

Help Clerks and Yourself... Shop Early!

UNION PRESS-COURIER

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CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA AREA. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1939

101 South Fifth Ave. PATTON, PA.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.00 PER YEAR

Christmas Buying To Be Best in Many Years!

GAIN IN MACHINE LOADING OF COAL MAY AID OUTPUT

And Help Industry, But It Will Not Be Conductive to Securing More Work for Miners.

Machine loading of coal in bituminous mines is increasing rapidly, and may prove to be the salvation of the coal industry, according to a WPA research report, released the other day.

The report, issued in two large volumes, devotes much space to conditions of Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio and West Virginia.

It shows that mechanical loadings in mines account for only 7.3 per cent of the total soft coal output in 1929. By 1937 the percentage had risen to 20.3 per cent and in 1938 to about 25 per cent.

In another 10 years as much as half the country's soft coal output will be mechanically loaded, the report predicts. It admits that this will create many local unemployment problems but predicts that the more efficient methods should enable coal to regain some of its lost markets and good wages to about the same number of men now employed in the country's mines.

"If the cost of coal is reduced, new uses will be found, and former markets recovered, mechanical loading will result in the elimination of much of the backbreaking work of coal mining without exacting too great a price in terms of unemployment," declared Corvington Gill, assistant WPA commissioner in charge of research.

"Technical progress has been a factor in aiding coal to meet its competition, and efforts are now being made to improve conditions," Mr. Gill stated.

"No student of the coal industry, however, denies a revival of demand, and so will lend the industry to share any of the unemployed in other fields of labor. In fact, the most that can be hoped for is to maintain the present working force."

The report states that the soft coal industry employed 1,750,000 men in 1922. The low point of employment, 408,000, was reached in 1934. By 1937 employment was up to 492,000 men.

The great reduction in employment cannot be attributed to the increased use of machines, the report explains. It is partly due to the fact that many mines which were opened to meet war time demands, had to be closed in the middle 1930's and partly to compete by oil, gas and hydro-electric power.

Statistics on coal loaded by mechanical means show that Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio trail the rest of the country in this respect. While 20.3 per cent of the nation's soft coal production was loaded mechanically in 1937, only 11.7 per cent of the coal mined in this area was loaded by machine in the same year.

In 1938, however, only 6.5 per cent of the coal in the local field was mechanically loaded.

COUNTY DPA CUTS FORCES; FOUR QUIT, 10 ARE DISMISSED

The Cambria County Department of Public Assistance Board as it was expected to do, took steps to effect a drastic reduction in the relief staff at a special meeting last week. The board was cut by 14 persons—four resignations and 10 dismissals.

Of the 10 who were dismissed, 13 were working under provisional appointments and one as a probation appointee.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS CONDUCT CONFERENCE IN EBENSBURG HOME

The annual annual Catholic Daughters of America Conference was held on Sunday afternoon in the Knights of Columbus home at Ebensburg and was largely attended. Most Rev. Bishop Richard T. Gallagher, of Altoona, presided at the business meeting and gave the benediction at the dinner held in the evening.

BARBER SHOPS WILL REMAIN OPEN ALL DAY DEC. 25TH

Shops of the Christmas holiday, the Shavers Barber Shop, County Barber Shop, situated with the Barber's Union, which usually closes on Thursday afternoons, will remain open all day on Thursday, December 21, in the observance of the trade.

Patronize the advertisers whose ads appear in this Christmas number of the Press-Courier.

CAMBRIA JURY DOES NOT TAKE STAND ON HOME

For Juvenile Delinquents As Proposed to Them By Judge Greer Last Week.

The proposal of Judge Charles C. Greer that the county obtain a building for juvenile delinquents, met opposition on Friday afternoon before the grand jury from County Controller Henry L. Cannon and County Commissioner John Thomas Jr. The county officials declared that the suggestion was not practical. Judge Greer made the proposal to the grand jury when it convened on Monday of last week and Mr. Cannon and Mr. Thomas were called before the venire on Friday afternoon to give their views. Judge Greer had made the same suggestion to the September grand jury which took no action on the question.

