

KANE PROPOSES SUPER-HIGHWAYS FOR COAL FIELDS

Harrisburg — Representative E. Kent Kane, Republican, McKean, who wants the state to survey possible routes for super-highways from coal fields to lake and ocean ports, said last week it might give coal-carrying railroads "something to think about."

"I'm tired of this business of the railroads running to the Interstate Commerce Commission every time Pennsylvania tries to get lower freight rates for coal," declared Kane, chairman of the House Committee on Mines and Mining.

"It seems to me it would be better for them to carry coal at a cheaper rate than have their rails and cars rust away for lack of shipments."

"If we started to build these roads we'd show that we can get our coal out cheaper by truck, without the railroads."

Kane proposed a \$55,000 appropriation to the Highways Department for surveys of three routes: Pottsville to the Delaware River south of Philadelphia, and Hazleton to New York harbor, both supplying outlets from the anthracite fields; and Washington, Pa., to Lake Erie, opening up the bituminous region.

Kane is hitting at transportation costs from another angle, with bills to appropriate \$200,000 to finance fights by the attorney general against high freight rates for coal.

'MASHER' ROUTED

Alameda, Cal. — The latest streamlined masher technique for picking up girls is—or, rather, was—a loud speaker installed by two 18-year-old youths in their automobile and which greeted all passing girls with a blaring of "Hey, toots! Want a ride?" The police changed the tense of the verb from "is" to "was."

FIT FOR A QUEEN



Jennie Kopecka of Passaic, N. J., holds up the wool, finest from the 34 wool-growing states, which has gone into the dress to be presented to Queen Elizabeth of England by the wool growers of the United States. Presentation will be made during the royal visit to the U. S.

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SOME FUN!



"For mercy sakes!" Mom said, "aren't you being extravagant, calling all the way from Schenectady, dear?"

Daddy said, "Not at all. You see, the rates are very low for Long Distance calls on Sunday and besides I wanted to hear your voice and Peggy's."

So I got on the 'phone and, Gee Whiz, it sure was fun!

It certainly is fun, Peggy. And if people knew how low Long Distance rates are, especially after 7 each night and all day Sunday, they'd call more often. For instance, a three-minute station-to-station call to someone a hundred air-line miles away costs only 35 cents at the reduced night and Sunday rates.

THE BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA

635 ABANDONED SOFT COAL MINES SEALED

Washington — The federal government has spent \$2,813,538 in Pennsylvania as part of a mine-sealing program to prevent the tainting of streams with sulfuric acid waste throughout the nation's coal fields.

In Pennsylvania 635 mines have been sealed, 50, 975 openings closed and 6,737 mines surveyed, the Works Progress Administration reported.

Outstanding accomplishments have been in the Ohio River Valley, which drains coal fields in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky.

There, said administrator F. C. Harrington, a 25 per cent reduction in mine pollution has resulted from the mine-sealing campaign.

Even greater reductions in pollution—but on a smaller scale—have been brought about, Harrington said, in other coal field districts and in some individual streams mine waste content of the waters has been cut as much as 90 per cent.

The purification of rivers and streams, the WPA reported, followed the sealing of 115,000 openings to 4,123 abandoned mines at a cost of \$6,367,096 since 1935.

Health Service Cooperates

Officials of the Public Health Service, cooperating with the WPA in the mine-sealing activities, emphasized the importance of the airtight closing of abandoned mines, from a health and sanitation standpoint. It estimated 2,000,000 tons of free sulphuric acid drain annually into the Ohio River and said that waste is detrimental to health of residents along the streams and their livestock.

The national resources committee has agreed. It recommended an expenditure of \$12,000,000 to complete the sealing program in a report submitted to Congress by President Roosevelt.

Explaining the formation of acid waste, its damage, and its elimination, the WPA said:

"Sulphuric acid of a high degree of concentration forms in coal mines through the action of air and water on the mineral pyrites present in all coal veins. As seepage water accumulates in a mine and flows or is pumped to the outside, it carries this acid with it in solution.

"Streams fed by acid drainage become reddish brown in appearance and unfit for drinking or stock watering. Fish life is exterminated and even green vegetation along the banks dries out. As it reaches the larger rivers, dams, waterfront structures and boats are heavily damaged by corrosion. Expensive measures have to be taken to purify the water for public drinking purposes and to make it suitable for industrial uses in boilers and turbines. Estimates of the extent of this damage, including costs of purification, are placed at more than \$10,000,000 per year.

"Oxygen is necessary in the chemical reaction which produces sulphuric acid in coal mines. Water alone will not do it. Hence, if air is excluded from the mine, the acid will not form. This is the principle on which mine-sealing is based.

Surveyed for Openings

"Abandoned mines are first surveyed to determine the number and location of all portals, air shafts, caverns and other openings through which air might enter. There frequently are as many as 100 to a single mine. Each of these must be closed. At the principal entry to the mine a brattice, or masonry wall, is built, completely sealing the opening on all sides with the exception of a small aperture at the bottom. A water trap is then constructed around this aperture which resembles an open box about three feet square with the top edge a foot or two above the level of the aperture. This permits the accumulated water to flow out of the mine but prevents air from flowing in. In time, the air sealed within the mine exhausts its oxygen and as no appreciable quantities of new air can enter, acid production ceases.

