

Recognized and Endorsed by More Than Fifty Local Unions and Central Bodies Over Cambria County and Adjacent Mining Areas.

UNION PRESS-COURIER

Our Shop Is Equipped to Do Job Printing of All Kinds. Nothing Too Large or Too Small. We Cater Especially to Local Union, Printing.

Union Press, Established May, 1935.

Patton Courier, Established Oct., 1893.

VOL. 46. NO. 18.



CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA AREA. THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1939

723 South Fifth Ave. PATTON, PA.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$2.00 PER YEAR

NOTES OF NORTH CAMBRIA INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL

Secretary John Frank Sends the Press-Courier A Number of Interesting Matters.

John Frank, of Marsteller, secretary of the Northern Cambria Industrial Union Council, sends the Press-Courier the following interesting matter, pertaining to work of the Council:

The Northern Cambria Industrial Union Council, as set forth in its constitution, is a county federation of labor unions chartered by the Congress of Industrial Organizations, dedicated to these main objectives:

- To protect, maintain, and advance the interest of all working people.
- To extend unionism on the basis of industrial organization where such type of organization is applicable.
- To secure and enforce legislation in the interest of the working people.
- To promote recognition and acceptance of collective bargaining in industry.
- To increase public understanding of the labor movement.

The Pittsburgh convention thought so well of the council structure of organization that it expressly provided in the constitution, "Industrial union councils shall be organized upon a city, state, or other regional basis as may be deemed advisable by the executive board, and shall be composed of the locals of national unions, International Unions and organizing committees, and local industrial unions, and local industrial union councils within the territorial limits of such council. It shall be the duty of national and international unions and organizing committees to direct their locals to affiliate with the proper industrial union council.

It shall be the duty of all local industrial unions and local industrial union councils to affiliate with the proper Industrial Union Council.

This constitutional section is a mandate to all CIO affiliates to support existing Councils by membership representation to the N. C. I. U. C. In doing so you will strengthen the whole CIO movement and increase its power and influence in both economic and legislative affairs in the several communities in which we live. The best, the most loyal and the most conscientious men and women in the labor movement today are those who are attending Central Labor Union meetings regularly. For this reason we are asking you to select a committee and affiliate in the Northern Cambria Industrial Union Council, for we also know that the great influence in the labor movement of today is the labor labor movement power. The member labor organizations have neglected this phase of the movement too long. Perhaps, some through lack of thinking, others are in need of education. It is time to unionize our union earned dollars, so have your local union affiliate and help us make these things possible.

JOHN FRANK, Secretary, Labor Council Notes.

To All Labor Organizations: Five hundred CIO workers, members of the American Newspaper Guild, are on strike against William Randolph Hearst in Chicago. The strike is the result of 18 months' of continuous attacks by Hearst through his two Chicago newspapers, the Herald-Examiner and the American, on the working and living standards of the employees. During this period Hearst has violated the contract with the Guild 87 different times—500 men and women have been fired. Finally, on Dec. 18, Hearst refused to meet with the strikers' committee and announced that all strikers would be replaced with scabs, thus attempting to turn the strike into a lock-out. It is vitally important to the interests of all organized labor that the powerful anti-labor employer be compelled to abandon this campaign of trouble making, oppression and terrorism, to recognize the legal rights of his employees and to deal with them in good faith according to the law of the land. THE N. C. I. U. C. is calling on all organized labor to give all possible aid and support to Guild aims and activities in bringing to Hearst employees their lawful rights of organization and collective bargaining.

The N. C. I. U. C. is also asking that all organized workers place Hearst's papers on "We Do Not Patronize" list.

The Distillery, Rectifiers and Wine Workers' Unions throughout the country have held their first national convention in Louisville, Ky. One of the important resolutions passed and supported by union representatives from every section of the country was the placing on the unfair list of Italian-Swiss Colony Wines, to recognize that they cannot continually avoid union recognition and fair working conditions. The co-operation that you and organized labor in your vicinity may give will be appreciated by the Northern Cambria Industrial Union Council.

This is to inform organized labor that Local No. 79 of the International Brotherhood of Foundry Employees

ASSIGN BARGER TO JOHNSTOWN

Spangler Man Will Be Attached to C. I. O. Office There.

