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CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA AREA. THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1939

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MINE WORKERS CONTINUE FIGHT ON DRIVERS UNIT

Northern Cambria Beer Distributors Form Alliance With C. I. O. Groups.

United Mine Workers of America District No. 2, particularly in the mining towns embraced by the Johnstown trade area, announced renewal of the "war" against the Johnstown AFL organization, which they charge with having aided the Progressive Miners' Union in attempting to launch a campaign of organization in the county.

Organizers of the UMWA made no secret of the fact that with the mines working at full capacity in a majority of places the union plans to battle the Johnstown Drivers Union 110 (AFL) to a finish fight.

Two methods of attack were revealed: Miners in a wide radius of Johnstown will be encouraged to refuse to deal at stores accepting wholesale deliveries from firms employing AFL truck drivers affiliated with H. D. Lehman's Johnstown Drivers' Union, No. 110.

The UMWA will launch a counter attack by setting up chartered United Mine Worker Union locals in various places. These locals will be for truck drivers with special invitations to join extended to members of "Whitey" Lehman's drivers union.

Announcement of the organization a few days ago of the Northern Cambria Beer Distributors' Association was interpreted as being directly related to the issue. The newly organized association of beer distributors announced one regulation which was seen as a blow to the AFL truck drivers. Before a beer distributor is admitted to membership in the Northern Cambria Association his truck drivers must carry union cards of Barnesboro Local 7587, United Mine Workers—the special U. M. W. A. union local set up for truck drivers in this area.

With the announcement that "we are affiliated with the United Mine Workers of America and employ union drivers only, the following were announced as the original membership of the Northern Cambria Association: Hastings Bottling Works, represented by Fred Soisson, Hastings; Gunther Beverage Company, represented by Ed Gunther, Hastings; Joe Fork, Colver, Blair Pawlowski, Barnesboro; John Wengzen, Barnesboro; Carl Falchini, Ebensburg; Ed Englehart, Ebensburg; W. Earl Sharbaugh, Carrolltown.

Officers are: Fred Soisson, president; John Wengzen, vice president; Blair Pawlowski, secretary, and Carl Falchini, treasurer.

No secret was made of the method to be employed by the UMWA in the battle with Drivers' Union 110. Spokesmen for the United Mine Workers said that with miners now drawing "good pay" and the coal business on the upswing, the men in the coal towns have been instructed to notify store owners and managers that retail purchases will not be made where wholesale deliveries are made by members of "Whitey" Lehman's union.

It was disclosed that the "heat" already has been applied in a number of instances at Vintondale, Colver, Revloc, and in the Dumlo and Beaverdale sections.

Advent of organizers for the Progressive Miners' Union (AFL) in Johnstown last year was the signal for the retaliation by the UMWA, it is admitted. Arrival of the Progressives has been laid to the door of Lehman's union by UMW leaders, and "bust the Drivers Union 110" has been made the first order of business.

Organization of the Northern Cambria Beer Distributors Association was announced as a move to stabilize the beer business for the betterment and protection of its members and to "clean house and eliminate the violators of law laid down by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

Announcement has been made by the beer distributors that a contract already has been negotiated between the Association and UMWA Local 7587 of Barnesboro.

United Mine Workers Union organizers explained that the Barnesboro Branch for truckers was similar to the Johnstown branch for truckers engaged in hauling house coal.

HOLLIDAYSBURG FLYER HAS NARROW ESCAPE

Altoona.—Running out of gas while trying desperately to reach a landing field, State Motor Police Sergeant E. F. McGill of Hollidaysburg, crashed his airplane into the side of fog-bound Brush Mountain and lived to tell the story.

The sergeant flew blind over the mountain in coming from Johnstown last Wednesday night, but was unable to land because of low hanging clouds. He turned back, ran out of gas and hit the mountain.

McGill walked several miles, although dazed.

NEW INDUSTRIES NEEDED TO USE RAW MATERIALS

Result of War In Europe May be Factor in New Enterprises in Pennsylvania.

A ready-made opportunity to develop new types of industries in Pennsylvania through industrial research has been envisioned by Secretary of Commerce Richard Brown as one result of the war in Europe.

"The war is upsetting international trade," Secretary Brown said. "It has shut off the supply of many imported products upon which North and South America relied.

