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CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA AREA. THURSDAY, JULY 20, 1939

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UNITED MINERS TO RESUME WAR ON AFL TRUCKS

Movement Starts This Week in Portage Section. Miners Had Meeting Saturday.

The "war" between the United Mine Workers of America (CIO) and the Progressive Miners Union (AFL) is again being resumed in the Portage district, particularly at Jamestown, home of hundreds of men employed at the large Somman operations of the Koppers Coal Company.

As outlined by UMWA speakers at a Saturday meeting of Jamestown Local 1318, Johnstown firms hauling products to the Portage area on trucks manned by AFL drivers affiliated with Johnstown Drivers' Union 110, will be called upon to "change drivers."

From word passed out last week to all UMWA locals in District No. 2, it was learned the United Mine Workers have been ordered to "put on the heat" against members of H. D. Lehman's Drivers' Union 110. One of the charges against Local 110 is that this union "aided and abetted" the Progressive Miners Union in attempting to gain a foothold in Johnstown with its organizing efforts at the E. E. Shets mine in the Fourth Ward there.

Some months ago district leaders of the UMWA warned Johnstown employers that renewal of the wage-hour contract with Lehman's union would bring about reprisals on the part of the United Mine Workers, especially in mining towns. UMWA leaders at that time indicated that trucks manned by Lehman's men would be "turned back" in coal towns and that miners would refuse to purchase at stores accepting deliveries from Johnstown stores employing members of Lehman's union.

Then came the shutdown of the coal mines with miners not drawing pay, during which time the union could not effectively campaign against Drivers' local 110 by refusing to purchase at company stores. Now, with miners again "on their feet" and drawing pay envelopes, the "war" will be resumed, it was announced.

First battalions selected was the Portage area. Policies of the UMWA were outlined Saturday at the Jamestown meeting by Edward Sweeney, vice president of District No. 2, of Lilly. Officers of Local Union 1318, were designated "shock troops" to carry the word to merchants in the Portage and Jamestown area and to notify all AFL Johnstown truck drivers to "make this your last trip," according to meeting reports.

Officers of the Jamestown Local are: James Hess, president; Michael Vase-laney, recording secretary; John Nowobelsky, financial secretary; Frank Stancovich, enrolling officer; William Richardson, vice president, and Albert Novotny, treasurer.

In addition to resuming the drive against AFL truck drivers affiliated with Local 110, the United Mine Workers as spearhead for the CIO has undertaken to set up rival unions for truck drivers in outlying districts served at present by Lehman's union.

Similar to the union of coal truck drivers established in Johnstown and Barnesboro under the UMWA supervision trucking organizations are in process of formation at Portage and other points.

\$500 TURNED OVER TO CHEST TOWNSHIP

Auditor General Warren R. Roberts last week approved the payment of \$1,554,508 to the second class townships of the state under an appropriation act of 1939 amending the Furman act of 1937, which required the State Department of Highways to expend directly these moneys out of the motor license fund on township roads. Chest Township in Cambria County received \$500.40 of the disbursement.

Under the 1939 act the unexpended balance of the Furman act was apportioned on a mileage basis to the various second class townships, and is being paid directly to the townships in two equal installments. The payment approved last week represented the July payment.

UNDER HAMMER

The once prosperous Indiana county mining village of Coral, already fallen into the limbo of ghost towns will be sold. F. S. Moran, New Kensington real estate dealer in charge of the sale, estimated that approximately 40 per cent of the residents would be able to purchase the homes they now rent. The buildings will be sold at stated prices, with terms.

The mines and coke ovens which at one time employed 300 and supported the community's 1500 residents, may never work again. Many of the company's former employees are now jobless or on relief.

FORTY-NINE FIRST AID TEAMS WILL COMPETE JULY 29

In Sectional Meet of Miners of Central Pennsylvania to Be Held at Philipsburg.

Forty-nine teams are entered to date in the sectional first-aid meet to be held at Philipsburg on Saturday, July 29th for mining teams in Central Pennsylvania. Winners of the Philipsburg meet will compete with other sectional winners at the state meet to be held in Ebensburg at the Cambria County Fair in September.

