted:

"If you were to show this record to any experienced trial lawyer in the world he would tell you there was not any evidence at all...Honesty," he said, "I have never in my forty years' experience tried a case that was absolutely devoid of evidence as this. This is the honest truth. I have never seen one like it."

The fact is crystal clear, the food chain points out, that while the anti-trust lawyers constantly protest that they are not against "bigness" they only brought their bread suit against the big companies that sold good bread at the lowest prices, just as the current suit attacks a big company that sells good food cheap.

"The real question involved in this suit is whether businessmen are going to be encouraged to do a better and more efficient job; or whether we are going to let the anti-trust lawyers in Washington blow the whistle on anybody who gets big by giving the people the most for their money."

The food chain points out that it was forced to carry out its present newspaper campaign to protect its business against the charges which the anti-trust lawyers were making in press releases, in speeches and on the radio.

"Charges," says A&P, "that would seriously damage our business, if they were believed by the public."

Pointing out that many of A&P's patrons "would not want to deal with the kind of people that the anti-trust lawyers represent us to be," the ad states that the anti-trust lawyers "have been wrong before," and "in this case we know they are wrong."

"We think," the company states, "that we have a right to protect this 90-year-old business which has made it possible for millions of American families to get more and better food for their money, which is providing high-wage employment for 110,000 Americans, and which is helping millions of farmers to improve the methods of distributing their produce."

"The anti-trust lawyers tell the public they won a previous anti-trust suit against us in Danville, Illinois. They did. What they do not tell you is that they brought case after case against the A&P in federal courts all over the United States. Before they won this case they suffered three defeats."

In conclusion the ad states the company will tell about the other suits. "We are not going to duck, either. We are going to tell you about the criminal suit that the anti-trust lawyers won at Danville, Ill."

"No one can tell us that it is a crime to try to sell the best quality food at the lowest possible prices."

That is part of the reason the coal industry is only employing 400,000 men and that is why it is losing a large percentage of the American fuel business that it used to have.

Labor rates, like other commodities, are supposed to be competitive. But coal mine labor rates under the United Mine Workers' monopoly are not. The product of the mines, however, must be sold in a highly competitive field. Thus U. M. W. leadership is rapidly turning the coal business over to competitive fuels and destroying jobs of miners.

HAPPENINGS - of - LONG AGO 20 Years Ago

The new post office building at Lancaster will be open for inspection to the public.

The borough of Ephrata is facing a water famine at present.

John L. Schroll, who drives the Conestoga Traction Co's express truck, will deliver express thru Florin free of charge.

Messrs. Mumper and Behman will succeed Mr. Walter Welfley in the garage business at Ed. Ream's garage.

David Zerphey who conducted a greenhouse, sold it to Wm. Beaman-derfer.

The Legion home at Quarryville collapsed, injuring 40 persons while dancing on the second floor.

Lebanon public schools have been closed due to a scarlet fever epidemic.

Since Christmas, eggs dropped in price 20c per doz., now selling at 42c.

Ephrata sold eighty bonds at \$1-000 each, the money to be used for a filtration plant.

Mr. W. D. Chandler will succeed H. H. Engle as Burgess.

Henry Eby, of Erisman's Church sold a fine fat bull for 11c per lb. Sipling Bros. Rheems, just received a carload of the famous Wil-

Columbia Phone

(From page 1)
\$3.75, residence, \$2.35; extensions, \$1 residence, \$.75; PBX trunks, business, \$6.50.

The 25-cent discount for prompt payment of monthly bills also will be discontinued under the proposed new tariffs.

The company serves subscribers in Columbia, Mt. Joy, Elizabethtown, Marietta, and Mountville, and surrounding areas.

A \$750,000 improvement program and higher wages to employees were given as reasons for the increase. The company said it can no longer hold to the "1920-30 price level" for its services.

Wolgemuth's Mill received their third tank car of molasses of 6,000 gallons each.

Marje Specialty Shoppe is holding a January clearance sale.

Mr. George Althouse, P.R.R. agent entertained the men of the P.R.R. station force.

The two residences on the Lloyd Mifflin estate at Columbia will be opened as a memorial home for the aged and disabled school teachers.

A bad check artist is operating in Mount Joy and Elizabethtown vicinity.

53 persons were killed and 200 wounded during the hunting season this year.

Jacob Horst, 43, Elizabethtown was seriously injured when a truck crashed into a team of six horses he was driving.

SIMON P. NISSLEY
MARY G. NISSLEY
FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Mount Joy, Pa.

