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CIO VIEWS UPON NEW LEGISLATION IN STATE GIVEN

Phillips Disapproves of Nineteen Bills, and Gives His Support to Ten Others.

Harrisburg—The state CIO's organization's first official comment on labor legislation pending in the General Assembly was issued on Saturday by John A. Phillips, president of the Pennsylvania Industrial Union Council.

The CIO federation expressed mild opposition to 19 bills, especially four Republican sponsored proposals to revise drastically the 1937 labor relations act, and approval of ten, including the Woodward Senate proposal to put all state employees on merit tenure by constitutional amendment.

Phillips said the pending labor relations amendments collectively would nullify the law, prevent organization of legitimate labor unions, defeat genuine collective bargaining and establish the "unheard of" precedent of giving a state Labor and Industry Department head, appointed by the Governor, the power to approve or disapprove regulations of a State Labor Relations Board.

The SLRB amendments were endorsed by Lewis G. Hines, labor and industry Department head, formerly a high official of the American Federation of Labor, which has suggested a model state labor relations law specifically denying jurisdiction in that sphere of state regulation to a labor commissioner department.

The four bills to amend the act were sponsored by Representatives Sidney J. Peale, Sullivan County; Gaylord Carpenter, Pike; and Walter R. Sloan, Fulton, all members of the G. O. P. house majority.

Peale proposed adding to the act a definition of "current labor dispute" as one continuing "until the employer has been able to resume production in volume sufficient to fill orders as scheduled, or to give normal service to his customers."

Phillips and his council interpreted that as ending disputes when strike-breakers operate a plant. Another provision of the Peale bill requiring officers of collective bargaining units to be United States citizens, the majority employed in the plant affected, as preventing organization of legitimate labor unions and defeating "the present genuine collective bargaining."

Another Peale bill, pending in the House Labor Committee was even more ominous, according to the CIO organization. "The bill would destroy the public policy of the state and act contrary to the general welfare," the CIO labor bulletin said. It adds to the section giving workers the right to bargain collectively the specification that such negotiations be "free from interference from any source."

Another amendment in the bill would extend protection to employers by adding this section: "It shall not be an unfair labor practice for an employer to express opinions with respect to any matter in interest to employees or to the public, providing such expressions are not accompanied by acts or discrimination or threats."

The Carpenter bill would revise the "policy" preamble of the act to lay the blame for much of the labor dissension to "unwarranted" activities of labor union leaders and prohibit Labor Relations Board members from serving as union officials or being connected with any business or commercial enterprise.

The Sloan bill would give Hines the power to accept or reject board regulations and cut the \$9,000 a year salaries of the board members. It would fix the chairman's salary at \$7,500, the other two at \$7,000. Levi G. Lichter, Somerset, is the present chairman. Patrick G. Fagan, Pittsburgh, an official of the United Mine Workers, is the other incumbent. A vacancy was created in January when Governor Arthur H. James withdrew from the state senate the nomination of J. Dress Pennell, Harrisburg attorney. It has not been filled.

Pending senate bills endorsed by the CIO group included those to: Limit working time of nurses to 44 hours a week; out law use of noxious gases in labor disputes; allow relief recipients to own up to \$300 worth of home furnishings; put the state highway department maintenance employees on a yearly wage basis instead of hourly; establish a Civil Service Board set-up; permit third class cities to put all employees on civil service; allow state employees to accumulate sick leaves and vacations.

Passes Bar Exams. Arnold Smorto of Barnesboro was one of 88 successful candidates from 182, who took the bar examinations conducted by the state board of Law examiners in Philadelphia, Saturday.

MINE MEETING PLANS MADE AT A CONFERENCE

Lay Groundwork for District First-Aid Meet at Courthouse Friday Last.

Plans for the district first aid meet to be held this summer in the Central Bituminous district were discussed at a meeting held last Friday afternoon in the court house at Ebensburg, attended by four mine inspectors and representatives of 14 coal companies.

In the absence of Roy Joseph, mine inspector of the eighth district, who was in Pittsburgh attending a meeting of the general committee in charge of the district meets, Walter C. Fancourt of the Sonman Shaft Coal Co., presided.

The committee decided to fix the entrance fee for each team at \$10.00, the same as was charged last year. No decision was made as to where the district meeting will be held. It was held in Spangler last year. The time for holding the meet will be decided by the general committee. It is expected that 60 teams will be selected at five district meets which will participate in the state finals to be held at the Cambria County Fair in Ebensburg on Saturday, September 9.

The next meeting of the District Committee will be held in the court house on Friday of this week.

