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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

Optimism in the future of any community can pretty well be gauged by its building activity. To some extent this, then, would indicate that Patton is more optimistic than for some years past. Some new residences are under construction, and others are being contemplated. Perhaps Nicktown has had the greatest building improvement of any town its size, under normal conditions, in the U. S., during the past five years. Ebensburg's building program goes steadily ahead, and in Carrolltown, Spangler and Barnesboro some new houses are being constructed. It must, sum up to an upswing in the times. We hope so.

What's happened the Coal Mine Fire at the outskirts of the town—that caused so much excitement a couple of months ago. We presume it is still burning and perhaps will cause a lot more worry if and when it breaks to the surface at some other point—or points.

The state highway department is resurfacing the road between Patton and Baker's Cross Roads, and the improvement comes as a welcome to all who live along the highway, as well as those who have to traverse it. In fact, this back road to Carrolltown is in much better shape than is the brick highway, and this causes us to wonder whether the bricks will be topped with asphalt this summer. Last

fall, under the Democratic administration, this work was to have been done but was curtailed after the road was improved only in Patton borough. So far we haven't heard what the new highway administration contemplates on the matter,—but we do hope that they'll carry out the original plans.

Have you obtained a license for that dog of yours? This isn't a dog license department by any means, but we do caution all dog owners who have flaunted the law, that the dog enforcement act will be enforced and that by obeying the law you will save your dog's life, and you won't have your pocketbook made a lot slimmer by a fine.

The Cambria County Sportsmen's Association will petition the Game and Fish Commission for a fish warden for Cambria county. At the present a resident of Blair county has coverage for three counties, and it is unreasonable to assume that he can properly function in Cambria county, with its wide and varied fishing streams, and also take care of two additional well-streamed counties. We believe this petition of the sportsmen of the sportsmen a laudable one, and urge its consideration by the commission.

The W. C. T. U. is glad that Joe Louis won the bout over Tony Galento last week. They are glad because Louis doesn't drink nor does he use vile tobacco. Mr. Galento is addicted with both habits. Perhaps if the W. C. T. U. were not so bigoted against the tobacco habit, they would get more done along the alcoholic temperance line. And we are wondering, with this modern trend of the opposite sex, if some of the members of the W. C. T. U. (at least the younger ones) don't take a snatch at a cigarette now and then?

Raymond Clapper, who writes a syndicated column for a string of daily newspapers, remarked in his column last Thursday that Republicans have not done so well with certain governors they elected in the nation last November, notably Governor Arthur H. James of Pennsylvania and Governor Heil of Wisconsin. Clapper, who didn't like the Earle administration said "almost any governor would have been an improvement." He adds, "James has been a thorough disappointment." But he placed some of the Republican governor on an A-1 list, notably Vandenberg in Rhode Island and Stassen in Minnesota.

James' erstwhile Presidential boom has fallen flatter than a pancake. Emphatic assertions and then lack of decision has been his course. His veto of the flood control bill last week, for instance, represented a complete and humiliating right-about-face from his original stand on the flood control program in Penn-

sylvania. Only four months ago the Governor was up in arms over the ridiculous cry that it was an invasion of states' rights. He threatened dire action to prevent the federal government from carrying out its flood control program. He talked as if the federal government was an alien and strange institution, trying to undermine free government in Pennsylvania by building dams to prevent a repetition of the disastrous floods of 1936. But when the show-down came, Mr. James proved he wasn't so stirred up after all. Now he practically admits in his statement that perhaps the federal government does have the right to own dams for which it pays. He crawled out on a long and lonely limb, and was compelled to crawl back. Presidential timber doesn't come from that kind of material—and it does not improve party prestige.

When the legislature passed the act that required candidates for office to pay a fee for filing it might have been better if that fee would have been required when the prospective candidate lifted his petition blanks. Some students of the system contend that the fee of a candidate—\$25 in the case of a county-wide office—should be obtained at that time. The fee system was established in recent years because of strong evidence that many persons were filing petitions as candidates who were not bonafide aspirants for nominations, being actuated by desire for publicity, or the hope of obtaining jobs or other compensation from political leaders to retire from field and make things easier for candidates in whom these leaders were interested. It is pointed out that under the present law any person, without cost, can circulate a petition for a month and use this to try to force concessions from political leaders even though he has no intention of paying a fee and actually filing his petition by July 24th. Petitions have been taken out already by some men who certainly have no chance of winning nominations for major offices and scarcely can be suspected of not being aware of that fact. It is also likely that party leaders in some cases can have persons take out petitions mainly to interfere with rival leaders and try to force deals. A requirement that a fee be paid when any person obtains a blank petition, it is contended, would put a decided crimp in maneuvering by candidates, who have no intention of actually going before the voters at the primary election.