Mr. Thomas asserted that if the county should construct a building such as proposed by Judge Greer it would require the expenditure of at least \$10,000. He pointed out that the state would have to give its approval to the plans and that the requirements would therefore be high. Mr. Cannon asserted that the question was not one for the grand jury to decide but should be left for the county officials. He also asserted that members of the court were not in accord as to the need of such an institution. The controller declared his belief that the situation regarding juvenile delinquents in the county did not require the expenditure of any funds for the construction of a building to house them.

The grand jury took no action on the matter. Their members of course, are to be discharged on Monday in due shape.

ASK COOPERATION

Of Patton High School Graduates of All the Years.

The Patton High School Alumni, which has been inactive for a number of years, recently reorganized. To make the organization a success, however, cooperation from more members is essential.

Members include all graduates and all who have completed two years in the high school. The listter must be beyond high school age. Faculty members, both former and present, automatically become members.

There are approximately 1200 graduates of the Patton high school, one of the oldest high schools in the county. Considering numbers, Patton should have one of the largest and most active alumni organizations in the vicinity.

Officers will be elected at the January meeting, the date of which will be announced in the next issue of the local newspaper. Watch for this announcement and attend the meeting. There are no dues.

ALUMNI TO DANCE

Patton Grads to Have Gala Affair at Brandon Dec. 26th

All folks who are graduates of the Patton high school are now of the Alumni. Whether you are actively affiliated with that body or not, you should by all means dance with your former school chums at the Brandon hotel in Spangler, on the evening of Tuesday, December 26th, from nine till one. It's the Patton Alumni Association's dance. Music will be furnished by Paul Ryan and his orchestra. Subscription, 50 cents. Tickets are on sale at the Patton Drug Company. Make this dance an annual affair by patronizing it this year.

TRUCKER IS KILLED, ANOTHER INJURED ON CRESSION MOUNTAIN

One man was killed and another critically injured when their heavy truck and trailer went out of control on CreSSION Mountain's grade and left the road on Monday night. Vera Mable, 21, of Massfield, Ohio, is dead, and Luther Owens, 26, was rushed to the Altoona hospital with a fractured skull and is in a critical condition. Mable was driving the truck at the time of the accident and Owens was sleeping in the truck compartment.

Patronize the advertisers whose ads appear in this Christmas number of the Press-Courier.

Merchants are Better Prepared than ever to handle Shoppers' Needs with utmost Satisfaction

Contained in This Twenty-four Page Holiday Edition Are the Advertisements of the Merchants Who Are Soliciting Your Business, and Give You Helpful Suggestions.

Payrolls in northern Cambria county are better this Christmas season than has been the case since 1929.

More money will be spent for holiday purchases during this next week and a half than has been the case in the past decade.

Miners, particularly, will buy more than they could afford during the past many Yuletide seasons.

And this spending will take place not only in northern Cambria county and in Johnstown and Altoona, but practically all over the nation, and prospects are that a brighter and merrier Christmas is just ahead for hundreds of thousands.

And there are so many things to shop for. And most all of them are reasonably priced.

With the express idea of making it convenient for both merchant and his customers, this issue of the Union

Press-Courier was published. We have been painstaking in soliciting advertising only from merchants who are known to be established and who are trustworthy and we believe that the reader who scans the advertisements in this holiday issue, can rest assured that all merchandise and values are as advertised—and that satisfaction in all purchases will result.

We ask you to patronize the advertisers who have taken space in the 24 pages of this paper. They are carrying their message to you through this medium because they feel we are doing right by them. You will find the values offered to be of the best for the money asked. Read the advertisements—perhaps they will serve as an index of the things you want. They will give you hundreds of suggestions for gifts. Really, at this season of the year, the advertising of progressive merchants is NEWS.

State Secretary Says Both Education and Legislation Are Factors in Matter.

State Secretary of Mines John Ira Thomas Monday night in an address at State College credited education and legislation for a sharp decline in Pennsylvania mine accidents and arrested mine mishaps were no longer excused as "natural occurrences."

Thomas told the Mineral Industrial Society at Penn State that bituminous fatalities have been reduced to 1.74 per million net tons in this state, as compared with 2.60 for the nation, and declared a study had shown that only 22.3 per cent of the mine fatalities in Pennsylvania were unavoidable.