Howard T. Curtiss, district organizer for the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, who has charge of the CIO office in Johnstown, Saturday announced that the CIO, for the first time in the Johnstown area, will carry its labor movement into the non-industrial field.

Concerned in the area largely in the past with the steel and mining industry, organizers began Monday the task of building up a union for retail and wholesale workers. Elmer Barger, of Spangler, has been assigned by the National CIO office to start the work in Johnstown.

Mr. Barger is an international vice president of the Wholesale and Retail Clerks' division of the CIO and has been actively and successfully engaged in organizational work for the past several years.

WAGE AND HOUR LAW MEETING ITS EXPECTATIONS

Much Machinery Has Been Set up in Three Months Marked by General Compliance.

Washington.—Although the national Wage and Hours law has been in effect for some time, it is being observed and information relayed from other sources have convinced administrator Elmer F. Andrews that the act has won the overwhelming approval of employers and employees alike.

In an inspection of trip of 8,000 miles, Mr. Andrews discussed workings of the law in the presence of thousands of employers and employees. He found observance general.

The difficulty of finding some employer who would be willing to test the law out in the courts has been one indication of the widespread observance, in the view of the administrator. Employers complained against by employees have, one after another, if the complaints stood up after investigation, shown their willingness to comply with the act. In virtually all of these cases, the employers explained that "mistakes" had been made. None showed any "defiance" of the act sufficient to impel the administration to cite him to the Attorney General as a cause for action. A recent Gallup poll indicated that 71 per cent of those approached favored the law.

Next October when the wage level rises to 30 cents an hour, it is estimated that some 550,000 employees will be affected.

The law leaves many problems open for the future. Reports already indicate that there has arisen an increased use of the home work method of manufacture since the law went into effect. Further legislation is necessary to remedy this abuse.

FORESTS AND WATERS DEPARTMENT THIS PAYROLL BY \$92,000

Charles E. Zerby, former district forester in Johnstown, was among a large group of Department of Forests and Waters employees dropped last week from the state payroll.

G. Albert Stewart, secretary of forests and waters, announced the dismissal or resignation of 68 employees of his department for a total of \$92,000 annually in the payroll, Stewart said, and none of the places will be filled.

TIBBOTT APPOINTED TO CONGRESS FLOOD CONTROL COMMITTEE

Congressman Harve Tibbott of Ebensburg, attending his first session as a representative from the 27th district has been named to the Flood Control Committee of the House, according to news dispatches from Washington.

Mr. Tibbott, when listing committee preferences some time ago, wanted on the flood control committee in order to be in a position to help the flood control program now under way in this section. Tibbott also was appointed to the war claims committee.

has signed a contract with the Columbia Radiator Company of McKeesport, bringing to an end a labor difficulty which had caused an unfair listing of the products of the company since 1936. We take this means of calling to your attention the fact that the above mentioned company is no longer unfair to organized labor and ask all locals to take them off the unfair list. In consideration of the signed contract, we urge that all members of organized labor favor the business of the Columbia Radiator Co., whenever possible.

CAMBRIA IN GOOD FINANCIAL SHAPE REPORT INDICATES

Controller Cannon's Figures Show Encouraging Fiscal Affairs in 1938.

Cambria county is in the best financial condition it has been for several years, according to the annual report of County Controller Henry L. Cannon, which was submitted to the court on Monday.

Bonded indebtedness of the county was reduced \$380,000 during the past year and the county also refunded bonds amounting to \$207,000.

The present net bonded indebtedness of the county is \$4,881,199.02, including funds in the sinking fund. The bonded indebtedness of the county has been reduced \$1,772,000 since 1932, according to figures compiled by the county officials.

County tax collections during 1938 amounted to \$1,083,631.64 as compared to \$1,300,623.30 in 1937. It was said the reduction in revenue for the county was due to the lowering of the county millage from eight to six mills by the county commissioners.

Total receipts and transfers last year were \$2,001,094.12 and in the previous year the amount was \$2,090,254.64. Cash on hand on January 3 amounted to \$390,621.94, as compared to \$312,714.35 on hand January 2, 1937. Cash on hand on January 3 included \$212,349.71 in the general fund, \$15,000 in the bond fund to meet payments of bonds due, but not presented and \$153,342.23 in the sinking fund.