"Substitute sources of supply can be developed in Pennsylvania. The last war gave great impetus to the dye and chemical industry in America. The conversion of the manufacturing facilities of European nations to war goods, offers the opportunity now for Pennsylvania to develop many similar peace time industries which can promote lasting prosperity.

"There are many fields in which research can develop new uses for our raw materials both mineral and agricultural. Chemicals and plastics, and the creation of new synthetics, are examples.

"Pennsylvania's coal fields and other mineral deposits contain huge reservoirs of materials which already are being converted to new uses and new products. We make textiles from coal and fabrics from glass.

"Our rich farming lands are capable of producing vegetable products which, in addition to supplying adequate quantities of foods, can also furnish the materials for new manufactured products. The varied uses of soy beans in recent years are examples.

"On relatively small farms, such as are common in Pennsylvania, the production of agricultural materials for industrial uses is made easier by the recent models of improved and more simple farm machinery adaptable to small acre farming.

"Attention to the industrial applications of research by chemists, biologists, and metallurgists not only can develop new products which will give lasting employment to thousands of Pennsylvanians but also can offer a field of useful activity with an attractive future for the young people who are in school today.

"From the disruption of normal commerce resulting from the war today Pennsylvania can profit for the future, as well as the present, by taking the lead in research which will develop new industrial processes and products which will continue to keep Pennsylvania citizens employed long after the war has ended."

HASTINGS ELECTRIC SUB-STATION BURNS IN FRIDAY NIGHT STORM

A brief, but severe electrical storm struck ferociously at this section of the county last Friday evening about 7 o'clock, and did considerable damage. Telephone and electric lines in some sections were blown down. At the height of the storm lightning struck the Hastings electric sub-station and the building was burned to the ground resulting in a loss of approximately \$5,000. Hastings was plunged into darkness at an early hour. The bolt is believed to have struck a high tension line outside the building and followed into a transformer in the power house.

Hastings Volunteer Fire Company was summoned to the scene, but the fire had gained considerably headway before its arrival and firemen were unable to save the building. However firemen succeeded in saving the Hastings Electric Company's sub-station which is located only a few feet from the burned building.

The Hastings Electric Company building, which houses hundreds of dollars worth of electrical equipment, caught fire from sparks from the other building, but firemen were able to bring the blaze under control before serious damage resulted.

Firemen were obliged to lay 2,000 feet of hose to the nearest fire hydrant. Scorching heat, emitting from the blazing building kept firemen at a distance for nearly half an hour. Greatest damage to equipment resulted when the roof of the building fell. Several large transformers were completely destroyed.

Sparks resulting from burning wire insulation and short circuits in the electrical equipment shot high into the air and attracted hundreds of people to the scene. The blaze could be seen in Patton, five miles away.

The building was owned by the Oak Ridge Coal Company and for a number of years was used as a power house for the local coal concern. The Pennsylvania Edison Company leased the building and equipment several years ago. Damage to the building was estimated at \$2,500 and to equipment, \$1,000.

AN AFL AND CIO PEACE APPEAL VOICED BY FDR

President Urges Rival Labor Organizations to Come to Agreement for Emergency.

President Roosevelt Tuesday appealed to the American Federation of Labor to resume peace negotiations with the rival Congress of Industrial Organizations to promote peace at home during a world emergency.

Mr. Roosevelt's message, dated Sept. 30, was read to the 69th annual AFL convention by President William Green, who replied in a telegram to the President with a quotation from the AFL executive council report which said the AFL committee stands ready to resume peace negotiations when it is accorded an opportunity.

"If we desire peace and good will in the world we must learn to practice these in the small and large things of our own life," Mr. Roosevelt said.

"The continued conflict and separation in the labor movement can hardly be overlooked in these days when discord in any group is so harmful to world peace.

"Peace, like charity, begins at home. A world emergency, such as at present, gives us new realization of the blessings of democracy and liberty. In the presence of these blessings and in the face of this world necessity we must adjourn our small grudges, our differences, and find the way to peace and good will within our borders in every department of life.

"So we become a free and fearless nation with people of all shades of opinion and walks of life, united in common purpose to maintain and to practice and to protect this American way of life."

