

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 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

The Patton Fire Company has been experiencing the nuisance of false alarms being reported. Likely most fire companies have at some time or other, been likewise annoyed. The parties who may be responsible for these fake calls are certainly not aware of the seriousness of the matter. It will be the province of the Patton firemen to prosecute parties suspected of this demeanor, and the law provides adequate and severe punishment.

The Volunteer Fireman, after all, is giving of his time and services in the interest of others. When a false alarm is given, the services are made a joke, and the volunteers go to a lot of energetic trouble, thinking they are on an errand to save destruction of life and property. The chap who is responsible for false fire alarms deserves no sympathy either: from the firemen or from his fellow citizens.

"A national authority reports that unbalanced diet is responsible for many auto accidents. A diet let's say of one hamburger with onion, and four slugs of Four Roses."—Curwensville Herald.

Down at Harrisburg the governor's cabinet members have dubbed Arthur H. James "the little giant," because all members of his official family has a bigger physique than the boss. The "Little Giant" by the way, is also reported as showing evidence of fatigue on the job. There is considerable evidence to believe that he is finding it much harder than he imagined. There are also grounds for the story that he'd rather be back on the bench, so far as his personal ambition is concerned. Unlike Governor Earle, who gave his patronage problems over to other, Mr. James is trying to supervise that himself—and that's sufficient to "tear" any man down.

We will admit that the House Republicans at Harrisburg have developed a rather able leadership. It was no mean job lining up the house members for re-enactment of the Earle tax program inasmuch as Mr. James had roundly denounced those same taxes in his campaign. And it still is interesting to note the contents of the Republican platform of last fall, and compare what it promises with what is not being done.

"It is becoming increasingly evident the most influential man at Republican state headquarters is John M. Flynn, of Ridgway, president of the Pennsylvania Manufacturer's Association, dominated by Mr. Flynn's boss, Joseph R. Grundy," states Kermit MacFarland in the Pittsburgh Press. That might be interesting to some of the Republicans in Cambria county. Attorney Gus M. Gleason stands right "in the inner circle" of that faction, and reports are rampant that his office in Johnstown once again is the "mecca" of many of the faithful.

There are reports Moe Annenberg, Philadelphia publisher and chief newspaper backer of Mr. James' campaign for Governor, is planning an offensive against Col. Carl S. Estes, Texas Democrat, and closest adviser of Governor James. We suppose Moe feels he's been made the victim of an unwarranted "Confederate plot."

"No compromise" seems to be the Attorney Gus M. Gleason stands right of the American Federation of Labor, toward peace movements the rank and file and even the government of the United States and the citizens generally desire. Both the CIO and the AFL will have to make concessions if there is to be peace. Up to the present time, the chief stumbling block to everything seems to be Mr. Green.

It's funny how some the secret meetings of "trusted" lieutenants of politicians sometimes "leak out." A tenet of politics is that the more you trust, the fewer you can trust.

Judge John H. McCann has formally announced himself as a Democratic candidate for the nomination for supreme court justice of Pennsylvania at the primaries next year, when the chief justice, John W. Kephart, also of Ebensburg, will retire. Well, Judge, more power to you!

The writer made a rambling trip through the Courthouse the other day, and found things bubbling quite a bit with politics there. Practically all officeholders, so far as we could learn, will be candidates for reelection, although one or two may not tackle the campaign. The county treasurer, by law, cannot succeed himself, so there will be new names on both tickets up on the ballot for that job. The requirements of the treasurer are a bit drastic and a heavy bond is required. All present office holders, whom we interviewed, appear confident they are again the victors. But there will likely be scores of others who think differently. All indications point to a record number of candidates this fall on both party tickets.

Getting a drivers' license to operate a motor vehicle isn't as easy a task as it once was, and the motor police put the candidates through quite a severe test. This is as it should be. Goodness knows there are enough reckless drivers on the road these days without creating new ones.

A man usually finds out who his friends are when he aspires to office, but sometimes he also finds out who his real friends are, to even a greater degree—and his enemies who pretend they are friends—when he is a candidate for an appointive office. Perhaps the greatest blow comes when one discovers that the very fellows he boasted most, worked for most, and even gave freely of his material goods most generously, sometimes take a stab at him, at least by word of mouth, behind his back. But we presume that's politics.

Patton and Carrolltown Sportsmen's Associations this week, in a joint movement, posted notices on a lot of farm lands in East Carroll and elsewhere. These notices advise the hunters and fishermen that the lands, after all, are private property, and that damage to them, their fences, or other appurtenances, is unlawful. Likewise the building of fires, depositing of garbage and rubbish, etc., is forbidden.

