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The endeavor of the Union Press-Courier is to sincerely and honestly represent Trade Union Workers in efforts to obtain economic freedom through organizations as advocated by the CIO and AFL, and we solicit the support of trade unions. Material for publication must be authorized by the organization it represents and signed by the President and secretary, and bear the seal.

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

Most interesting news of the day for the bituminous miner and his family is the developments that are taking place this week in New York City at the conference between operators and miners on a new wage contract. The joint conference opened on Tuesday of last week. The two year contract which has ruled the relation of the 350,000 miners and the operators in the Appalachian area — backbone of the soft coal industry — will expire on the last day of this month. It is very unlikely that matters will be settled at once. However, it is hoped by all concerned that an agreement will be reached before the deadline.

Strongest—greatest of all the unions in the United States and Canada, the United Mine Workers, present a solid front, and so long as disagreement exists they can be counted upon to follow the dictation of their leaders in a general strike if the same is deemed necessary. However, John L. Lewis and his lieutenants, seasoned in union matters, can be relied upon to bring the best possible advantages to their constituents. In recent years, the UMW and the operators, have been able to iron out their scale difficulties with an understanding given from both sides, that lack of which some years ago, often led to long and sometimes bitter strikes, that led to bloodshed, misery, and a great loss to all concerned.

And in thinking back over matters and conditions that existed right here in northern Cambria County not so many years ago, the United Mine Workers, and organized labor generally, was looked upon by many citizens as always being at fault — never were they considered a community organization. A very mistaken and false notion had developed regarding the place of organized labor in the body politic, and every effort was made to create that feeling, perhaps by the operators, that the UMW was an "outside organization" and that its purpose, especially in times of strife, was to harm the communities in which its members lived. The absurdity of that idea is of course now evident, but we still have many who have a befogged idea that a trade organization is in some way an enemy of peace and order. We still have 'em right in our own county.

But the intelligent thinker readily ascertains that the organized labor movement exists primarily to better the employment conditions of its members. Nothing can be of more direct and fundamental benefit to the welfare of any community, large or small, than to improve wages and conditions of work. It is usually assumed that Chambers of Commerce, the luncheon clubs, and the churches, etc., constitute community organizations. Labor organizations by their very nature are more directly and deeply concerned with the well being of a community than any other body, club or association. The labor movement is traditionally the foremost advocate in higher standards of education and the welfare of the nation's childhood. The labor movement at all times fights for clean government and clean politics, for honest elections.

It has been our experience during our span of life in the North of Cambria county to witness local communities urge workers to return to their employment at wage cuts, even when those wage cuts caused an earning power so low that decent living standards were well nigh impossible. Community organizations, manned mostly by business men, failed to realize that where wages were low, there also business was bad. Where only one or two types of industry dominate a community, the independent merchant has little opportunity to expand or develop. There can be no civic pride where the citizens do not participate freely in all community undertakings. The wages of its bulk of workers constitutes the life of any community. Happily, in the last several years, since Franklin D. Roosevelt has been in the White House, the public has learned lots along this line.

There were those, too, who yelled "murder" when labor took a hand

in politics. If any group were ever compelled to do just that, it was labor. Through their own folly, and through their own indifference, they had for years played no organized or concerted part in elections. Only when times got so bad, when conditions became so intolerable that they could no longer bear the burden, did labor join in a concerted movement. That came in the last days of Herbert Hoover and his stand of "rugged individualism." And labor has benefitted more during the present administration at Washington than it did during all the years of the existence of this nation.

True, in Pennsylvania, an about-face was given at the last general election, and there can be no question but that thousands upon thousands of workers voted the Republican ticket. The bitter primary fight within labor itself, and the lack of foresight on the part of Democratic politicians at the 1938 primaries to get together on a slate that could win, were largely responsible. It is worthy of note, too, that in all the bitterness and in all the alleged scandal that has developed, not one single individual has been able to point with any suspicion or scorn to the candidate that the CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League backed in last year's primary election for the nomination for Governor of Pennsylvania.

Labor need not be ashamed of its stand in Pennsylvania. If a mistake has been made in the recent general election, it was not the fault of labor. But if a mistake has been made it will soon be ascertained. Labor will watch, and judge, and punish, if it is again to be trampled and scorned in Pennsylvania.

A recent news item told of a speech of Clerk of Courts, Jimmie Jones made before a meeting of Young Republicans at Lilly, in which he expressed dissatisfaction with the present county government agencies, particularly the courts. Said Mr. Jones, "Cambria county has no more use for four judges than I have for 6,000 airplanes for my personal use." He also recommended the consolidation of various overlapping county departments under a board of managers.

Getting right down to concrete facts we don't believe there is any denying the assertions Mr. Jones is reputed to have made, but, coming from a county official, and a Republican, the words, indeed, are strange. Perhaps Jimmie has some new political bug of his own to put

over. But even dropping a judge would be bad enough to the politicians of both parties—let alone abolishing a lot of clerical offices and putting all under a board of managers. Of course that would be ECONOMY in capital letters, but when Economy comes so close to home, maybe it's not such a popular word, after all.

After John L. Elder had been announced quite generally as the new Republican superintendent of highways in Cambria County, we join with hundreds of others in wondering who, or what, caused him to withdraw his application? Some of John's north county Republican friends have mighty long faces.

The Hastings Fire Company has refused to answer fire calls in Elder and Susquehanna Townships, and in this movement they are backed by the Hastings Borough Council. This action of the firemen grew out of the failure of the two townships to contribute to the support of the volunteer company, which like that in other communities, extends its services to unprotected areas upon payment of a reasonable amount. One of the townships, it is said, had offered the company \$50 per year for such service, but action on the offer was deferred on the grounds that it was insufficient.