Companies represented at last Friday's meeting included Monroe Coal Company, Heisley Coal Company, the Pennsylvania Coal and Coke Corporation, Ebensburg Coal Company, Barnes and Tucker Company, Berwind-White Coal Mining Company, Sterling Coal Company, Wilmore Coal Company, Wilmore Coal Company Riverside Coal Company, Peale, Peacock & Kerr, Inc.; Johnstown Coal and Coke Co.; Moshannon Smithy Coal Company and Madera Hill Coal Company.

Mine inspectors present were William H. Filer, Ebensburg; Richard George, Altoona; Michael Thomas, Windber and Dennis Keenan, Barnesboro.

The Central Bituminous District is composed of Cambria, Somerset, Blair, Huntingdon, Centre, Tioga, Sullivan and parts of Lycoming and Clearfield counties.

NORTH COUNTY BOY SCOUTS AMONG WORLDS FAIR SELECTIVE GROUP

Thirty-five boy scouts and three leaders have been selected to represent the provisional troop of the Admiral E. Peary Council of Cambria County, as guests of the New York World's Fair during the week of May 8th to 15th. The boys will camp on the fair grounds, and will be tendered a farewell banquet the night before departure, by bus, for New York Numbered among the thirty-five scouts selected are the following from northern Cambria County: Thomas A. Owens, Jr., and Fred J. Fees, Jr., both of the Carrolltown Troop, No. 71; William Harris, Jr., Donald Foreman and Jack Foreman, of Bakerton Troop, No. 72; and John Whalen, of Troop 75, Spangler.

ASSIGN METHODIST CLERGY IN ALTOONA DISTRICT AT YORK

York — Bishop Edwin Holt Hughes last Monday announced appointments and pastoral changes in the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Pastoral changes included: Altoona District, G. H. Ketterer, district superintendent; Alexandria, J. W. McMorris; Altoona, Broad Avenue, W. W. Bribaker; Barnesboro, C. J. Switzer; Dudley, M. D. Long; Glen Hope and Madera, T. R. Gibson; Hastings, A. C. Tray; Houtzdale, W. M. Kepler; Newton Hamilton, W. A. Snyder; Pine Grove Mills, John Meloy (supply); Ramey and Blumberg, D. L. Long; Schellsburg, R. A. Knox; Three Springs, R. B. Dysart; Warriors Mark, B. T. Shue; Wolfsburg and Alum Bank, C. C. Levergood (supply).

WOULD OPEN DAMS TO PUBLIC FISHING

Harrisburg — Water reservoirs would become Icaas Walton preserves if a bill introduced in the Senate became law.

Sponsored by Senator John H. Dent, Democrat, Westmoreland, the bill would permit fishing in reservoirs under rules formulated by the board of Fish Commissioners with the consent of the Sanitary Water Board.

Gets DPA Position.

Noel Smorto of Barnesboro has been appointed junior county resources investigator for the Department of Public Assistance in Cambria County, it has announced last Monday by Edward R. Golob, DPA executive director. The position pays an annual salary of \$1,320.

Smorto will serve as assistant of James L. Carney, senior county resources investigator. The Barnesboro resident has been serving in the junior post for some time under a provisional appointment.

Kittell-Wilkinson

Ebensburg — Word has been received here of the wedding in Jacksonville Florida, on Easter Sunday afternoon of Miss Bernardine Kittell, daughter of the late Attorney and Mrs. M. D. Kittell of Ebensburg and Charles E. Wilkinson, also of Ebensburg. The ceremony was performed at the Immaculate Conception Church in Jacksonville. Mrs. Wilkinson is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh.

Probable European Power Lineup



Map shows current status of European powers forced by Italo-German aggression. Although Great Britain and France alone of the "allies" are permanently aligned against the Rome-Berlin axis, democracy, the latter a direct result of Mussolini's Albanian coup. Turkey and Soviet Russia, noncommittal at present, are also considered potential members of the "stop Hitler" group. Yugoslavia, Hungary, Bulgaria and the Baltic nations have been neutralized by Germany and Italy, who count on Spain as an ally in any future European war.

COAL CONFEREES WILL PERMIT AID FROM GOVERNMENT IN AN EFFORT TO RELIEVE DEADLOCK OF GROUP

New York.—Federal mediation has been accepted by the representatives of the United Mine Workers of America, and bituminous operators' representatives, who for more than five weeks have sought in vain to agree upon a new labor contract and thus reopen the idle soft coal mines of the eight-state Appalachian area.

James F. Dewey, of the U. S. Department of Labor intervened in the half of Secretary Perkins, at the same time emphasizing, however, that he held no brief for the White House itself. He talked with both delegations, announced "both sides have accepted me as mediator" and the dire negotiations are again in direct negotiations.

At the same time the United Mine Workers have started its preliminary discussions with anthracite operators for a new contract to replace one expiring April 30th, to cover between 100,000 and 125,000 hard coal Pennsylvania miners.