Mr. Roosevelt said he would send a similar message to the CIO convention in San Francisco on October 10.

MOTOR POLICE HEADS PUSH DRIVE TO LOWER AUTO TOLL IN STATE

High officials of the Pennsylvania Motor Police are continuing their efforts to enlist the aid of every police officer in the state in a drive to further reduce the toll of motor vehicle accidents.

In a message sent out last week over the police teletype system, Maj. C. M. Wilhelm, deputy commissioner of the state force, called upon all police to co-operate in curbing losses in death and injury due to accidents during the last three months of the year. This was preceded a short time before by an appeal from Maj. Lynn G. Adams, the motor police commissioner, for a concerted drive to reduce the pedestrian death toll.

Maj. Wilhelm reported that statistics furnished by the state department of revenue show the state's automobile death toll for the seven months' period from January to July inclusive, has been cut from 1,357 in 1937 to 932 in 1938 and 807 in 1939.

"Reductions in the number of accidents and persons injured also has been indicated but not in such a manner as may be regarded as satisfactory," his message said.

Major Wilhelm pointed out that the remaining three months of the year give Pennsylvania's police an opportunity to further reduce the toll and make a real record for the year. He warned, however, that efforts along this line will be seriously handicapped by snow, sleet, ice, rain and falling leaves, which create additional hazards for traffic.

Pointing out that the state's auto death toll in each of the last four months of 1938 was cut below the 1937 figures, he added:

"All police should make every effort not only to maintain the reduction in accidents and fatalities reported during the first seven months (of 1938) but also to improve conditions."

NORTHERN CAMBRIA CLUB REORGANIZED

The Northern Cambria Literary Club, which has been reorganized under the direction of Mrs. Richard Bradley of Carrolltown, met last week at the home of Miss Marion Myers also of Carrolltown. Recent books and topics of interest were discussed during the business session. A social hour followed.

THE FIRE CHIEF SAYS:—

Clean up and inspect your buildings before winter sets in. Be careful of fire hazards. In recent inspections, ashes were discovered in pasteboard cartons, as well as electric wires improperly fastened to the walls by nails driven through the insulation. Correct these conditions.

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CANDIDATES SEEK CHANGE OF NAMES IN COURT APPEALS

Corrections Are Sought By Several With Minor Party Nominations in County.

Several candidates who were nominated by minor parties in the primary on Tuesday, September 12, Tuesday petitioned the court to have their names corrected so that they may appear on the general election ballot the same as their names for the major parties which gave them nominations.

Under the law a candidate cannot accumulate votes unless his name appears the same for each party nomination. Four candidates for county office were among those who filed their petitions with Prothonotary John L. Hite to have their names changed.

Judge Ivan J. McKenrick, who has the Democratic nomination for Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, has asked the court to have his name changed from "Ivan J. McKenrick" to "Ivan J. McKenrick" as the candidate for the Socialist party.

Under the law a candidate must notify all other candidates for the same office of his intention of having his name changed. The court has set October 7th as the time for the return on McKenrick's petition.

Stephens Mayer, Republican candidate for District Attorney, has petitioned the court to have his name changed from "Stephen Mayer" to "Stephens Mayer" for a Prohibition party nomination.

Returns on his petition as well as all others will be made on October 9. James M. (Jimmy) Jones won the Prohibition and Socialist party nominations as "James M. Jones" for county commissioner. He has asked it be changed to James M. (Jimmy) Jones.

William H. Heslop, who won the Republican nomination for clerk of the courts, also has asked the court to change his name from "William Heslop" to "William H. Heslop" as the Prohibition party candidate.

GREENHOUSES, CARS BEAR STORM BRUNT IN CAMBRIA TOWNS

Greenhouses and automobiles in Ebensburg and a number of other Cambria county towns, including Cresson and Gallitzin, bore the brunt of a freak hail and rain storm which cut a path across a narrow strip of land in the county last Wednesday afternoon.

Damages estimated at thousands of dollars were caused by the hailstones which in some instances were the size of hen eggs and walnuts. The hail storm was followed by a heavy downpour which lasted for a half hour.

The hail storm cut a path through Blacklick township and continued to Ebensburg, Cambria township, Cresson and Gallitzin.