When one comes to think of it, there are a lot of people living in and out of a municipality who are prone to take a volunteer fire company for granted. They never give any thought to the time, trouble and even expense the individual fireman has to aid in saving property. They never think of the ruined clothing, the arising in the middle of the night, and the exposure that may follow. To some folks a fire company is viewed generally as a robot—it's something that gives you service the same as a machine.

Knockers of a fire company are not found to be any community's best citizens. The good citizen praises and aids his local fire department, both morally and financially. When fire companies endeavor to raise money for social or for material needs, the chap who complains most is the fellow who thinks the least.

A young man, who the other day "hitched" a ride from Carrolltown to Patton, remarked that the trip was made in a few minutes and that the chap who drove the car was a good driver. He said that, while the car was driven at 60 to 70 miles an hour on

AUTOMOBILE LIE-DETECTOR AT WESTRICK MOTOR CO.



A LARGE CROWD WAS PRESENT AT FORMAL OPENING OF THE WESTRICK MOTOR CO.'S NEW INDOOR PROVING GROUND.

There are only a few of these instruments in the state and many large cities are without equipment of this kind. At the present time there is no machine of this type in this part of Pennsylvania.

The instrument is called a chassis dynamometer. The word dynamo means "power." So dynamometer means a straightaway, it always was brought under control at curves and hill crests. Our thought of "Good Drivers" is not one who will travel at that speed in Pennsylvania at any time. It is against the law to travel faster than 50 miles an hour. A good driver doesn't break the speed laws.

And some of these speedy drivers, even though the law never spots them, are really not smart. In fact, they are exceedingly dumb, and constitute a menace to all

power-meter. You can drive your car onto this instrument, shifting gears exactly as if it were on the highway. Artificial hills can be built under the rear wheels while the car is running twenty, thirty, or forty miles per hour.

While the dynamometer is a very elaborate and expensive precision instrument, it provides such a great saving of time and is so efficient that its use actually makes motor tune-up less costly. It takes all the guess work out of motor analysis and certifies that each car is tuned for maximum power output to the gasoline user.

M. P. Westrick and D. F. Switzer have been in the automobile business since 1921, and their continuing in business during this period is a result of keeping their shop up-to-date with the newest and best equipment obtainable. Their object is to provide this community with the most progressive automotive service available anywhere in the United States.

The demonstrations given last week at this garage were under the direction of Gelsion Howell of the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation. Special demonstrations of this equipment were given

for the friends and patrons of the Westrick Motor Company on four evenings during the week. Mr. Howell was assisted in these demonstrations by A. W. Dumm of the Westrick Motor Co., who is the dynamometer engineer. The demonstrations showed the operation of the equipment and the importance of the proper motor tune-up, and good gasoline. The Westrick Motor Company employs ten men, each specializing in a certain type of work.

Among other guests present were G. D. MacDowell, Socony-Vacuum Corp.; F. D. Parker and H. I. Parkin, Gulf Oil Corp.; W. F. Ostendorf and Ernest Weber, Buick Motor Company service representatives; C. M. Layton, Pontiac zone service representative; L. R. Maxwell, Wm. Jones, J. J. Hoine and Mr. Merrill of the Bendix Products Corp.; Adolph Goldstein, parts manager Automotive Supply Co.; and John King, equipment representative Automotive Supply Co., Altoona.

Several hundred people witnessed the demonstration from Indiana, Clearfield, Blair, Bedford, Somerset, Center and Cambria counties.



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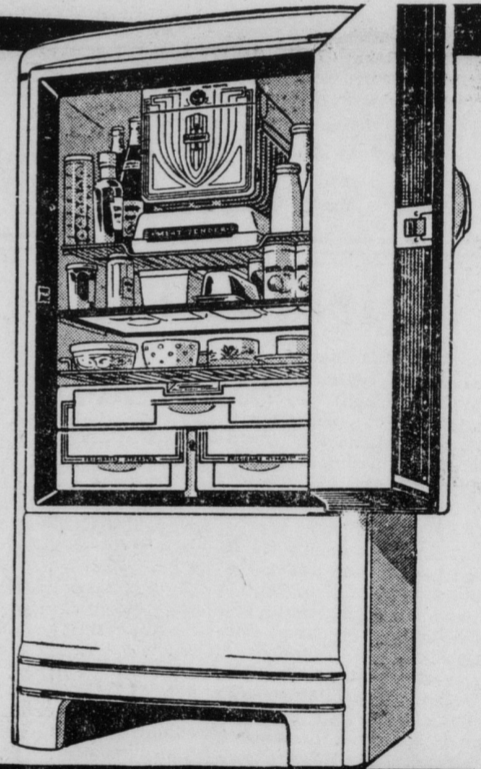
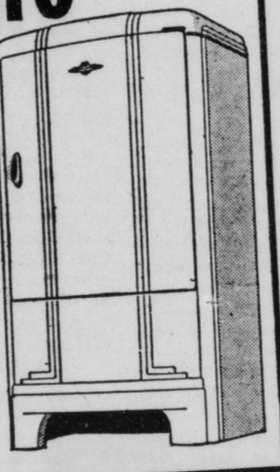
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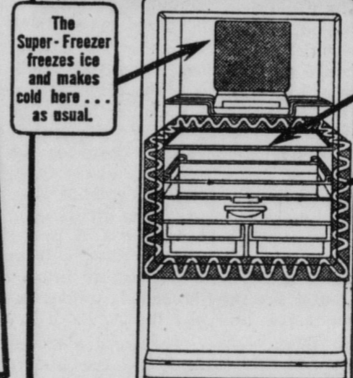
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