"In the early days of mining, mine accidents were looked upon by those engaged in mining as a natural occurrence," he said in a prepared address.

He termed legislation requiring rock dusting as one of the greatest life savers in the \$200,000,000 industry in this state.

"During the 10 years preceding the passage of this law in 1929," he said, "513 lives were lost as a result of coal dust explosions in the bituminous mines of Pennsylvania. During the ten years following the passage of this act, 44 lives were lost in the same cause."

He praised the educational work of state and federal mine industry agencies and operators, some of whom, he said, "go beyond what is required by the mining law in the amount of safety education."

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THOMAS CITES ACCIDENT DROP IN MINE WORK

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HIBBS SELECTED HEAD OF CENSUS STAFF IN AREA

Cresson Attorney Will Head 27th District Activities in 1940 Head Counting.

Attorney W. Lloyd Hibbs, of Cresson, former district attorney and former Wolfman's Compensation Board referee, is one of several district and assistant district supervisors tentatively named in connection with the forthcoming census.

Attorney Hibbs will be supervisor for District 27, which includes Cambria, Indiana, Armstrong and Jefferson counties. His assistant will be Charles E. Britton of Apollo. The District 27 headquarters will be located in Johnstown it was announced.

A native of Thompsonstown, Juniata county, the newly appointed district census chief has resided in Cresson since 1905 and has served as a member of the school board there for 16 years. Attorney Hibbs received his early education in the Cresson schools and later was graduated from Dickinson college, Carlisle, with an M. A. degree. He also received his M. A. from the same college. He was graduated from the Dickinson law school in 1909.

Attorney Hibbs was admitted to practice in Cambria county courts and was affiliated for a time, until his disbarment with the law firm of Lamb and Hibbs. A lifetime Democrat, Mr. Hibbs was elected district attorney in 1921 and took office the following year. He was defeated for reelection in 1925.

The Cresson resident was appointed by Governor Earle as a State Referee's Commission member in 1928. Mr. Hibbs was elected to the position in 1931.

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PAGE THREE. Mertens Bakery, Patton. Wojcik Jewellers, Patton. American Shoes Company.

PAGE FOUR. Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co., Carlisle, Pa. Patton. Patton.

PAGE FIVE. Westrick Motor Co., Carlisle. Barnes Store Co., Altoona.

PAGE SIX. Davis Millinery, Patton. Huber's Hardware, Patton. Colver Shoe Company, Colver, Pa. A's Outlet Store, Patton.

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PAGE EIGHT. Grand Theatre, Patton, Pa.

PAGE NINE. Punszutekney Beef and Provision Company, Punszutek, Pa.

PAGE TEN. Boy Scouts of America. Joe's Cut Rate Store, Barnesboro. J. Edward Stevens, Carrolltown. Fannie C. Wetzel, Carrolltown.

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PAGE TWELVE. Penn Furniture Co., Johnstown. Altoona, Indiana, Somerset.

PAGE THIRTEEN. Seary Roebuck & Co., Johnstown and Indiana.

PAGE FOURTEEN. The Tug Shop, Barton C. Winslow, Patton.

PATTON BASKETBALL TEAM WILL PLAY A 16 GAME SCHEDULE

A sixteen-game basketball schedule has been announced for Patton High School. The date will be launched on December 21st against Lehigh township on the Mountaineer floor and will close on February 25th.

Patton will compete in Section II of the Cambria County league, meeting Carrolltown, Barnesboro and Hastings, the other clubs in the circuit, on a home and home basis. The Patton High School girls will play preliminary games with Barnesboro, Carrolltown, Hastings, and Hastings township. The schedule follows:

- Dec. 21—Hastings township, away.
Dec. 22—Carrolltown-Irona at home.
Jan. 17—Carrolltown away.
Jan. 18—Barnesboro away.
Jan. 19—Carrolltown-Irona away.
Jan. 20—Hastings at home.
Jan. 21—Hastings township at home.
Feb. 4—Hastings away.
Feb. 11—Barnesboro township away.
Feb. 12—Carrolltown at home.
Feb. 13—Carrolltown away.
Feb. 14—Portage at home.
Feb. 15—Barnesboro township at home.
2—Girls' preliminaries.