Mr. Cannon, in his report to the court, pointed out that the net borrowing capacity of the county at the present is \$7,015,459.33.

HINES PLEDGED TO SQUARE DEAL FOR CAPITAL, LABOR

Harrisburg.—Pennsylvania's new secretary of labor and industry—Lewis G. Hines—last week promised organized labor "every consideration" on any requests it may have for state wage and hour legislation.

"Everyone is going to get a fair and square deal as far as his department is concerned," Hines declared on his third day in office. "Nobody's going to get shortchanged here.

"My chief purpose is to bring about a more harmonious relationship between labor and employers. I'm convinced that this can be accomplished if various groups will cooperate."

Hines said he new "plenty of conscientious employers" throughout the Commonwealth who were anxious to lend their cooperation to carry out his plan.

"But there'll be no monkey business," he added. "I want the help of the responsible leaders of labor and industry alike, but any discordant or irresponsible elements will not be tolerated."

The new secretary, an American Federation of Labor leader, said: "I want the cooperation of the C. I. O. as well as other organizations in my efforts to harmonize labor and industry. There are plenty of responsible leaders and units in the C. I. O. who view on labor matters I will appreciate."

Hines said that after a "scant perusal" of the department he was convinced that many administrative economies soon could be effected. "But," he added, "they will not be affected at the expense of efficiency. We're going to start saving money right now, but it won't impair our operation as far as the people are concerned."

He said he had held several preliminary conferences with Elmer F. Andrews, in Washington on plans to cooperate with the federal government in carrying out the national wage-hour law. He added: "There are many details that have to be worked out in that connection. One of the most important is the matter of inspecting industrial plants that come under the provisions of the act. We have men traveling around through the state who can easily handle that matter."

Hines said he had no specific legislation in mind at present to recommend to the 1939 Legislature.

"As soon as I can get things organized here," he added, "I'll call a conference of industrial and labor leaders to get their viewpoints on legislation. After that we'll prepare a program."

ONE THOUSAND STATE JOBS WILL BE ABOLISHED FOR ECONOMIES

Harrisburg.—Governor Arthur H. James decided on Tuesday to abolish about 1,000 state jobs in an effort to save 11 million dollars and balance the state budget except for relief expenditures by the end of the biennium May 31st. The governor said he saw a 45-million dollar deficit which he said would be relieved by the proposed reduction.

The greatest proposed personnel reduction was reported by Secretary of Highways I. Lamont Hughes. He told the Governor that he could save approximately \$633,240 through the abolition of 323 jobs. Fifty-four other positions can be eliminated temporarily, he said.

The reductions from each department as reported to the Governor at his cabinet meeting were: Agriculture from 5 to 75; Banking, 68; Forest and waters, 68; Health, 81; Insurance, 37 to 55; Justice, 10; Labor and industry, 190; Military affairs, 15; Property and supplies, 22; Welfare, 7; and Public assistance, 41.

GALLITZIN FACTORY MAY GET ADDITION

Reports in Gallitzin are the effect that the New York firm of S. Leibovitz & Sons, Inc., owners of the Gallitzin shirt factory, are contemplating the erection of a large addition to the present factory and the installation of a cutting and pressing department. The proposed factory addition would be built on the grounds adjacent to the present factory and would cost in the neighborhood of \$150,000, it is said.

Such a factory would employ at least 300 girls and would assure at least 200 jobs for Gallitzin young men. The present factory employs 600 and has been operating steadily for the last 18 months. It has been the source of income for many Gallitzin families its weekly payroll being in the neighborhood of \$7,000. The new factory would insure Gallitzin a payroll of a quarter of a million dollars.

PENNA. AWAITING JAMES' VIEWS ON MANY PROBLEMS

Governor Already Has Started Drastically Trimming the Pay Rolls of State Departments.

As time goes on, Pennsylvania is awaiting word from its new Republican Governor, Arthur H. James, on the policies that will map the course of his administration in the next four years. He has kept his own counsel so far, and has refrained from making any commitments until he knows what it is all about.

But the Governor has made a start on his first task, that of drastically trimming state pay rolls now listing upwards of 30,000 persons and in preparing for his second—the completion of a state budget for the next two year fiscal period.

