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CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA AREA. THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1939

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MINE HOLIDAY TO BE OBSERVED BY NANTY-GLO

North County Industrial Union Council Asks Unions to Attend on John Lewis Day.

In the western part of the state, steel, glass and aluminum workers will join other union members next Saturday in the bituminous coal fields in the 1939 observance of John L. Lewis Day—a traditional holiday in the mines.

So far as we have been able to ascertain no major observance in being held in the north of the county—but the Nanty-Glo Local Union is planning for a gala day, with a big parade and prominent speakers, and they have issued a cordial invitation to the northern Cambria miners, as well as all union men and women generally, to come and assist in the observance.

The seven hour day was established in the bituminous mines on April 1st, 1934. That date since has been recognized in UMW contracts as a holiday. Because it falls this year on Saturday—a slack day in mill and factory thousands of workers in other industries aside from mining will take part with the miners in paying tributes to Mr. Lewis. Especially will this be the case among Congress of Industrial Organization Unions.

The Northern Cambria Industrial Union Council, at its regular meeting last week in Moose Hall in Barnesboro, endorsed the Nanty-Glo observance and urges its affiliates and all others to take part in that program.

In this connection, Joseph Jones, of St. Benedict, secretary of the Industrial Union Council, sends this paper the following message of invitation to all local unions:

"To organized labor:

"The Northern Cambria Industrial Union Council, extends a cordial invitation to all Local Unions, not having any program of their own Saturday, John L. Lewis Day, to spend April 1st at a monster rally at Nanty-Glo. The parade will start at 10 a. m., and very good speakers will be present.

Joe Jones, Secretary."

LOCAL WPA AREA SAID FACING BIG CURTAILMENT

From Fifteen to Twenty-five Per Cent of Pay Roll to Be Lopped Off.

Although the full extent of the contemplated reduction in Pennsylvania Works Progress Administration rolls has not been fixed indications point to the fact that four county Area 11 faces a fifteen to twenty-five per cent cut in its present force of approximately 13,000 workers.

Using 13,000 employees as a basis for figuring, a 15 per cent slash would mean the dismissal of 1,950 men and women and a 25 per cent cut would mean the lay off of 3,250 employees. WPA Area 11 includes Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, and Blair counties.

During his visit to the Johnstown WPA headquarters last week, State Director of Operations Joseph M. Nelson indicated a 15 per cent cut, basing his estimate on the 36,000 reduction ordered by Federal Administrator F. C. Harrington for the state by April 1st—Saturday of this week.

Over the week end, however, Acting WPA administrator E. C. Smith, Jr., asserted that unless sponsoring agencies pay up delinquent contributions to the various work relief projects, the retrenchment may hit as high as 50,000 project workers within the next month.

Sources close to Smith said he was considering scaling down the WPA employment quota from its present figure of approximately 239,000 to 204,000, and considered 175,000 workers as the "most effective load for Pennsylvania," unless new projects are sponsored.

FIGHT WILL BE MADE TO RETAIN MINE MEET FOR EBENSBURG FAIR

Efforts to continue holding of the state-wide first-aid meet at Ebensburg will be made at a meeting to be held on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the U. S. Bureau of Mines, Pittsburgh. For the past five years the annual meet, which attracts hundreds of miners from all sections of the state, has been held on the concluding day of the Cambria county fair. However, an attempt is being made to have the meet staged this year in South Park, Allegheny county.

A determined fight will be made to hold the affair in this county.

M'CANN ENTERS NAME FOR THE SUPREME COURT

Will Seek Democratic Nomination in September Primaries—Assured G.O.P. Help, Too.

President Judge John H. McCann of Ebensburg, is a candidate for justice of the State Supreme Court.

This definite announcement was made during the week by the Ebensburg jurist. He threw his hat in the ring after consultation with scores of friends—Democrats and Republicans throughout the state during the past few weeks.

"I have definitely decided to be a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Justice of the State Supreme Court in the September primaries," Judge McCann said. "While the law would permit me to run on as many tickets as I choose, I do not consider it good sportsmanship to enter the Republican primaries. It would not be fair to the candidates of that party to enter its primary. I have been assured, however, by many Republican friends, that if I obtain the Democratic nomination—and I am confident that I will have their support in the November election.

"I will conduct a clean campaign, attacking no one. I will stand on my record and expect to obtain the nomination without any trouble although I will carry the campaign into every county in the state."

