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**THE UNION PRESS**  
Combined with PATTON COURIER

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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.

Autonomy has long been a bone of contention with a number of union miners in District No. 2, and on the first Tuesday in December, they will again poll votes for all offices in the district with the exception of President and Secretary-Treasurer. The question arises as to why the District lost its autonomy, and the answer is an easy one. The miners union some years ago had gone in to complete collapse. Pressure from operators and coal and iron police, which have since been outlawed by legislation; internal strife in unions, tors, present leaders admit, brought about by admittedly irresponsible local union officials—all these factors, present leaders admit, brought about the collapse of the union. For a time there was not a single dues-paying member in an area covering six counties. Today there are some 50,000. It is well within memory of most miners and others in the district that the union built barracks and put up tents for hundreds of men who were evicted from company houses, and paid relief to unemployed miners' families. Barracks were built in Somerset, Ehrenfeld, Cresson, Beaverdale, and other places. Under edict of the then Sheriff, Carl Steuer, two or more miners weren't permitted to congregate in public. Things were black, indeed. It was not until 1933 that the union, revived by the NRA, was reborn and reorganized. But autonomy was lost. Just as self-government was about to be restored, "wild-cat strikes" again started.

The international union has assumed \$500,000 in deficits incurred by the district, and declined to restore autonomy to local unions which had a propensity for "running up bills and further straining labor-operator relations. A few years ago President James Mark said the international would abide by the decision of the majority of members in the district. When, two years ago a committee recommended restoration of voting rights, a poll of members followed. In the poll, a majority was determined to regain autonomy and Mark kept his word. Autonomy now comes to local unions when members are enjoying full time work in one of the greatest coal production upswings in years.

Local labor leaders believe that the days of "wild-cat" strikes are over and that the years of government by appointive officers have schooled the miners to advantages of compromise and restraint in conducting their union affairs. Besides many members have attended classes in parliamentary law and "sat in" on numerous conventions. In fact, many other bodies could well take a lesson in the conduct of a meeting, if they were privileged to sit in on most any miners local union meeting in the district. The chairman most always "knows his stuff." Union officers should now be armed with sufficient knowledge to prevent minority groups of radicals and "hot heads" from dominating union policy.

Even Republican hold-overs in the administration of former Governor

George H. Earle will have headaches, just the same as have the Democratic employees who are still on the payroll. Governor Arthur H. James has sent out the word for a "general house-cleaning." Out go the old, and in are to come the new employees—as fast as it can be accomplished. The James administration has no love for hold-over Republicans and they will go just as quickly as the Democrat who was loyal to his own party.

There are now about 10,000 employees under the Governor, excluding the Liquor Control Board, the Unemployment Compensation Division and the Department of Public Assistance, which operate under civil service, and the Public Utility Commission, the Auditor General's Department, and the State Treasury. James has made 4,487 appointments. That leaves 5,000 theoretically susceptible to dismissal slips. Disclosure of the administration's patronage plans coincides with a persistent but unconfirmed report heard frequently in the capitol in recent weeks that all employees would be required to reapply for their jobs and would need the indorsement of their county chairman.

Of interest—or it should be of interest to the James Republicans, is an article appearing under the title of "Cambriacania," on the editorial page of last Saturday's Johnstown Democrat, in which it surveys the promises of jobs that were made to Cambria County men last year, at the election, and they tell what has happened to date. The record reveals that the big jobs held by Cambria county Democrats have gone to Republicans, but not by any means to Republicans who reside in Cambria county. On the bigger jobs James' administration has given our good, old county a "run-around" and even on the smaller jobs county Republicans haven't rated any too well. Now the story goes out to the somewhat disgruntled job seekers that after the election there'll be something done. But it can't be done in any "big" way because the plums have already been awarded. Instead of more jobs, there are fewer jobs, instead of higher salaries there are lower salaries.

Starting with Eddie McCloskey, who was a boxing commissioner and was let out, and no Cambria County Republican named to succeed him, the Republicans took a \$5,000 a year job from us; Eddie Knuff had a \$7,500 salaried job, was given the gate, and no Cambria county Republican was given the job; Michael J. Boyle Unemployment Compensation referee, received \$5,000, and no one from Cambria county got his job. George Prindible had what amounted to a cabinet position, at \$8,500 a year, and his job went to another county. A rumor circulates that Louie Luxenberg, patronage dispenser No. 1 of the Republicans, wanted this job, and when he couldn't get it, left it go elsewhere. Dr. L. A. Wesner, as head of the Cresson Sanatorium, was let out early in the shuffle and his Dr. Stites, by no means a Cambria County man went back. A Cambria County man had a job as construction superintendent at Cresson at \$3,500, and a resident of another county got his job. A resident of Johnstown held the job of district forester at \$2,000 a year, and, of course, they brought in a man from out of the county, to take his place.