Thus, amid growing complaints of coal shortages attributed to the Appalachian shut down, substantially the entire coal industry was represented at the labor conference table. John L. Lewis, head of the UMW, has threatened directly and indirectly to call a strike in the entire industry unless a bituminous settlement come soon.

The formula Dewey suggested to the embattled soft coal negotiators wasn't formally discussed, but the general presumption was that it dealt directly with the one great issue that has kept the two sides apart so long—the issue of the penalty clause operative in district contracts.

This provision levies fines against strikes or lockouts in violation of agreements and its elimination has been insistently demanded by Mr. Lewis, and as insistently refused by the operators.

Dewey characterized his separate talks with both delegations as simply an exchange of ideas, and to the question whether he believed agreement was near he commented merely: "There is always such a prospect."

Directly affected in the bituminous area are some 338,000 miners. Traditionally, the soft coal negotiators have not welcomed outside intervention, and their acceptance of Dewey's services was taken to indicate they felt their own resources for compromise substantially exhausted.

Meanwhile miners in the region are not working. In Pennsylvania they will shortly be receiving unemployment relief. This is a factor in the favor of the mine workers that they have not enjoyed in other strike periods.

BARNESBORO FIREMEN TO BUILD COMMUNITY HOUSE FOR TOWN

Barnesboro will have a community building. Work will start this week on the construction of a new building which will be located in the Barnesboro Park. According to plans and to specifications submitted by George R. Brown, Barnesboro contractor, and approved by a meeting of the citizens in the Barnesboro fire hall recently, the structure will be 62 by 120 feet in size.

A gymnasium and kitchen will be located on the main floor and in the basement provisions will be made for showers, rest rooms, a large recreation room and furnace room. Brick and tile will be used.

The community building project is being sponsored by members of the Hope Volunteer Fire Company.

TEACHERS TO MEET AT EBENSBURG FOR ADDRESS BY BETTS

A special meeting of Cambria County school teachers will be held at 2 p. m. Saturday, April 29, in the courthouse at Ebensburg, has been announced by Miss Jean Davidson, teacher at the Tioga Street School, Westmont, and president of the primary teachers group which is sponsoring the session.

Guest speaker will be Dr. Emmett A. Betts, director of the reading clinic at Pennsylvania State College and author of several books. A forum program will be held after his address, arrangements for which were made by Miss Sara Jones, assistant superintendent of Cambria County schools.

Included on the program will be several vocal solos by Joseph Boes, supervisor of music in the Lower Yoder Township Schools.

CAR PUSHING IS AIRED BY STATE COMMISSIONERS

Cambria County Miners Testify Before the Bituminous Study Group at Harrisburg.

The Bituminous Coal Study Commission, headed by Senator John J. Haluska, of Patton, sifted testimony of operators and miners on Tuesday at Harrisburg, preparatory to authorizing legislative recommendations in the hope of solving hazardous car pushing in the industry.

A cross-section of sharply conflicting testimony was heard by the committee at a public hearing Monday when operators contended abolishment of car pushing would be "ruinous" and mine union workers urged elimination of the "back-breaking" practice through greater production and reduced compensation costs.

Regardless of the attitude of the commission, Haluska said, he would introduce a bill in the current legislature similar to the one he sponsored in 1937, to abolish car-pushing by man power. "Since both the operators and miners are agreed there is an evil in car pushing," he said, "I am hopeful the commission will agree with me and commend legislation to abolish it."

Operators maintained cost of installation devices to operate the coal cars would be "absolutely prohibitive" and would force many small mines, unable to meet competition, out of business.

The miners said the colliery operators would save money by stepping up production and paying lower compensation for frequent accidents resulting from car pushing, and pleaded the move was vital to protect the lives and health of the bituminous coal workers.

No further public hearings will be held, Haluska said, and the Commission will meet in Pittsburgh within a few weeks to formulate its recommendations.

The union representatives asked for abolition of the hand cars used in hauling coal from the place of mining to the face. Among them were George Humphries of Johnstown, 84 years of age; Joseph Jones of the St. Benedict Local Union, and Robert Hill of Nantyglo. They said car pushing represented "the most difficult labor performed in the mines" and that if it involved was adequately presented to the public, general opinion would quickly force its abandonment.

W. A. Jones, Altoona, representing the operators, said the matter was one for negotiation between the UMW and the operators at wage conferences and not a problem for legislative action, and insisted that abolishment of car pushing would force many companies to the wall, suspend their operations and throw men out of work. Other operators' representatives present voiced the same opinion.

MINING STUDENTS ARE GUESTS AT BANQUET

Students of the mining classes at Spangler supervised by James Logan and his son, Lawrence Logan, enjoyed a banquet Saturday evening in the Erandon Hotel, Spangler. Over 60 students attended the affair in addition to many prominent men connected with the coal industry. Speakers were Dennis Keenan, toastmaster; Patrick F. Nairn, William Lamont, W. B. Wardrop, and James Logan.