"Ordinarily from six months to a year are required before a change from acid to alkaline is noted in the waters issuing from a sealed mine."

The WPA'S compilation of sealings completed, planned, expenditures and estimated acid waste by states included:

Pennsylvania: Expenditures \$2,813,538; estimated drainage 1,059,409 tons; 635 mines and 50,975 openings sealed; 6,737 mines surveyed.

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2588 NATIVE WHITES IN PRISONS OF STATE

Harrisburg — Studies of nationalities and descent of prisoners in Department of Welfare penal and correctional institutions reveal that of the 6860 inmates, 2588 were white native-born Americans.

Negroes constituted 25 percent, or 1696 men and women in the four penitentiaries and the three State institutions for youths and women.

Leading the list of convicts whose parents are foreign-born were 302 men and 2 women of Italian descent. Next were 270 of Polish descent; 113 of Irish parents, 96 of Austrian extraction and 73 whose parents were born in Germany.

There were also one native-born Japanese, a Chinese and a Turk.

Welsh, Danish and Dutch parents each had only one son in prison, while Rumanian parents contributed 2 men to the institutions.

There were 211 native-born women in the prisons, and 17 others whose nativity was not stated. Of all the prisoners, there were 450 men and 10 women born in foreign countries, of whom 131 were born in Italy, 46 in Poland, 37 in Austria, 32 in Russia, and 13 in Germany.

Slavic race prisoners totaled 600.

MILK PRODUCTION AT RECORD LEVEL

Harrisburg — Milk production in Pennsylvania continued at record high levels during March, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Production per cow in Pennsylvania herds on March 1, 1939, was the highest March 1 record in nine years and averaged 3 percent higher than on the same date a year ago.

Milk production for the State in 1938 was 4 percent above the five-year (1933-1937) average. The first quarter of 1939 up to now indicates that it is approximately 4 percent ahead of last year's level of milk production.

For the United States as a whole, the tendency for milk cow numbers to increase in general, but more striking than the increase in the number of milk cows is the increase in the number of heifers added to milking herds in 1939. The number of yearling heifers (being kept for milk cows) on January 1, was 5 percent larger than a year earlier, and the third largest on record. The number of heifer calves being saved for milk cows was 5 percent larger than a year earlier, and approximately the same as the peak in numbers reported for January 1, 1933 and 1934. The number of yearling heifers and heifer calves is high in relation to the number of cows, and decidedly larger than needed for ordinary requirements.

WILL SHOW PICTURES

Pictures of first - aid meets held in Spangler, Indiana and Ebensburg during the past year will be shown next Tuesday evening in the Carrolltown Legion Hall.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION STUDIES ITS SERVICE

Harrisburg — The Pennsylvania Historical Commission has appointed a committee to develop an historical policy and program that will yield the greatest benefits to the historical interests of the State and historical organizations of other states.

Members of this Committee include Dr. Lester K. Ade, Superintendent of Public Instruction; A. Boyd Hamilton, Editor and Historian; Dr. Roy F. Nichols, president, Pennsylvania Historical Association; Bruce A. Hunt, member of the Commission and president of the Federation of Historical Societies, and Sylvester K. Stevens, Historian of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, who is chairman.

SPRING SHIPMENT OF TREE SEEDLINGS BEGINS

Harrisburg — Shipment of forest tree seedlings from the Department of Forests and Waters' State Nurseries for reforestation purposes in Pennsylvania was begun this week.

Approximately 15,000,000 seedlings and transplants will be shipped this spring; an increase of nearly a million and a half trees over the same period in 1938.

WORRY CAN DO STRANGE THINGS TO A PERSON

There were 9,640 Pennsylvanians admitted to nervous and mental hospitals last year.

The average daily census in such institutions in the state is 42,091.

A large number of these patients will recover their mental status sufficiently to return to their homes and activities.

What causes so many individuals to give up the competitive fight in the world and close off their mental activities?

Worry.

Worry can do strange things to man. Worry is a form of fear.

There is fear of sickness and death. Some fear economic failure. Others fear social inadequacy.

Worry is prompted by an imagination running away on the wrong track. Safety lies in the removal of the

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cause of fear.

Or in the philosophic acceptance of life.

Courage comes from learning to triumph over obstacles that confront and perplex us.

A mind obsessed is a tragic thing. Looking at the record we find there are nearly twice as many patients in the 44 mental hospitals in Pennsylvania than there are in the 227 general hospitals in the state.

People need mental hygiene as well as physical hygiene.

Worry is an arch enemy of mankind.

J. EDW. STEVENS
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

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REUEL SOMERVILLE
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Office in Good Bldg., Patton

CLEAN UP WEEK

The Board of Health of Patton, Pa., has designated the Week of

MAY 8th to 13th

as clean up week in the

BOROUGH of PATTON

All residents are notified to gather together all tin cans, rubbish and other forms of debris and place in suitable containers within easy reach of truckers who will haul same from your premises. Ashes will not be hauled.

Clean up and protect your health and the health of your neighbors.

Inspection of properties will be made by the Board of Health beginning May 15, 1939. Any unsanitary condition will not be tolerated.

By order of:

BOARD OF HEALTH

E. W. Winslow, Secy. **Patton, Pa.**