Speakers at the Philipsburg meet will include E. J. Uebaker, Windber, vice president and general manager of Berwind White Coal Mining Company; James Mark, of DuBois, district president of the United Mine Workers of America; Edward Steidle, dean of the School of Mines, Pennsylvania State College; State Senator A. L. Leitze, of Houtzdale; and State Mine Inspector Richard Maise of Uniontown. The music will be furnished by the Philipsburg high school band.

J. J. Forbes, head of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, Pittsburgh, will be the chief judge. Director of the meet will be W. J. Knapper, Philipsburg. J. V. Berry, safety director for Industrial Collieries, Johnstown, will be Forbes' assistant. R. E. George, Altoona, will be in charge of the contest.

BARNESBORO TO ENTERTAIN FIREMEN'S MEETING

Plans Near Completion for Annual Convention of Cambria County Organization.

Practically all arrangements have been made for the 18th annual convention of the Volunteer Firemen's Association of Cambria County and Vicinity to be held during the first week in August in Barnesboro.

Approximately \$600 in cash prizes will be awarded to winners in the parade and efficiency contests. The efficiency contests will take place Thursday morning, August 3, and the parade will take place that afternoon.

Every one of the county's fire companies and affiliate organizations, namely auxiliaries and drum corps, are expected to participate in the Thursday afternoon parade. The parade will be headed by the crack Barnesboro high school band and officials of the county organization.

The Barnesboro band will present several afternoon concerts during the convention, which is expected to be the largest ever staged by the firemen in Cambria county.

Business meetings of the firemen and auxiliaries will be held in a community building now being constructed in the Barnesboro Community Park by the Barnesboro Volunteer Fire Company. Work on the large brick structure was started last April and is expected to be finished by August 1st.

During the winter months the building will be used by Barnesboro High School as a gymnasium and basketball floor. Bleachers to accommodate approximately 400 will be installed on the main floor of the structure.

The building will be open to all community gatherings and functions, it was announced by the firemen who have appropriated \$18,000 for the construction of the building.

Kaus Exposition Shows Inc. have been engaged for the week of the convention and the carnival will show at Community Park.

Business sessions of the convention will open at 9:30 o'clock Wednesday morning, August 2, with memorial services for all firemen who died within the past year. Firemen will conduct business sessions at the Smith theatre while the auxiliary will convene at the Vernon Theatre.

Annual firemen's banquet will be served at 6:30 Wednesday evening in the Barnesboro American Legion home. The convention committee is composed of R. H. Steele, general chairman; G. E. Whited; J. G. Nicholson, John R. Musser, Layton Lowman, Omar Plouse, Frank Glasser, Harry Plouse, J. Dean Whited and Frank Morley.

Jurors to Meet.

Judge Ivan J. McKenrick has ordered that the September grand jury convene on Tuesday, September 5th, instead of the previous day, which will be Labor Day. The policy of not having the grand jury convene of Labor Day has been followed in Cambria County for several years.

Radio waves travel 186,300 miles a second, or more than seven times around the world.

STORES' STRIKE HELD UP FOR CONFERENCES

Letter from Representative Barger Explains Situation from Union Viewpoint.

Spangler, Pa., July 17, 1939. Editor Union Press-Courier:

Dear Sir:—I note, with much interest a comment in your issue of July 13th, in reference to a proposed strike in the company stores in the four county area; also a brief editorial in the same issue. Let me assure you that until I noticed your editorial, suggesting arbitration to settle the dispute, our intentions were to withdraw our membership from the establishments July 17th, as we had proposed everything in our judgment, and had gone as far as we could go. Let me congratulate you for your constructive suggestions, for from it we proposed to the management another two weeks' extension of the old wage agreement, and that a joint request from both union and the companies go to Miss Perkins, secretary of labor at Washington, to select our umpire from outside Pennsylvania, to hear both sides and render a decision to both sides. This avoided the suspension due to no contract. The management accepted the extension and took the proposal under consideration, and will, after consulting their superiors, give us an answer. If at that time their reply is negative, we will, without notice at all, cancel our extension. This is not being done to force our proposal or to force our demands. In our judgment it is more than fair, and if they refuse, they will signify that they do not want to be fair.

Again let me congratulate you for your proposal and praise the fairness of the Union Press-Courier. At all times we welcome criticisms and comments from reliable channels. Hoping you a continued success, I remain, ELMER A. BARGER, U. R. & W. E. of A.