Tell advertisers you saw their ad in the Press-Courier.

PAGE FIFTEEN. Hoffman Ice Cream Company. Atlantic Refining Company. Eagle Printing Co., Barnesboro. Cowher Neurig & Co., Patton. Royal Samoyile, Altoona. Bender Electric Company, Carrolltown and Johnstown.

PAGE SIXTEEN. Bender Bros. Hardware Company, Altoona, Pa. Patton.

PAGE SEVENTEEN. The West Furniture Company, Altoona, Pa. Patton.

PAGE EIGHTEEN. Louis Lammberg, Jewelry Store, Barnesboro, Pa. Patton.

PAGE NINETEEN. McHenry's Five and Ten Cent Store. Wolf Furniture Store, Barnesboro, Pa. Patton.

PAGE TWENTY. Zanella's Dept. Store, Barnesboro, Pa. Patton.

PAGE TWENTY-ONE. Erndon Beauty Shop, Spangler. Bakerton Supply Co., Bakerton. Hoover's Service Station, North Spangler.

PAGE TWENTY-TWO. John R. Eady, Furniture, Spangler. Wolf Furniture Co., Barnesboro, Pa. Patton.

PAGE TWENTY-THREE. The New Katz Pharmacy, Barnesboro, Penna.

PAGE TWENTY-FOUR. Gilbert Hotel System. Pennylvania Edison Company. Westrick Motor Company, Patton. Binder Bros. Hardware Co., Barnesboro.

PAGE TWENTY-FIVE. Luxenberg's Clothing Store, Barnesboro.

PAGE TWENTY-SIX. Shurbaugh & Lieb Clothing Store, Barnesboro.

PAGE TWENTY-SEVEN. Solomon Electrical Co., Cresson, Pa. First National Bank at Patton.

HIGH WIND FELS LARGE "SHE" TREE

One of the few privately owned big trees in Cambria county was blown down last Thursday afternoon during a high windstorm in the vicinity of Vinton.

The tree, estimated by thousands of feet, and located on 2 1/2 acres of E. H. Kinsley, was a 90 foot hemlock. Fortunately the tree, located only 30 feet from the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Kinsley, fell away from the home.

More than one hundred pounds of honey had been stored in the tree by the bees. Mr. and Mrs. Kinsley were seated in the living room of their home at the time. Mr. Kinsley said that the large tree would have saved the roof of the home if it had fallen in that direction.

High winds whipped the Vinton district in more than an hour. Branches of trees were strewn over the highways in that vicinity.

Metropolitan Swiss Buck.

Patton, Pa.—Metropolitan Swiss Buck are on the lookout for the passing motorist who stole a ton pilot door while it was hanging at a Patton gasoline service station. The motorist, who later was reported seen in the vicinity of Altoona, was said to have taken the buck between 8:30 and 9:30 p. m.

Take part in the Christmas decorations contest in Patton. Read the Patton letter for details.

APPROXIMATE BILLING OF COUNTY BODY

The State Supreme Court upheld the contention of the Cambria County Commissioners in a ruling handed down last week.

In reversing a Cambria County Court opinion on an appeal by the commissioners in the case of Clearfield Bituminous Coal Corporation Assessments in the county the high court took the position that the commissioners had pursued the right course.

Under the act passed by the legislature in 1935 all surface lands suitable for growing of merchantable timber could be classified as auxiliary forest lands and taxed at the rate of \$1 per acre.

The Clearfield Bituminous Coal Corporation owned 400 acres of this type of land and applied to the Cambria County Commissioners to have the tax rate on it under the provisions of the 1935 act made \$1 per acre.

The land had been taxed at \$8 per acre. Attorney George H. Spangler, the county solicitor, advised the commissioners that he believed the act to be unconstitutional, asserting that it violated a constitutional provision in that it exempted certain classes of property and created improper classification for taxes.

Attorney Philip H. Schettig, representing the coal company, agreed that a friendly test case should be taken into court. Hearing was before President Judge John H. McCann, who upheld