It is known that Judge McCann was urged by some of his Republican friends to enter their party's primaries. They offered to circulate petitions for him, but he rejected the proposals. Petitions to have his name placed on the Democratic ballot, however, will be circulated in every county in the state the jurist said.

The Ebensburg jurist, who seeks to succeed Justice John W. Kephart, has been a vote getter. He was elected to the common pleas court in 1920, and again in 1930, being the only jurist ever re-elected to succeed himself to the common pleas bench in this county. He led the judicial tickets at both elections. His present term would expire in January, 1941. In the event of his election to the supreme court, his place on the county court would be filled by appointment of Gov. James. The appointment, however, would only be until the election of next year.

Judge McCann is the first Democrat definitely to announce his candidacy for the Kephart place. It is believed however, that Judge M. A. Musmanno of Allegheny county, will also enter, and Judge Sara M. Soffel also of Allegheny county, will probably be a candidate on both Republican and Democratic tickets at the primaries, while it is believed that Judge Marion D. Patterson of Blair county will be among the Republican entrants.

THOMAS L. ALTIMUS OF COLVER IS NAMED AS COUNTY HIGHWAY HEAD

Thomas L. Altimus, of Colver, a supervisor of Cambria township, was appointed Tuesday to be superintendent and maintenance for the State Highway Department in Cambria County. The appointment of Mr. Altimus, who will succeed Paul Gardner, was announced by D. C. Stackpole, district engineer of District 9, which includes Cambria County. Mr. Altimus assumed his duties on Wednesday. He will receive an annual salary of \$2,400. Mr. Gardner, who has been in charge of the state highway office at Ebensburg since August 17th, concluded his duties Tuesday.

The new highway superintendent has been engaged in road and contracting work for the last seven years. He had previously been employed as a locomotive engineer by the New York Central Railroad and as a fireman by the Pennsylvania railroad.

Mr. Altimus was born in Buffington Township, Indiana county, April 1st, 1890. He attended the public schools in that township and later attended two summer sessions of the old Ebensburg Normal School. He is married and the father of three children. No changes in the personnel of the department at Ebensburg are contemplated immediately.

MEETING OF HOSPITAL UNION COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY, ST. BENEDICT

St. Benedict, Pa., Mar. 27, 1939 To All Local Unions in this area: A meeting is called for Sunday afternoon, April 2, 1939, at 2 o'clock p. m. in the St. Benedict Local Union hall, to discuss the problems and interests of the miners in the affairs of the Miners' Hospital of Northern Cambria, Spangler. Kindly arrange to have representation present.

Joe Jones, Secretary.

MINE PEACE IS HOPEFUL

Neither Operators or United Mine Workers Representatives Have Given Up Hope for Settlement of Contract Before the Deadline on Friday Night of the Present Week.

New York.—A committee of eight assigned the task of negotiating a wage and hour contract for the bituminous industry before the deadline on Friday night, had reached no conclusions on Tuesday night.

Working to prevent any possibility of a shut-down in the industry when the present contract expires March 31st, the four representatives of each of the Appalachian operators and the United Mine Workers of America, took up the job with which the joint committee of 32 had struggled for nine days.

James Dewey, commissioner of the U. S. Department of Labor, sat in a nearby room as the negotiators talked for two and one-half hours before adjourning until Wednesday. He said he had been in touch with both sides but there was no indication the conferees would ask his assistance.

"No conclusions have been reached by the committee," said John L. Lewis, president of the miners. "The committee continued its discussions, probably in a more informal way than was possible in the larger meetings." Charles O'Neill of New York, the operators' spokesman, nodded assent.

Official spokesmen for the two groups gave no hint of whether the day's developments had narrowed the gulf which separated labor and management at the start; but informally operators said they expected a contract to cover wages, hours and conditions of employment for the 338,000 miners in the Appalachian area would be signed before Friday night.

LEWIS STATES THE CIO POSITION ON PARLEYS

Strikes Back Vigorously at Enemies of Congress of Industrial Organizations Who Have Been Trying to Pin a "Red" Label on It. Asks Peace on An Honorable Basis.

New York.—The CIO has accepted the President's invitation without qualification and will discuss any suggestions for labor unity that may be made at conferences with the AFL, but its unions will not let themselves be chopped to pieces as the price of unity, President John L. Lewis of the CIO declared in a speech before the Tri-District (Anthracite) convention of the United Mine Workers of America.