LONG JAIL TERM GIVEN RAY KELLY FOR HOLD-UP

Ray Kelly of Spangler will have 2 to 5 years in the peaceful solitude of the Cambria county jail to meditate on the evils of attempting a robbery while disguised as a minstrel. He was sentenced to that term Monday by Judge Ivan J. McKenrick after pleading his guilt to robbing M. Zeno Kirsch at the latter's gasoline station in Spangler early on the morning of July 2nd.

Kelly admitted to the Judge that he went to Kirsch's station after putting soot on his face and donning an old raincoat. He asked Kirsch, according to his story, where he could find a place to sleep, and when Kirsch told him to find the chief of police, Kelly placed a flashlight in Kirsch's ribs and said: "this is a holdup."

Kirsch handed over \$13 in cash and Kelly demanded more. When Kirsch hesitated, his assailant grabbed him and beat him to the ground. Joe Wilky and Joe Mutter, both of Colver, were passing at the time, heard Kirsch's cries and went to his assistance. The trio then found that the intruder was Kelly, who lived only a short distance from Kirsch's station.

Kelly told Judge McKenrick that he had been out of work for several years and that on the night of the robbery he had been drinking. Judge McKenrick in reply told Kelly he could have a term of two to five years in the county jail to think things over.

STATE WILL STAGE NEW DPA EXAMS

Merit system examinations for nine different job classifications in the Department of Public Assistance are to be given in September by the state employment board of that agency, according to a notice received by Edward R. Golob, executive director of the Cambria County DPA.

The new registers of employables are to be set up to take the place of those which expired June 30, and subsequently it was said. Information on the examinations and application blanks are to be placed at various civic centers in the near future, similar to the procedure followed when the initial DPA examinations were given.

It was said that wide publicity will be given the fact that application blanks are available when they are distributed. The nine classifications in which tests are to be given are as follows: Visitors, Junior visitors, stenographer-secretaries, stenographers, senior typists, senior typist-clerks, advanced clerks and advanced mail file and record clerks.

Director Golob hastened to point out that the scheduling of the examinations does not necessarily mean there are vacancies in the Cambria County DPA Staff. As a matter of fact, he added, all local positions are filled. He said that the registers are to be established to take care of future vacancies.

GRANGE BANK BUILDING SALE GIVEN APPROVAL

Druggist Russell Little and Dr. John A. Murray Buy the Property for \$5,500.

Sale of the old Grange National Bank building at Fifth and Magee avenues, Patton, by Paul M. Weimer, receiver of the First National Bank of Patton, to Russell Little and Dr. John A. Murray, both of Patton, for \$5,500, was approved on Monday afternoon by Judge Ivan J. McKenrick.

The sale contains the condition, however, that the receiver of the First National Bank of Patton shall have quarters in the building, rent free, so long as the receivership continues. The building, which is a two story brick structure is on a lot 65 by 90 feet. The first floor is occupied by the drug store, a ladies' dress shop, and the receiver, while there is an apartment on the second floor.

Prior to the sale, Attorney Fred J. Fees, representing Mrs. Eleonora Weindicker of Patton, made an offer of \$5,750 for the property. When Attorney Frank Hartmann, representing Druggist Little and Dr. Murray, inquired as to whether that amount would be Mrs. Weindicker's final offer, Judge McKenrick ordered all parties to present sealed bids.

When court reconvened Mr. Fees announced that Mrs. Weindicker had decided to withdraw her offer and that she was satisfied that the property go to Mr. Little and Dr. Murray for \$5,500. She gave as her reasons for her withdrawal the fact she conducts the Central Hotel in Patton and did not wish to oppose her neighbors.

Following the withdrawal, Judge McKenrick signed a decree giving the property to Mr. Little and Dr. Murray for \$5,500.

COALMEN OF STATE PLAN RESEARCH WORK

Harrisburg.—Anthracite and bituminous coal men agreed last week to match the state's offer of \$35,000 to search out new uses for coal.

Operators and labor leaders met with John Ira Thomas, secretary of mines, to start the ball rolling with a two year \$70,000 fund for research at Pennsylvania State College.

The 1939 legislature authorized the study, under direction of the Mines Secretary at the school of mineral industries.

Thomas said the conferees agreed to have their \$35,000, and another meeting will be held at State College in about two weeks.