Ebensburg probably suffered the greatest damage as the result of the hailstones, although scores of automobile and home owners in other sections of the storm's path also reported unusually heavy damage as a result of hail stones peeping large holes thru roofs of cars and houses.

Automobile tops were literally riddled by the stones in Ebensburg, the shingles on roofs were splintered and practically every outdoor neon sign in the county was broken.

Balsinger and Luther, Ebensburg florists, reported the greatest single damage. The hailstones smashed 3,200 of the 3,500 panes in the firm's greenhouses. The firm's showrooms in Ebensburg was also damaged. No insurance was carried on the glass. Their loss is in the neighborhood of \$7,000.

TAKE BARR TOWNSHIP MAN, TIED TO BED, TO TORRANCE INSTITUTION

State motor police at the Ebensburg barracks and Cambria County officials were able to breathe a little easier on Tuesday because Michael Stroyka, 25, of Barr township, who went berserk at his home Monday afternoon, was in the Torrance state hospital.

Stroyka caused the officers and officials plenty of worry and inconvenience before they could remove him to the state institution.

In fact he displayed such strength that officials were obliged to tie him to a bed at the Cambria County Home. The bed, with Stroyka securely strapped to it, was loaded on a truck and Stroyka was taken to Torrance, after police found it impossible to handle the man in any other manner.

Stroyka suddenly went on a rampage at his home Monday afternoon. He jumped into his father's automobile and broke down three fences with the vehicle before he went to the home of his sister, Mrs. Mary Wolf, and created a disturbance there. Mrs. Wolf communicated with the state motor police at Ebensburg and Stroyka was placed under arrest. Much difficulty was encountered in getting him to the county jail.

CIO UNIONS BACK ROOSEVELT FOR ANOTHER TERM

Feeling Is "Virtually Unanimous" According to Jas. Carey, the National Secretary.

Resolutions submitted by C. I. O. unions in all parts of the country for consideration at the organization's convention opening October 9th in San Francisco reflect "virtually unanimous" sentiment for continuation of the New Deal through the re-election of President Roosevelt in 1940, according to James B. Carey, national secretary of the CIO.

Mr. Carey, who is president of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, said that similar unanimity was indicated on the desirability of peace with the American Federation of Labor, provided that the terms of agreement did not sacrifice "any of the gains of the last four years."

Despite their endorsement of a third term, the unions represented in the advance resolutions show no desire to surrender their political bargaining power by giving the President a "blank check," Mr. Carey said. Most emphasize the necessity for carrying forward the New Deal and warn against concessions to "reactionary forces."

The decision of President Roosevelt to disband the War Resources Board after its report is presented, was attributed by Mr. Carey to CIO complaints against the lack of labor representation on the board. To insure that the United States will stay out of the European war, spokesmen for labor, farmers and consumers must receive a voice in the conduct of our foreign relations, the CIO official declared.

He declined to comment on President Roosevelt's program for revision of the Neutrality Act but warned that the nation must not neglect its domestic problems because of the conflict abroad.

SCHWAB'S ESTATE IS GIVEN RELATIVES AND SOME TO EMPLOYEES

Charles M. Schwab, last of the steel barons, left his entire estate to relatives and employees, making no bequests to charity, filing of his will in New York City, revealed last week.

No value of the estate was given, but his immense holdings in steel, securities and real estate will carry it far into the millions of dollars.

The chief beneficiaries are his sister, Mrs. Gertrude Barry Loretto, and his surviving brother, Edward H. Schwab. Smaller bequests were left to the two children of his deceased brother, Edward E. Schwab.

In explanation of the lack of charitable bequests, the will, drawn on April 26, 1937, stated:

"Having made liberal contributions during my life for charitable and educational purposes, I make no bequests for such purposes herein, but suggest that the beneficiaries herein named continue to make such contributions according to their respective means.

"I make no provision herein for my sister, Mary Schwab, because other arrangements have been made for her during my lifetime.

As Sister Cecelia, Mary Schwab is a cloistered nun in the Carmelite Convent at Loretto, Pa. The convent was built and endowed by her brother.

CRESSON LAD IS KILLED BY TRAIN

Charles Popelish, 12, of House 94, Cresson Shaft, was killed last Friday evening during a severe electrical storm, when he was caught under the wheels of a moving freight car.