However, the writer in the Johnstown Democrat says, on the other side of the ledger he must give credit where credit is due. Ernie Walker got a job. Emil Schwing did get Lloyd Hibbs' workmen's compensation referee job. Schwing is Patronage Dispenser No. 2 in the county. Andy Anderson of Ebensburg is Patronage Dispenser No. 3, and it is said that after the election he will get a \$3,500 a year job in the milk side of the state's business. Which, so far, leaves Republicans wondering what Luxenberg will be able to cop. Surely he has something big in mind. The patronage board will take care of themselves—they hope!

Who spent the most money in the primary campaign. Dan Shields, Johnstown's bombastic mayor, of course. It cost him 58 cents each for every vote he received. Next heaviest spender was John Lloyd Jones, one of the Republican nominees for county commissioner who laid out \$1,019.87, or 23 cents per vote. All the rest of the expenditures on both parties were within reason for the job sought.

Only about five hundred votes of a difference is found between the Republican and Democratic registration in this county, numbering all those who will be qualified to vote at the election next month. The Republicans lead by that scant margin with each party having more than 43,000 registered. That means only one thing, as we see it. The election will be close. There is small likelihood that any complete party slate has any chance of getting by. Although both parties are publishing slated candidates, the Republican party had the same old knack of nominating all their candidates from Johnstown and its vicinity, with the exception of one lone candidate from Ebensburg. Geographically speaking, however, the Democrats have nominated candidates from all portions of the county—and they are leaving nothing undone to acquaint the voters with that fact.

But with a registration as nearly equal as are the Cambria county figures, there can be no question but that the men themselves, and not the party will claim the attention of the voters. And more especially will this be the case when there are no issues or policies, in general, at stake. Many of the offices are merely clerical in nature

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Law designates what the duties of the officials are, and exactly what they shall do. A competent official in any case can do the work. Hence, while to some extent candidates are working with other candidates of their particular party, the chief thought likely is to get votes for one's self—and that will grow with the individual candidate more and more as the days shorten before November 7th.

**FOURTEEN CANDIDATES ON MINOR PARTY LIST WITHDRAW FROM RACE**

Withdrawal of fourteen candidates who received Prohibition or socialist nominations for county wide offices has cleared the political atmosphere in Cambria county. The majority of the withdrawals were filed in the office of the county commissioners last Friday which was the deadline for taking that action. In addition to the withdrawals, Judge Ivan J. McKenrick entered his rejection of the Socialist nomination for Judge with the State Secretary of the Commonwealth in Harrisburg.

As a result of the withdrawals, the following remain as candidates to be voted on at the election of Tuesday, November 7th:

Judge: Ivan J. McKenrick, Democrat and

Prohibition; Harry A. Englehart, Republican.

District Attorney: W. Lloyd Hibbs, Democrat and Prohibition; Harry A. Englehart, Republican; Stephens Mayer, Republican.

Neice A. Malloy, Socialist, withdrew.

Prothonotary: Michael C. Chervenak, Jr., Democrat; John L. Hite, Republican and Prohibition.

George B. Simler, Socialist, withdrew.

Register of Wills: Michael J. Hartnett, Democrat; Clem L. Varner, Republican, Richard Steele, Prohibition, and James Deconna, Socialist, withdrew.

Recorder of Deeds: Clark Powell, Democrat; R. M. Mill Good, Republican.

Clayton Law, Prohibition, and J. Lawrence Luther, Socialist, withdrew.

County Commissioner: Frank P. Hollern and Eddie McCloskey, Democrat; John Thomas, Jr., Republican and Prohibition, and John Lloyd Jones, Republican.

James M. (Jimmy) Jones, Prohibition, and George C. Hoppel, Socialist, withdrew.

County Treasurer: John J. Haluska, Democrat; Emyln Jones, Republican.

John Haluska, Socialist and Thomas L. Kennedy, Prohibition, withdrew.

County Controller: Dennis L. Westrick, Democrat, Malcolm MacDougall, Republican and Prohibition.

Walter A. Stutzman, Socialist, withdrew.

Clerk of Courts: Joseph C. Wess, Democrat; William H. Heslop, Republican and Prohibition. John Yuchart, Socialist.

Coroner: Thomas E. West, Republican and Prohibition; Joseph Graff, Socialist. Frank Dorr, Democrat, withdrew.

**MONTHLY NOVENA AT CARMEL OF LORETTO**

On Sunday October 22, the usual monthly Novena in honor of St. Therese will begin in the Carmelite Chapel of Loretto, Pa., closing on October 30. Many favors have been reported since the Solemn Novena and devout Clients are making inquiries about the coming Novena, in order to render their tribute of thanks to the "Little Queen" for many gracious answers to prayer. The Carmelite Nuns wish to thank all who are interested in these novenas, end in particular the many friends who co-operated with them during the Solemn Novena, not forgetting the var-

ious Choirs who so generously gave their services. They wish to assure all of a generous share in their prayers and good works.

**DO YOU KNOW?**

The British Medical Journal announces that, owing to the war, there will be no annual meeting of the British Medical Association in 1940, which was to have been held in Birmingham. The child of today represents an increasingly smaller part of the population. There was a reduction of 1,300,000 in the number of school children in this country in 1938 as compared with 1930.

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