They discussed advances already made through research by the anthracite institute of New York, which confined its study to perfecting heating appliances, and to bituminous research at the State College, paid for by a soft coal producers' association.

The use of hard coal for the filtration of water, and for producing chemicals was discussed. An important item to be developed is a design for a pilot plant for preparing a coal solution which might produce carbon black and other useful products. Carbon black is used in making tires.

Automatic heating, and the manufacture of silk stockings from hard coal also were mentioned as results of the research.

Senator Robert M. Miller (R-Luzerne), introduced the measure in the Legislature which made the research possible. Originally he asked for \$1,000,000 for a special research bureau in the Department of Mines.

HOBO SECRETARY EXPIRES IN ALTOONA

Altoona.—Life Wednesday of last week ejected from its long train John F. Weller, 70, international secretary of the Hoboes of the World and right hand to Jeff Davis, the king of the hoboes.

Weller, a former Altoona police sergeant, was national secretary of the Hoboes of America and Altoona secretary of the Blair County Central Labor Union. He died in Altoona hospital after a lingering illness.

Well known in transient elements throughout the United States, Weller served in 1937 as host to the national convention of hoboes held in Altoona. He is survived by several children.

Driver Absolved.

Anthony Bucca of Barnesboro was absolved of any blame in connection with the death of Harry Stoltz, Jr., 15, of Spangler, by a coroner's jury, heard testimony in the fatality the other day. Bucca's car struck the bicycle on which the Stoltz boy was riding. Young Stoltz died in the Spangler hospital after being unconscious for 463 hours. Bucca testified at the hearing that he was blinded by the lights of an oncoming car and did not see the bicycle until too late to avoid the accident.

MOVE TO FREEZE BITUMINOUS COAL OUTPUT IS BARED

Greensburg Congressman Says Such A Plan Is Contained in Guffey Act Amendment.

Washington.—A planned attempt to "freeze" all soft coal production at the 1936 tonnage figures was disclosed on Saturday last by Representative Robert G. Allen, Democrat, from Greensburg, Pa.

The Pennsylvanian, representing one of the largest soft coal producing counties in the Pittsburgh area, said he had been advised such a plan was contained in a proposed amendment to the Guffey Act which authorizes regulation of prices for the sale of coal at the mines.

The amendment, Allen reported, has been drawn and submitted to Interior Department Coal Division officials and would grant authority for allocating production on the basis of output of each mine in 1936, when all bituminous fields turned out 439,087,903 tons.

Allen's declaration that the proposal would "meet militant opposition in Congress" was echoed by Chairman Smith, Democrat, West Virginia, of the House Ways and Means Committee, who asserted the plan would "ruin the coal industry in southern West Virginia."

Similar opposition was voiced by the committee for amendment of the coal act which termed the proposal "just another step in complete regimentation of the coal industry." Committee official Chester Thompson charged the plan "would be another step toward public ownership of coal mines."

BOARD WILL PRINT EXONERATED LIST SCHOOL TAXABLES

Next Week's Issue of Union Press-Courier to Carry Legal Notice of the Full List.

At a special meeting of the Patton Borough School Board held on Tuesday, July 18th, action was taken to publish the full list of names in which personal or per-capita taxes have been granted exonerations by the local tax collector.

In order to avoid embarrassment for any who can pay such taxes, the school board has requested the Press-Courier to advise all such, in the event they make payment on or before Monday afternoon, July 24th at the office of the Secretary of the Patton Borough School District, in the High School Building, their names will not appear on this list.

MRS. BEIDELMAN IS NAMED PRESIDENT OF COUNTY PARLEY

Mrs. T. Leroy Beidelman, Johnstown, western vice president of the American Legion Auxiliary, was elected president for the ensuing year of the Past President's Parley, held at the Hotel Highland in Ebensburg last Wednesday night.

Mrs. Beidelman is a past president of Johnstown Unit, No. 294 and of the Cambria County Council. She was instrumental in the organization of the parley. Mrs. Catherine Bostrom of Barnesboro, was elected secretary-treasurer for the 1939-40 term.

Members of the parley voted to adopt two hospitalized ex-service World War Nurses. The organization will send clothing and necessities to the nurses confined to hospitals.