Business and industry are looking for the governor's fiscal policies and to learn whether or not state taxes, can be reduced. Labor, after four years of a friendly administration, is awaiting an indication of the governor's policy on labor organization, handling of strikes, unemployment relief and the new labor laws enacted during the Earle administration.

Gov. James will answer at least some of these questions by Feb. 6, when he said the new state budget would be ready for presentation to the legislature. The budget, together with the message, will show what the governor proposes to do about taxes and the objectives for which he would spend state funds.

Meanwhile the Governor plans to give a report, next Friday night in a radio speech, on the condition of the state's finances, and may at that time announce some definite plans. The speech will be the first of a series designated to serve as a contributing accounting of his stewardship.

Along with the major policies he must decide, the governor will determine what to do about a long list of subjects of greater or less importance to the state and its residents. Among them are:

Liquor Control—Whether he will propose any change in the existing licensing or state store system, and whether he will replace the Control Board members.

State Government—How much the pay roll cuts will amount to, whether some existing departments will be reorganized, curtailed or expanded, and appointment of new officials to serve with his cabinet members.

Relief—How large an appropriation the governor will recommend, and whether any changes are planned in the present system of distribution, or the civil service personnel of the system.

And then there is the all-weather turnpike between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg; the public utility commission, and lots of other problems.

HALUSKA WOULD BAR TRUCKS FROM STATE HIGHWAYS ON SUNDAY

Harrisburg.—Trucks and other commercial vehicles would be barred from streets, roads and highways between 6 p. m. Saturday and 6 a. m. Monday morning under the provisions of a bill Tuesday before the Senate for action.

The bill, introduced by Senator John J. Haluska, of Patton, Cambria Democrat, was referred to the Committee on Highways. A fine of \$25 to \$100 and costs or 30 days in jail is provided in the bill for violation of the act.

PROPOSES CHANGES IN WAGE — HOUR LAW

Washington.—Elmer F. Andrews, wage-hour administrator, recommends three immediate changes in the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Andrews suggested three amendments in testimony before a House appropriations subcommittee:

1. Simplification of the law without change in its fundamental principles.
2. Provisions relieving an employer from retroactive penalties if he follows Andrews' advice and later finds the advice bad by virtue of court decisions.
3. Congressional definition of the area of agricultural production, in which workers are partly exempt from the act.

BARNESBORO GIRL BURNED BY LARD

Mary Fabian, 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Fabian of Barnesboro, was admitted to the Spangler hospital on Tuesday afternoon suffering of second degree burns of both hands, her right arm, right hip and thigh. Hospital attaches were informed that the girl's father had butchered hogs and the mother was rendering lard when the kettle upset. The girl was burned by the lard when she tried to protect her younger sister. Her condition is reported as favorable.

PORTAGE LAD LOSES LIFE WHILE SKIING

Cambria county's first skiing fatality of the year occurred in Portage township on Monday afternoon when James Daniel McGough, 14 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond McGough of Portage township, was injured fatally. The youth suffered a fracture of a cervical vertebrae when he lost his balance and fell, his head striking the highway.

SAFETY RALLY HUGE SUCCESS

Jamestown Local UMWA Hosts to District No. 10.

Members of Jamestown Local 1318, UMWA, held a successful safety rally last Saturday in their hall, and speakers included Sheriff Cyrus W. Davis, Coroner Patrick McDermott, Vice-President of District 2, Edward Sweetney; Attorney C. Randolph Myers; the Rev. Father Habrowski; William Filer, state mine inspector; Attorney William Mulhollen of the Johnstown Motor Motor Club; and Samuel Bolton, assistant foreman of the Sonman operations of the Koppers Coal Co. All of the union officials of the tenth district were represented at the meeting. Ellsworth Pauley presided. Entertainment features included selections by a hillbilly group composed of Bernard McIntyre and Charles and William Ruffing.

The meeting was the first of others to be held in district.

DPA TO PROVIDE MORE CENTERS IN RELIEF HELPS

Barnesboro Section, Patton, Ashville, Others in the North of the County.