"The great industrial organizations comprising the CIO, do not propose to dissolve themselves and cut themselves up into a multitude of pieces as the quid pro quo of becoming associated with the AFL," he said.

The CIO unions, Lewis added "will not swallow poison and go off and die merely to please those advocates and supporters of craft unionism who resent the fact that labor has organized through the medium of industrial union philosophy and intends to continue its work of reorganization and the attainment of its logical objectives. America needs these unions in the mass production industry."

The CIO leader struck back vigorously at enemies of the CIO who have been trying to pin a "red" label on it. "It will not avail for the enemies of labor," he said, "to issue their fulminations against the CIO on the ground that it is less respectable or less virtuous or less sanctimonious than the previously organized AFL."

"For be it known that the man, wherever he may be, on the street corners, in the counting houses, in the market places, or in the Congress of the United States, who makes the charge that the CIO is an un-American institution that is composed of Communists and has a leadership responsive to Com-

JAN GARBER AND HIS ORCHESTRA WILL THRILL THE PATRONS OF THE TRADITIONAL EASTER MONDAY DANCE AT SUNSET AUDITORIUM ON TENTH OF APRIL

The traditional Easter Monday Ball at Sunset, Pennsylvania's finest ballroom, Route 219, near Carrolltown, will bring Jan Garber, "Idol of the Airlines" and his great band, marking their first appearance in three years at this famous spot, Monday, April 10th.

For the past twenty odd years, Easter Monday and Sunset have been synonymous with dance lovers throughout western Pennsylvania. Each succeeding year brings new faces, along with those who have made the popular ball room their rendezvous for many years.

Garber brings with him for his engagement here, his talented bevy of radio stars, including Lee Bennett, Lois Kaye, Fritz Heilbron, and Rudy Rudisill, who have been featured with the band from the Blackhawk Restaurant in Chicago, where they played a record engagement last winter.

As usual, the beautiful ball room is undergoing many improvements and changes for the coming season. Additional tables have been installed, making a seating capacity for several hundred more people. Perhaps the biggest improvement of all is the parking lot, which has been completely covered with shale, assuring dry parking under any weather conditions. A crew of men have been working on this project for nearly a year. Adequate heating facilities are assured, should weather conditions warrant.

Beginning Friday, April 14th, the regular weekly dance will continue, featuring popular priced road bands, as has been the Sunset policy in the past.



JAN GARBER Orchestra Leader-Radio Artist

LABOR PARLEYS YIELD LITTLE WITH MEETINGS

Federation and CIO Continue Debate on Proposals that Failed Two Years Ago.

Peace talks between the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations recessed last Friday until March 30th after a seven-hour conference in which it was stated both factions showed sincere desire to end their feud and make progress toward that end.

The conversations will be resumed in New York where John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers and president of the C. I. O., is negotiating a new wage contract with the Appalachian soft coal operators.

The two peace groups met and were joined by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins. She spent three and one-half hours with the conferees and an emerging said that "some progress" was being made. She cautioned reporters against forecasting an early settlement in view of the multiple problems involved.

"So far as I can make out, they are getting along in some fashion," she said. "There have been certain fundamental problems defined—and that means progress."

Chairman Harry C. Bates of the A. F. of L. negotiators and spokesman for the conferees, was not as optimistic as was Mme. Perkins, but he indicated that the meeting took place in an atmosphere of sincerity and that a real effort was being made to end the labor schism.

"We discussed at some length the situation that confronts us and the positions submitted," he said. "Both sides have endeavored thoroughly and the viewpoint advanced by each side has been given consideration by the others."

Although he would not go beyond that statement, it was understood that the conversations revolved about the reply of the A. F. of L. Executive Council to the C. I. O.'s request for information on whether the 12 C. I. O. unions which formerly were in the Federation would be readmitted as constituted or whether they would be asked to drop new members recruited in fields outside of their original jurisdiction.

The answer, it was said, was neither "yes" nor "no." The A. F. of L. group is reported to have pointed out that the constitution of the Federation does not give the peace committee or even the A. F. of L. Executive Council the right to sign away to one union certain jurisdiction previously granted to another.

The position of the A. F. of L. negotiators was that in cases where jurisdiction assumed by the C. I. O. overlaps the field held by a Federation union, the waiver of jurisdictional rights would have to come from the A. F. of L. union involved before it could be formally approved by the Federation.

A. F. of L. Vice President Thomas Rickett, a member of the negotiating committee, said that the committee's task "was far from hopeless."

