

THE UNION PRESS

Combined with PATTON COURIER

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The endeavor of the Union Press-Courier is to sincerely and honestly represent Trade Union Workers in their efforts to secure economic freedom through organizations as advocated by the A. F. L. and C. I. O.

The Union Press-Courier gives its advertisers the advantage of the combined circulation of the two largest circulated weeklies in Cambria County and has a reader coverage that blankets Patton and the major mining towns.

RANDOM THOUGHT

The New Year season usually is a season of brighter hopes for the future just as it is likewise a season for reminiscences, and in the news of the week there is lots to reminisce over.

And while the most of us have to be content to hear from our ancestors the stories they heard from their predecessors the stories of local history, we note, too, in the news this week that there is still one amongst us who lived and acted at least some part in the making of North County history.

And there's another news story on the "break" this week, and it is something that should interest we northern county folks a lot. Its a story of the State Department of Forests and Waters buying up a lot of barren and scrub timber land along Chest Creek north of Patton, with options on a lot more land.

And there is no reason why we should not be entitled to all that resources we have warrant in this respect. Along Chest creek, particularly, swimming pools could be a feature of a state park.

Looks as though the Republicans in Cambria county are not going to rush matters and do things in the way of patronage that may come back to be a haunt a bit later on.

er positions to be passed out by the Department of Highways. And on top of all this it is now learned from Harrisburg that the state patronage policy includes a plan to retain valued and highly trained Democrats.

And then, too, approximately only half of the 30,000 commonwealth employees under direct patronage, will lose their jobs soon after Judge James takes office as governor.

So, the Republicans won't have all the jobs to give out, but in the one's they will have, the committee is steering rightly, to our Democratic mind, in announcing a policy of capability in making the choices.

And finally, let's forget politics, at least to the extent of wishing everybody in political jobs well, and hope for a better 1939 than was the case in 1938.

LABOR WANTS

When CIO organization began to sweep the country, there were many who expressed apprehension as to what labor would do with its new found power.

All but the worst crack-pots, petrified Tories and professional red baiters, now recognize that the CIO's industrial purposes are just what they always were—namely, to establish peaceful collective bargaining for the betterment of the workers' economic conditions.

But there are still nervous Nellies who say: "Ah, but labor is also getting more political power, and what is it going to do with that?"

From the CIO legislative program they will learn that Labor is going to use its political power in the next Congress to demand that governmental contractors be made to abide by the law of the land in respect to collective bargaining; to seek employment for all the jobless; and generally to defend or improve existing social legislation.

Well, the most authoritative expression of that is the seven point program which the executive officers of Labor's Non-Partisan League have just announced they will recommend to the League's coming convention. Briefly it calls for:

- 1. The right of every American to a job. It points out that employment and increased national income are prerequisites to the preservation of liberties Americans cherish.

This program is meeting an enthusiastic reception in general liberal as well as labor quarters. But if, after reading it, there are still some Nervous Nellies who are in a shiver and a sweat about what labor is going to do with its political power, we suggest that the ytake an aspirin, get to bed early, and if they don't feel better in the morning, call a doctor.

REUEL SOMERVILLE

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW Office in Good Bldg., Patton

Cowher, Nehrig & Co. WASHINGTON

LAUDABLE

"Governor-elect James will permit no one in Pennsylvania to starve," is the message of spokesmen for the incoming Republican administration, as the state's relief fund nears the vanishing point.

The Department of Public Assistance on January 1st had available for relief only \$6,500,000, an amount deemed insufficient to last the entire month.

Representative Ellwood J. Turner, Delaware Republican, the new speaker of the House, said the problem of tiding over the Department of Public As-

stances until the legislature could vote a deficiency appropriation, estimated at \$400,000,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year, ending May 31—had been solved.

Although Turner would not say what the solution was several courses were open to the incoming administration.

The Public Assistance Department estimated that the advent of the James administration would find the state with one of the greatest relief problems since the dark days of 1933 when 2,000,000 Pennsylvanians were on relief.

Since then the WPA and unemployment compensation have considerably lessened the state's burden and the peak relief load since the Public Assistance Department was inaugurated in June, 1937, was reached last February when 697,000 persons were on relief.

"This year," said a department spokesman, "we expect it to reach a new high of 700,000, probably in February." It is estimated that 670,000 persons were

on relief on Christmas, a rise of 23,000 over the preceding week. This did not include the approximately 700,000 persons receiving federal aid through the WPA.

With a deficiency appropriation out of the way, the Legislature could then turn its attention to the general tax structure and the problem of raising an estimated \$200,000,000 needed for relief for the next biennium, which runs from June 1, 1939, to May 31, of 1941.

WINDBER MINERS SELECT LEADERS

Local Union 5229, United Mine Workers of America of Windber, have elected the following checkweighmen and mine committees:

Mine 40—John Sober and Mike Tol-sky, checkweighmen; William Parks, Thomas Bunk and Pete Steffist, mine committee.

stein, checkweighmen; Steve Popin-chick, Michael Gladis and Oliver Paul-ey, mine committee.

Mine 37, upper—Charles Gubete, Hezekiah Phillips and Oliver Trever-ow, mine committee.

Reitz, No. 6—Andy Polomky, check-weighman; Joe Bearish, Alex Piskow-roski, and Thomas Rakocski, mine committee.

BULLITT SECRETARY VISITS IN PORTAGE

Carmel Offie, of Portage, secretary to William C. Bullitt, American Ambassador to France, spent Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carmello Offie in Portage. Mr. Offie, who is 29 years old, has been secretary to the ambassador since the latter was assigned to the Russian embassy. The Portage man speaks French, Russian, German, Italian and English, and was assigned to the Lima conference for six days during the recent Pan-American sessions in Peru.

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