Entertainment was provided by Miss Charlotte Reiger, vocalist, accompanied by Mrs. Lawrence Logan. Other vocal numbers were offered by Llewellyn Jones and Joseph Hayes, accompanied by Mrs. Adam Wilkinson.

Miss Mary Simpson of the Simpson studios presented Lila Jean and Jackie Roberts in dance numbers and Rita Shonberg in acrobatics. It is planned to make the banquet an annual event.

"HAPPY AND HER DUDE RANGERS" WILL APPEAR AT NICKTOWN, APRIL 27

"Happy and Her Dude Rangers," radio stars of Station WHJB, Greensburg, will appear for a round and square dance and floor show at St. Nicholas' Hall, Nicktown, on Thursday, April 27, at 8:00 P. M.

This Radio Gang is known to thousands of listeners in this section and their appearance in person at St. Nicholas Hall is sure to offer all who attend, a good time.

STATE PLACES 2100 IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY

Harrisburg.—The State Employment Service placed 2100 persons in private industry during the week ending March 31, Labor and Industry Secretary Lewis Hines, said Saturday.

The number of placements was an increase of 16 per cent over those of the preceding week.

LOCAL YOUNG MAN ORDAINED INTO MINISTRY

Rev. Paul Rowland Formally Becomes Fully Recognized Member of Methodist Clergy.

Rev. Paul C. Rowland, of James Creek, Pa., son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rowland of this place, was on Sunday, April 16th, ordained into the ministry of the Methodist Church, at the annual conference of that denomination held at York, Pa. Visiting him for the ordination service Sunday were his wife, Mrs. Paul Rowland of James Creek, Pa., his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rowland, and his brother, Robert L. Rowland, all of Patton.

Rev. Rowland has been a member of the Methodist Conference for the past several years and has preached at charges at Allegheny Circuit, Riddesburg, White Pine and his present destination at James Creek, Pa.

An upright and trustworthy boy, an exemplary youth, and a sterling young man, Paul Rowland won the respect of all who knew him during his early life in Patton, and knowing him as we do, the editor of the Press-Courier joins with his family and many friends—and they are everybody in Patton—in wishing him a long, happy, and successful ministerial career.

TIBBOTT ADVANCES PLANS TO REOPEN BITUMINOUS MINES

Urging that immediate action be taken so that the mines may be reopened, and the miners return to work at once, Congressman Harve Tibbott on Tuesday wired John L. Lewis, president of the UMW, and Charles O'Neill, of the operators' group, in conference on the agreement in New York of his thought. He suggested that the miners return to work and that terms of agreement which may be signed be made retroactive to April 1. He said that in this manner all would gain and none would lose. He offered his services for anything he might be able to do. Also, he suggested, that any contract entered into between the opposing forces in the future contain a provision which would provide that work would not cease in the mines when an agreement expires, his proposition being that a clause in the agreements could make it mandatory for both sides to continue negotiations, while the men are at work, after the expiration of an agreement. If an agreement were not reached within 60 or 90 days, then either side would be at liberty to take such action as they see fit. Any agreement made, however, would be retroactive so that neither side would suffer during the period the agreement was not in force.

PICKETS STOPPING TRUCKS IN A MOVE AGAINST A. F. OF L.

Truck drivers, members of Johnstown Local, No. 110, have been made the object of a retaliation move on the part of the United Mine Workers, who stationed pickets this week in the vicinity of Windber and Central City, Somerset county, and have been stopping trucks operated by drivers affiliated with the Johnstown Local of the AFL, and while no acts of violence have as yet been reported, some drivers are experiencing difficulty in making deliveries. It is said that the move on the part of the miners is in retaliation for the acceptance of members of the newly created Progressive Miners' Union, by officials of the Johnstown Truckers Local, No. 110, the miners seeing no need for any dual movement in mining unions in this section of the county.

In some sections of Somerset county large number of miners' pickets are in evidence.

BOLT FROM DEMOCRATS THREATENED BY LEAGUE

Boston, Mass.—Labor's Non-Partisan League was called upon the other night by Eli Oliver, its national executive secretary, to be so politically organized by 1940 that it could back its own candidates should the Democratic Party name a man such as "Vice President Garner."

"We stand ready to support either party that will give us a progressive candidate," he told the League's Massachusetts branch in convention, "but we know that the only real fight for a progressive candidate will be at the Democratic convention."

Card of Thanks

May I, in this manner, thank the many friends and neighbors, who so kindly assisted me in any way, during my recent bereavement, the illness and death of my mother, Mary Dietrick; for the floral offerings, spiritual bouquets, and use of cars at the funeral.

—Mrs. Bertha Buck.