And the sportsmen feel they have reason to erect these signs, mainly because of complaints that have come from some of the farmers and landowners. The chaps who have been unthoughtful, of course, are likely but a few, but these few make it mean for all sportsmen. An instance where fishermen ripped down a farmer's fence, to build a fire is one case in point. The farmer's cows thus escaped from a pasture field. That is gratitude on the part of some fishermen. Such par-

ties are not sportsmen—nor do they deserve the name. They simply are termines circulating in the puddle.

March, now on its last lap, has given us about every kind of weather that nature has in its supply. But March came in like a lion, and we hope goes out like a lamb. March was the most destructive of all the winter months in this section of the state. Sleet, ice, wind, all were contributing factors. But April is mostly a lot balmer, and it wasn't such a bad winter after all.

While all the talk of some changes in the liquor laws of the state are floating around Harrisburg, the thought enters our mind that perhaps something should be done about the retail trade. Shouldn't retail licenses be granted on the theory that they serve a need or public convenience. Hence, the roadhouse that is located ten or fifteen miles from nowhere in particular, and is absolutely without police service, can hardly be justified. Most of such establishments, in order to attract trade, offer some inducement of either to get people there, and the sorry part of it they are mostly young folks, who haven't the sense to restrict their conduct. We can't see the need for a roadhouse away off the beaten path. It's very existence seems suspicious.

Four years ago when Governor Geo. Earle took over the reigns of Government in Pennsylvania, he set a course for his administration to follow. Republican leaders said he was heading the state toward bankruptcy. Now we hear that these same Republican leaders, since they are at the helm, are not inclined to make any radical changes and will oppose any disposition on the part of the economy movers to "rock the boat." The G. O. P. high command says it is for legislation that will help both business and labor." Hi Andrews of the Johnstown Democrat, says, "It seems to be convinced all the unnecessary jobs created by the Earle Administration will be in the public interest as soon as the wicked Democrats have been replaced by seraphic Republicans."

The weatherman tells us that the Washington Cherry Blossoms will be in full bloom the last of the present week. That might be a nice trip to take. We like to see cherry blossoms, but while ours in this section may not be so beautiful, they still are pretty, so we will remain at home and wait for our own nice Allegheny Mountain fruit blossoms.

A SLIM HOPE

No discernable progress toward any peace between the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations marked the relations between the two organizations in the last week.

Addressing a convention of hard coal miners, John L. Lewis said that the CIO would not dissolve as the price of peace with the AFL. He referred to "the hidebound aristocrats who now control the destinies of the AFL." Part of his speech was taken to an answer to John P. Frey, of the AFL metal trades department, who said that the CIO peace proposal made public a few weeks ago had been sponsored by the Communist party several years ago. The label of Communistic on the CIO is viewed as folly however, by the general public.

Last Friday the two peace committees met for seven hours and bogged into a discussion of what appeared to have been more or less agreed upon late in 1937 but which did not appear to be so clear today.

In October, 1937, the AFL made this proposal: "All national and international unions chartered by the AFL now holding membership in the CIO are to return and assume active affiliation with the AFL. These organizations will be accorded all rights and privileges enjoyed by them prior to the formation of the CIO and as is provided for in the constitution of the AFL."

This proposal was at that time unacceptable to the CIO. The CIO's proposal in turn was found unacceptable to the AFL and the negotiations collapsed.

Upon resumption of the joint conferences at the suggestion of President Roosevelt several weeks ago the AFL offered to take back the formerly chartered unions of the federation.

In order to test what the AFL had really offered in 1937 and what its present offer means, the CIO addressed a special inquiry to the federation group. The United Mine Workers of America, chartered many years ago as an industrial union by the AFL was empowered to admit to membership every worker in and about the coal mines. Several years ago the miners' union extended its jurisdiction to embrace coke workers, chemical and cosmetic workers and employes of explosive plants.

Thus the CIO's inquiry was in effect:

"Do you agree to take the miners' union back into the AFL as it now stands?"

Last Friday the federation committee read a prepared answer which sta-

ted that it could not trespass upon the jurisdictional rights of other unions.

This was regarded as an invitation to the CIO to discuss the status of the coke and chemical workers now members of a district of the miners' union.

The CIO insisted on knowing whether the miners' union might enter the federation with its present membership, but the AFL insisted on discussing the problem of jurisdiction. The CIO held that the reply was "evasive," while the federation's spokesmen maintained that they had not turned down

the CIO. Thus matters stood when an adjournment was taken until Friday of this week in New York.

The outlook for peace at this time does not appear promising. However, observers feel that so long as the two groups maintain direct contact and continue their peace talks, there is a possibility.

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