The next meeting will be held in November in Johnstown. Presidents from Legion auxiliaries in the following towns attended the meeting: Johnstown, Carrolltown, Portage, Patton, Lilly, Barnesboro and Gallitzin.

STATE LABOR BOARD IS NOW REPUBLICAN

Harrisburg.—Governor Arthur H. James' appointment of William L. Dickel, Penfield, Delaware county, to the State Labor Relations Board, Saturday gave the three member agency a majority of one.

Dickel, former recorder of deeds, succeeded former Dauphin County Orphans' Court judge, J. Dress Pannell, Harrisburg, to the \$7,000-a-year post. James recently appointed Harry Gifford, Reading, in place of Patrick T. Fagan, Pittsburgh, district president of the United Mine Workers of America.

Board Chairman Levi G. Lichlighter of Somerset is the only remaining appointee of former governor George H. Earle still on the board.

LIGHTNING KILLS ANDREW NOEL IN PATTON HOME

Electrocuted While Holding Extension Cord As Brother Repaired Roof

Andrew Noel, 37, of Palmer avenue, Patton, was electrocuted at 12:30 o'clock last Friday morning while he was assisting his brother in assisting a leaky roof during a severe electrical and rainstorm which visited northern Cambria county.

Mr. Noel was holding an electric light and extension cord, extending on a socket from the second floor to the attic of the Alphonse Noel home when a bolt of lightning is believed to have entered the Noel home by way of a chimney.

Coroner Patrick McDermott conducted an investigation and said the bolt apparently followed the electric light cord and passed through the body of Noel. Mr. McDermott said the man's clothing was wet from the rain which was coming through the roof of the Noel home at that Noel was in his bare feet at the time.

Alphonse Noel had gone through a trap door on the roof and was placing tar paper over the leak at the time. His brother was holding the light so he could see to make the repairs. Stove pipe leading from the chimney at the Noel home was thrown across a second story room and a small hole was knocked in the roof of the Noel home and that Noel was in his Andrew Noel was standing when he was killed.

Coroner McDermott said Andrew Noel had a slight bruise mark on the shoulder and one under the left arm. The man, according to McDermott, had a three days' growth of beard and the whiskers on the left side of his face were singed, but the skin was not burned.

Another bolt of lightning struck a cherry tree in the yard adjoining the Noel home a short time after Andrew Noel was killed and a section of the roof of a neighbor's porch also was ripped off when it was struck by the lightning.

Andrew Noel was a son of George A. and Mary (Port) Noel, both deceased, and was born in Patton. He had been making his home with his brother, Alphonse Noel, for some time.

Surviving are his brother and two sisters: Mrs. James Stoner, Reedville, Pa., and Miss Catherine Noel, Buffalo, N. Y.

Funeral services were conducted on Monday afternoon at the Alphonse Noel home and interment was made in Fairview cemetery.

NEW LAW ENDS THE INCONVENIENCE WHEN VOTERS MOVE ABOUT

An important announcement for voters who have moved from Johnstown city into adjacent boroughs or townships, or vice versa, since registering in accordance with the permanent registration law was made last week at Ebensburg by the County Registration Commission.

Heretofore when a voter moved in or out of the city the law required that elector to re-register by applying in person at the county commissioners' office in Ebensburg.

Under an amendment to the election code passed at the last session of the legislature, voters who have moved from the city into various boroughs or townships, or vice versa, no longer are required to make a trip to Ebensburg to register anew. The county registration commission announced that the only requirement under the new law is to file a notice of removal. Blanks for this purpose may be obtained by mail from the County Registration Commission.

Clerks in the commissioners' office, it was disclosed, have removed from the permanent registration lists of Cambria county approximately 4,100 names of men and women who did not vote at either the 1937 or 1938 elections. Under the permanent registration law electors who fail to vote for two years are removed from the eligible list and must register again to qualify as voters. It was pointed out that a large percentage of those taken off the lists represented names of voters who moved from Johnstown into adjoining boroughs or townships.

The two year rule, it was emphasized, makes mandatory upon the commission to strike off the voting lists those electors who did not exercise the right of franchise. Persons who did not visit the polls in 1937 or 1938 must register again to qualify for the September primary election.

Historic Building Burns.

A log house, built one hundred years ago when the old Portage railroad was pushing across the Allegheny Mountains, was destroyed by fire Monday, near Duncansville.