"But all we can do is just keep on talking," he said. "There are seemingly a million different problems—and it might take two months or two days to settle them. We might hit on the right formula at any minute and peace then would be easy."

UNION IS PROTESTING HIGHWAYS SHAKEUP

Harrisburg — Charges that the Jarne Administration dismissed union members employed by the state Department of Highways were aired on Sunday at a meeting of the executive board of the State, County and Municipal Workers Union in Pittsburgh.

The purpose of the meeting was to meet the threat of dismissals "hanging over the heads of thousands of union members."

"When we asked for a meeting with I. Lamont Hughes, secretary of highways," the union stated, "he replied that the Republicans were firing Democrats just as Democrats fired Republicans."

SHERIFF DAVIS NAMED TRUSTEE FOR INDIANA

Governor James appointed Sheriff Cyrus W. Davis, of Conemaugh, and Mrs. Jennie S. Reed of Indiana, to the board of trustees of Indiana State Teachers' College. Their names were sent to the senate for confirmation on Monday.

Appointment of Sheriff Davis and Mrs. Reed gives the board a quorum for the first time since the old board was removed by Governor James early in February.

Butter should be thoroughly creamed before it is used for sandwich making.

GOVERNMENT'S WORKERS NOW ARE TAXABLES

Federal, State, County and Municipal Employees' Salaries Can Be Tapped, Also.

Washington. — In a historic 6-to-2 decision, the Supreme Court Monday wiped outwiped out the income tax immunity of 3,800,000 persons employed by federal, state, municipal, county and other governments.

Sharply reversing a trend of decisions that extended far back into the 15th Century, the tribunal declared that the federal government and states would not hamper or burden each other's activities unconstitutionally if they taxed each other's employees.

The decision, in effect, gave judicial sanction to half of the Roosevelt program calling for reciprocal taxation of federal and state salaries and securities. Moreover, the broad language of the decision buoyed hopes of administration men that the way was cleared for wiping out immunities on the income from future issues of securities.

Federal revenue officials estimated they could get \$16,000,000 a year by taxing the salaries of state and local employees. There was no immediate estimates of the sums the states would collect because the rates in the 33 states which have income taxes vary widely.

The federal government has about 1,200,000 employees, while the state and local governments have 2,600,000. Although the immunity of all has been abolished, many of them will not, in fact, have to pay income taxes, because their salaries fall below the exemptions granted in income tax law.

In addition several state income tax laws specifically exempt all federal salaries, and it is assumed these laws must be amended before the states can proceed to tax the salaries.

175 TO TAKE MINE EXAMINATIONS IN INDIANA CHURCH

Tests Will Cover Men from the North of Cambria and Will Be Held April 3rd and 4th.

Among those taking the state mine examinations at Indiana on April 3rd and 4th, will be 175 applicants from the fifteenth bituminous district of which Dennis J. Keenan is inspector. A large number from the 25th and the 30th districts also are planning to take the tests scheduled to be given in the First Methodist Church, in Indiana.

Applicants for chief mine electricians and second grade mine foreman certificates will attend the examination on April 3rd, while applicants for first grade mine foremen will appear on both days. Fire boss applicants are scheduled to take the tests April 4th.

The following number of applicants have registered from the 19th district: Chief mine electrician, 27; second grade mine foreman, 52; first grade mine foreman, 40; and fire boss, 56.

The examining board includes W. D. Wardrop, inspector of the 25th district, chairman; George J. Steinhiser, inspector of the 15th district, secretary, and Dennis Keenan, associate inspector.

50 PER CENT DECLINE IN STRIKES DURING 1938

The Labor Department at Washington reported Monday night that strikes declined fifty per cent during 1938 and that American trade unions pushed their membership above 8,000,000 for the first time in history.

An article entitled "Industrial Relations in 1938," appearing in the monthly labor review for March, said that sit down strikes "greatly decreased" in the year, and attributed the drop to "unfavorable public opinion" and a feeling on the part of unions that that form of labor weapon is "inadvisable and unnecessary."

MINERS AND OPERATORS BOTH WANT AN OIL TAX

New York.—Representatives of the bituminous coal operators and the United Mine Workers of America went on record on Monday with a request that Congress enact an excise tax of 3 cents a gallon on fuel oil imports as a means of protecting American oil and coal from "exceedingly destructive competition."

"Half the world is on the wrong scent in the pursuit of happiness. They think it consists in having and getting, and being served by others. It consists in giving and serving others."