WANTED \$11,000

Do you know that a new law is going into effect requiring that you have \$11,000 Financial Responsibility in case of accident? It's wise to have proof of that responsibility handy. And it's wise to let Harleysville furnish it by means of its all-fare Auto Liability insurance. With the policy goes, of course, Harleysville's celebrated helpfulness in every time of trouble. Let us explain what this strong, friendly company can do for you.

Harleysville
MUTUAL CASUALTY COMPANY
HARLEYSVILLE, PA.
Affiliate: Mutual Auto Fire Insurance Co.

B. TITUS RUTT AGENCY
PHONE 3-9305
85 East Main Street
MOUNT JOY, PENNA.
Insurance plus insurance service.

Where shall I put my money?

Today, many different financial agencies are soliciting your funds for investment or deposit. In a checking account with us, you have a combination of safety and immediate access to funds. In a thrift account here you have safety plus interest on your money. We invite you to do your banking here.

THE
UNION NATIONAL MOUNT JOY BANK
MOUNT JOY, PA.

IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH

Member of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

What Can The People Believe?

When the anti-trust lawyers in Washington filed their suit to put the A&P out of business, they immediately handed out for all the newspapers of the United States a story giving in detail their "allegations" against this company.

When we published advertisements giving our side of the case, they protested, even though they had made, and have continued to make, in newspapers, in speeches and over the radio these charges that would seriously damage our business, if they were believed by the public.

Every week millions of American housewives patronize A&P stores. Many of them would not want to deal with the kind of people that the anti-trust lawyers represent us to be.

We think we have a right to protect this 90-year old business which has made it possible for millions of American families to get more and better food for their money, which is providing high-wage employment for 110,000 Americans and which is helping millions of farmers to improve the methods of distributing their produce.

No answer by us would be necessary if the anti-trust lawyers were always right. But they, like all other human beings, can be wrong.

In this case we know they are wrong.

They have been wrong before.

In case after case they made charges against A&P, which were proved in court to be utterly without foundation.

We will prove that statement right up to the hilt.

The anti-trust lawyers tell the public that they won a previous anti-trust suit against us at Danville, Illinois. They did.

What they do not tell you is that they brought case after case against the A&P in federal courts all over the United States. Before they won this case they suffered three defeats.

The anti-trust lawyers have told everybody about the time that the courts said they were right. We think you are entitled to know about the three times the courts said they were wrong.

Now we are going to tell you about the first one. In future advertisements we will tell you about all of them.

The Washington Bread Case

In April, 1941, the anti-trust lawyers brought a criminal suit in Washington, D. C.

They charged that the A&P, two grocery chain competitors, two labor unions and other good American citizens had conspired to fix the price of bread.

Can anyone imagine any charge calculated to be more damaging to a retail grocery business? They asked millions of people to believe that we were the kind of grocers who would take bread out of the mouths of poor people and make it harder for a wife and mother to feed her family.

These charges were false.

In that case it developed that the A&P and the two competitors who were charged with conspiring with us to maintain high bread prices actually sold bread cheaper than most of the other stores in Washington.

The anti-trust lawyers presented and argued their case. When they were through, Federal District Judge Allen T. Goldsborough ruled that A&P and the other defendants did not even have to put in a defense. He ordered the jury to bring in a verdict of "not guilty."

Judge Goldsborough said to the anti-trust lawyers:

"If you were to show this record to any experienced trial lawyer in the world, he would tell you that there was not any evidence at all."

"Honestly, I have never in my over forty years' experience seen tried a case that was as absolutely devoid of evidence as this. That is the honest truth. I have never seen one like it."

So here was a case in which the anti-trust lawyers made seriously damaging charges against the A&P, in support of which, in the words of the court, they did not have "any evidence at all."

This was not the only time the anti-trust lawyers made charges against the A&P which the courts said were not true. In future ads we are going to tell you about these other suits. We are not going to duck, either. We are going to tell you about the criminal suit that the anti-trust lawyers won at Danville, Illinois.

The anti-trust lawyers say that they are not attacking "bigness" or efficiency. They have to say that because the courts have decided that "bigness" and efficiency and selling at low prices is not a crime.

But the fact is crystal clear that they only brought their bread suit against the big companies and against companies that sold good bread at the lowest prices; just as in this current suit they are attacking a big company that sells good food cheap.

We are going to show the American people that the suit to destroy A&P is really a suit against efficiency and against real competition.

The real question involved in this suit is whether businessmen are going to be encouraged to do a better and more efficient job; or whether we are going to let the anti-trust lawyers in Washington blow the whistle on anybody who gets big by giving the people more for their money.

No one can make us believe that it is a crime to try to sell the best quality food at the lowest possible price.

THE GREAT ATLANTIC &  PACIFIC TEA COMPANY