Unless the next couple of weeks brings a lot of political aspirants out of the tall grass, not nearly as many candidates for county-wide offices will appear on the primary election ballots in either major political party as most folks had anticipated. In fact, in some cases, but one candi-

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date has loomed for certain offices, and in still other cases it may be possible that the office will have to seek the man instead of him seeking the office. The office of Recorder of Deeds seems to be the most sought after. Several candidates are out for county commissioner. But perhaps when the deadline comes on July 24th, there'll be more than indications now would seem.

Regardless of political faiths, or of what toes are tramped, there should be an immediate investigation of charges of alleged irregularities in connection with bids on the new Norristown State hospital. PWA investigators charge that Matthew H. McCloskey, Philadelphia contractor and politician, obtained the contract for the new hospital because he was tipped off in advance as to bid specifications. The tips are supposed to have come from certain employees working within the General State Authority, which awarded the contract.

In Jersey City last week the CIO rallied more than 5,000 persons to celebrate the Supreme Court's recent decision that the constitutional right of assembly should prevail in Mayor Frank Hague's political capital. Police—once they would have hustled the CIO leaders and speakers out of town—stood by as the meeting got under way. All was orderly except for a few boos and the throwing of three eggs at the speakers' stand, where John Brophy, whom we all know, national director of the CIO, was presiding. And Mayor Hague's eggs missed. Mr. Brophy, mild, gentle, somewhat the intellectual, worked in the mines as a boy and a man, and knows the Cambria county section well, and particularly the mines of Nanty-Glo and even of Patton. He gained a prominent part in District No. 2 circles and became its president. In 1926—he was 43 then—he ran for the Presidency against John L. Lewis. Lewis defeated him. They broke, only to resume relations with the union's reawakening in 1933. Mr. Brophy is apt to become emotional, but his speech in Jersey city last week was direct. Recalling the CIO's part in the suit that led to the Supreme Court's anti-Hague decision, he told his audience "We're here because we won the right to be here."

The Press-Courier is in receipt of the following letter from Ray DiBello of Patton, pertaining to comment made in the Nanty-Glo Journal, and later in our own dear paper, relative to his candidacy for recorder of deeds: "In answer to the comment made by the Nanty-Glo Journal I wish to say this: Naturally my having worked in

the office does not mean that is all that you should judge my candidacy by, it was only a point to bring out. I am known in the county as a writer and my friends throughout the north and south of the county know who I am. They know my capabilities as a clerk and writer of note; as an honest, loyal, and courteous young man and that is enough for me that they know that.

I do not regard the race for office easy as you state by no means. I know if my friends wish to support me that is up to them to decide. I feel I can help my fellowmen by past experience and enjoy the reputation of being industrious and energetic along such lines as I have had the opportunity to display such qualities.

Concerning what you say is a rumor that someone else is promoting my candidacy for reasons of his own candidacy it is a vicious lie, false and without foundation created by some unknown person to attack me for his own selfish purposes. This can easily be proven by the other candidates running for this same office. It is positively ridiculous that another candidate would promote my campaign. No one is promoting it and no one will if my friends still want me to run I will run strictly on my own merit and can truthfully and sincerely say that I have no backer behind me. I chose to run solely on my friends' request.—(Signed) RAYMOND DI BELLO.

P. S.—Will you kindly publish this to stop this unfounded and false rumor. I thank you.

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HIS HAT IN THE RING



JAMES M. JONES.

James M. Jones, of Ebensburg, clerk of courts last week announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for county commissioner.

"I believe that I have served the people of Cambria county faithfully as clerk of courts," Mr. Jones said. "I believe the voters will agree that I am well entitled to a promotion. I am well versed in the affairs of the county. I understand its needs, having resided in this county 40 years. During my tenure as clerk of courts I have come in contact with every department of the county government and have gained a thorough understanding of what can be done best to serve the interest of all the people. If nominated and elected I promise to continue the faithful performance of my duties."

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