The lad's body was completely severed in half when struck by the truck of a heavy freight car.

Coroner Patrick McDermott, in an investigation, learned that the lad had been playing with a group of boys on a baseball field and when it started to rain the lads dashed to cover.

In order to reach his home, Popelish took a short cut across the main line tracks of the Pennsylvania Railroad. A west bound freight train was stopped on No. 4 track and in his hurry to get out of the rain the lad crawled under one of the cars.

While he was under the car, the train started to move and the wheels of the car, about the middle of the train, passed over his body. Several cars passed over the body before the train was brought to a stop.

Playmates of the victim said that just before the lad crawled under the train he said: "I am not going to stay out in the rain and get drenched, I'm taking a short cut home."

MINES IN COUNTY BOOM AGAIN AS ORDERS ARE UP

Men Are Given Temporary Certificates; Condition Best Since 1922, One Official States.

With coal operators stepping up production in order to meet growing demands on their industry, hundreds of miners are being called back to employment after long lay-offs, it was indicated throughout Cambria County this week and last.

In order to facilitate the speed up of production, caused by the influence of the war boom and the usual seasonal demands, state mine inspectors over the bituminous fields of Pennsylvania have been instructed to conduct examinations for certificates of competency and qualification.

Such certificates are required of miners under a law sponsored in the 1937 session of the legislature by Senator John J. Haluska of Patton. The law was a move to insure greater safety in the mines by not permitting inexperienced men—those without the certificates—to dig coal.

On September 1 examining boards created under the Haluska bill, were abolished. To continue part of the work of the examining groups, John Ira Thomas, secretary of mines, last week directed state inspectors to examine applicants and issue temporary certificates.

Thomas directed that, if possible, "not one ton of coal" be held up for lack of certified miners. The inspectors were told to examine applicants orally in their (the inspectors') homes. Tests consist of "eight practical mining questions," with only those persons who show a satisfactory knowledge of mining conditions eligible to receive even the temporary certificates.

Dennis J. Keenan of Barnesboro, inspector for the 15th district, has been examining men in great numbers, indicating the local extent to which men are being called back to work.

Keenan announced that he will conduct examinations at his home every afternoon from 3 to 5:30 o'clock, all of this week.

Labor organizers and coal operators alike said a real boom is now in effect in the coal industry, with production increasing the county every day. Conditions have not reflected higher commercial fuel prices yet, but there was not much doubt in some quarters that prices would go up if orders would begin to backlog and rival firms start bidding for coal.

With the county's biggest and hardest hit industry recuperating—slowly for months, then, in recent weeks, by leaps and bounds—many towns dependent upon the coal mines for prosperity are busy again as miners quit relief rolls and went to work. Railroads, relief offices, merchants, state employment centers and individuals could not help but feel the effects of the long-delayed trend.

The pick-up in the mining industry which "looks better right now than it has since 1922," according to J. W. Stephenson of the United Mine Workers at Johnstown, still has a long way to go and probably will not operate at full capacity for any length of time.

900 TO GET WORK IN THE ALTOONA YARDS

Approximately 900 additional men will be put to work in the Altoona shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad to remodel 85 all steel coaches, it was announced Friday.

The remodeled cars will supplement the three new streamlined and 15 modernized passenger cars authorized in the \$17,000,000 general equipment and property improvement program approved by the directors September 13.

Remodeling work is scheduled to begin well before the close of the present year. The last of the finished cars will leave the shops by June 1, 1940. The framework and structural part of the present cars will be retained, while the interiors will be entirely new, embodying the most modern travel features.

FOR SALE—White "Estate" Enamelled Range. Inquire of Ed Kuhnley, 507 Palmer Avenue, Patton, Pa.

HELP THE FIRE COMPANY BY GENEROUS SUPPORT

The Patton Fire Company is in need of some winter season equipment, with the winter season coming on. As they have no means of raising revenue excepting by contribution, during the week of October 8th, they will call at every home and leave an envelope, in which you can place your contribution. These envelopes will be collected on October 16, 1939.

All contributions, large or small, will be gratefully accepted. Contributors' names will not be published unless by request. Help support the Fire Company!

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