

# New Football Stadium Plans Encounter Instant Opposition

## Completion By Autumn Is Expected



Tullytown Borough President Michael A. Pirolli (left) and Councilman John Silvi, Jr., survey Pennsylvania Canal under which they hope to pipe coal as slurry from upstate mining areas to dock facilities on the Delaware River. Plan has been suggested to Gov. Scranton as a lure for industry.

Plans for a new football stadium at Neshaminy High School were announced Sunday by O. Lee Merrick, director of the Neshaminy Joint School Board's athletic committee.

The \$100,000 concrete-and-steel spectator stands will be ready for next fall's opening game, he said. They will nearly double the seating capacity on the athletic field.

Merrick's announcement was followed immediately by a sharp note of dissent from another school board member, M. L. "Pete" Madway, who called for de-emphasis of football and use of the funds for expansion of the system's heavily loaded educational plant.

### VALUES CHALLENGED

"What concerns me most in this," Madway said, "is that the school board can't seem to get as excited about our educational facilities as it can about football seats."

Madway and other Middletown township members of the board opposed use of the money for the sports stands but were voted down.

The plan approved by the board calls for removal of half of the present 4000 steel and wood seats, deteriorated by the years, and construction of a permanent stadium with 5000 seats.

### TO SEAT 7000

Seating capacity at the field just off Old Lincoln Highway in Middletown township will stand at 7000 seats when the project is completed, Merrick said.

Merrick estimated football revenues will rise to \$25-\$30,000 a year "and if all the revenue from football were used to meet the cost of this new facility, it would be paid off in about four years."

He admitted there is little likelihood that gate receipts could ever be used for a fast bond payoff. Thirty-three other teams are supported by football income, he said.

### NO TAX INCREASE

Discussing details of the project, Merrick said the construction can be undertaken without a tax increase. The needed bonding power under present tax rates will become available from retirement of a school expansion issue this summer.

In addition to an increase in seating capacity, the project envisions a press box, ticket stands and central electric controls.

All of these things are important, Merrick said, because of great community interest in the sport.

"At some of the games, the number in seats are matched by standees," Merrick said.

### LEADS LEAGUE

The Neshaminy team has led competitors in the Lower Bucks area for some years.

Madway acknowledged interest in the sport, but labeled estimates "speculative . . . based on maintenance of a league-leading team."

He said he felt the time had come to "take the emphasis off the football program."

The school board, he said, should use the money for educational facilities "such as a library . . . for things which would pay for themselves in the education of our youth."

# Falls Twp. Official Pleads Britain's Cause to de Gaulle

Milton Berkes, chairman of the Falls township Board of Supervisors, disclosed on Sunday he hopes to prevail upon French President Charles de Gaulle to accept Great Britain in the European Common Market. Undaunted by the failure of European statesmen and American diplomats who have spoken to de Gaulle about this, Berkes opened his campaign with a letter to the French President.

## Dateline . . . Delaware Valley U.S.A.

SECRETARIES, women lawyers and female workers in general will rendezvous with their bosses for cocktails and dinner Monday night, but the affair is all on the up and up. The women, members of the American Business Women's Association, will entertain their bosses at the Poor Richard Club. It's their way of showing him their appreciation and promoting better business relationships.

Marie Shepard, concert comedienne, will present a skit about "American Women, Historical and Hysterical," with seldom-heard stories of famous American women before the gathering.

MEET: "Words, Words, Words" is the topic of the Mid-City Great Books Group of the Philadelphia Art Alliance which meets at 7:45 P. M. Monday. The group will discuss John Locke's "Essay Concerning Human Understanding" and anyone who has read it is invited to attend. . . . The Delaware Valley Chapter of the American Documentation Institute will hold its first dinner meeting Monday evening at Stouffer's Restaurant, 2 Penn Center Plaza. Dr. L. B. Hejprin, of the Council of Library Resources, Inc., will speak on a new storage and dissemination system. . . . Dr. Arnold F. Brodie, professor of biology at Harvard University Medical School, will speak at 4 P. M. Monday before the Department of Biology of Temple University.

ART: The Jewish Women's League of the Norristown Jewish Community Center will sponsor an all-professional art festival Monday and Tuesday from noon until 10 P. M. The paintings and sculptures will be exhibited at the center, Brown and Powell sts., Norristown. Original Chagall and Picasso lithographs will be displayed, and A. P. Hankins will give demonstrations Monday. Art work can be purchased at the festival.

Berkes summoned up Lafayette's part in the American revolution and compared Fallsington to "your historic French villages" in his letter.

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### FRIENDLY REQUEST

"Not one to take upon himself the duties of others, Berkes explained that his municipal post "is a minor one" and that he "presents himself as an individual with friendly intent and not in any official way."

Berkes went on to explain the hardships that could be inflicted upon many workers and industries by the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 and the tariff concessions it authorizes in the hope for "greater free world prosperity through a freer exchange of goods."

### EXCHANGE PRODUCTS

He wrote that the hope of the Fallsingtons in the Free World were that they "can make something and then, in turn, exchange the fruit of their labor with others to the advantage of each."

Berkes did not mention in his letter to Gen. de Gaulle that the principal product of his community was the steel from the Fairless Works of U. S. Steel Corp.

"My plea," he wrote, "based

By RICHARD WEST