Edward R. Golob, executive director of the Department of Public Assistance in Cambria county Monday night announced that five centers will be established in various parts of the county for the accommodation of persons employed on WPA projects who have been ordered to appear for reexamination. The five new centers will be in addition to the ones already established in Ebensburg and Johnstown.

One of the offices will be located in either Barnesboro or Spangler, depending on which proves the greater advantage; one in Patton to take care of clients in Hastings, Patton, Chest Springs and other adjacent communities; one in Ashville for the communities in the extreme north of the county, another in Cresson for the Gallitzin, Cresson and Lilly area, and another in Portage for Portage, Wilmore, Summerhill and contiguous area.

Director Golob stated that it is not the purpose of the DPA to impose hardships upon WPA employees by requiring them to travel long distances to be interviewed and wherever necessary by reason of large number of clients other centers will be established if suitable quarters are available.

At present the DPA is reexamining only in cases where there are two or more employables in one family.

URGE RIGID MINES SAFETY REGULATION

Scranton, Pa.—More rigid safety regulations for all Pennsylvania mines, including the appointment of additional inspectors, is recommended by a special commission named to investigate an explosion which killed 10 men and injured six others in the Volpe Coal Company mine last June.

The commission reporting to former Governor George H. Earle shortly before he left office Tuesday, attributed the blast to a fall in the basin heading of the Butler slope of the Pittston Township mine, near Wilkes-Barre. Previously a group of mine inspectors had said the disaster resulted from a flood of gas.

ADAMS TO CONTINUE WAR ON SPEEDERS

Harrisburg.—Pennsylvania's war on speeders will continue under the James administration.

Maj. Lynn G. Adams, Motor Police Commissioner designate, said he is and always has been an ardent exponent of enforcement of auto speed laws as the most practical solution of the state's highway traffic problems.

He said he had recommended to the Earle administration at the beginning that it try rigid enforcement of the 50-mile speed limit law as a means of reducing highway deaths and that the recommendations were not followed at that time.

FRANK MYERS NAMED COURT STENOGRAPHER

Due to the death of Frank C. Shambaugh, who was for many years the official court stenographer of the Cambria county court, Frank J. Myers has been employed in his place. The appointment was made by President Judge John H. McCann. Mr. Myers has been the law librarian. He will receive an annual salary of \$3,000. He formerly received \$2,400.

37 MILLIONS ARE LOST YEARLY IN COAL INDUSTRY

According to the National Bituminous Coal Commission's Report to Congress.

Washington.—The National Bituminous Coal Commission reported to Congress on Saturday night that the commercial soft coal industry is losing more than 37 million dollars annually because of low prices and warned that grave social consequences may follow if this situation is allowed to continue.

"The money losses suffered by the operators are obvious, and they lead to widespread bankruptcy, impoverishment of mining communities, a shrinkage in local tax revenues, and increased dependence on public relief," the commission said in its annual report.

"The extreme depression in one of the nation's largest industries tends to unbalance the entire economy of the country. The financial prostration of the industry forces waste of coal resources.

"Finally, the present situation awakens, on the part of the mine workers, a fear that the industry may slip back into labor conditions prevailing before the National Industrial Recovery Act, with less of the hard won gains in hours of labor and working conditions, and breakdown of the machinery of collective bargaining."

Of its own 19-month effort to establish minimum prices for the industry, marked by one attempt which the courts promptly enjoined as illegal, the commission only said that these activities took "an amount of time that may not be appreciated by those unfamiliar with the facts."

"The duties laid upon this commission resemble in many respects the regulation of the railroads," the report said. "Instead of dealing with a few major corporations, however, the commission is dealing with an industry of many thousands of producing units scattered over 34 states. Its product is sold to 90,000 load-lot buyers and is sold and resold in truck lots to millions of retail consumers.

"Since the law provides no exemption on the score of size, the determination of costs and profits, the fixing of prices, and the work of enforcement must encompass all these operations.

"This results in what are undoubtedly among the most extensive fact-finding determinations required of any administrative body. They must be made with the care, patience and accuracy properly expected in findings that affect property rights. The legal requirements that all intensified parties are entitled to a full and fair hearing necessarily consumes time.

"To apply these well established procedure in so large and so scattered an industry raises new problems in public administration. The commission is confident that they can be met, but to meet them fully requires time.