

UNION PRESS-COURIER

Union Press, Established May, 1935.

Patton Courier, Established Oct., 1893.

VOL. 47. NO. 27.

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CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA AREA. THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1941

126 South Fifth Ave., PATTON, PA.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.00 PER YEAR

COAL PROBE THREAT BY TRUMAN UNLESS MINES OPEN FRIDAY

Northern Operators Have Granted Union Demands; Nation Awaits Southerners

Washington—Blunt notice was served Tuesday by Chairman Truman (D-Mo.) of a special Senate defense investigation committee, that if mining in the strike-bound soft coal mines is not resumed by Friday morning, his committee will call in all parties concerned to "find out why."

"Coal is the most important national defense bottleneck now and the committee has the power to find the reasons for any obstruction to national defense," Truman declared in a written statement. He added:

"If coal is not being taken from the ground by Friday morning, the committee will summon the representatives of all the operators and John L. Lewis and proceed to find why we can't have coal in this emergency."

His warning to the mine operators and the United Mine Workers of America was given after southern mine operators, upon the request of President Roosevelt, left Washington to resume negotiations with the U. M. W. in New York City.

Members of the southern mine operators' negotiating committee were understood to have told the President at their White House conference that under no condition would they agree to the southern operators sitting in of the resumed operations.

The northern operators already have granted the union's demand for a wage increase from \$6 to \$7 a day. The southerners are holding out for a differential in pay in their favor. Because of the economic emergency, the southerners offered to pay a basic \$6.50 per day, and they have offered to go up to \$6.75.

Despite the fact that the southern operators' negotiators with the union were still in New York City, the President has said he would suspend a suspension of operations in New York City.

Dr. John R. Bealman, chief labor department negotiator, returned with the group, before leaving, I. E. Gaines, chairman of the southern operators conference said.

"The President has asked that all parties act quickly to effect quick resumption of mining so that vital defense industries will not be further handicapped."

"We have that our trip will permit us and our employees to fulfil our obligations as Americans to the Nation and to the defense program."

New York—Southern soft coal operators who returned to New York at President Roosevelt's insistence to resume discussions with representatives of the U. M. W., conferred with the union leaders only two hours Tuesday night and then adjourned until Wednesday afternoon without reaching an agreement to end the deadlock.

Neither John L. Lewis, United Mine Workers President, nor L. Eberole, Gaines, spokesman for the southern group, had any comment.

NAMES LISTED FOR ARMY INDUCTION ON APRIL 28

The following names have been posted by Cardiac Board No. 1 for induction into the Army under the Selective Service Act on Saturday, April 28:

Joseph Bannell, Lily R. D., volunteer; Joseph Bannell, Robert Cressent, transferred from Fargo Creek Road; Len Brown, Adairville, transferred from New York Road; Franck Buck, Leona R. D.; Nicholas Lapalack, Cressent; Lester J. Long, Lily; Charles Gillella, Lily; Miles Mack, Patience Howard Glass, Cressent; and Hiram Frank Frantz, 997 Russell Ave., Patton.

Board No. 1 will send Albert Lewis, Patton, a volunteer, along with the April 28 contingent as a replacement for the one man released in last week's list.

Cardiac Board No. 2, with headquarters at Newburg, issued the following notices for induction this Saturday:

Joseph Robert Griffin, Spangler, volunteer; Richard Gordon McDevitt, St. Benedict; Paul Anthony Dorsey, Jr., Remondine; Melvin David Felton, Cressent; Roger Allen Helms, Spangler; John Joseph Turk, Spangler; Walter John Crowley, Remondine; Frank John McKim, Cressent; and Robert Eugene Hertz, Spangler.

Cardiac Board No. 1 has announced the following notices for induction on Saturday May 3:

Our Advertising Manager Is Advertising Now!

Our advertising manager and Mrs. Frank P. Cammarata proudly announce the arrival of twin girls at their home in Patton on Tuesday, April 22, named Catherine Emma and Frances Carmola. Mrs. Cammarata is the former Catherine Smarsh of Spangler and formerly was owner of the Brandon Beauty Shop at Spangler.

Dr. A. W. Fees of Spangler took care of things nicely.

Both mother and children are doing well, but poor pop is still suffering from the shock.

STATE COMPENSATION COLOSSAL CONSPIRACY IS CLAIM OF SENATOR

Shapiro Points Out That State Is Now in Twenty-Ninth Place, Tumbling from Second.

Workmen's Compensation in Pennsylvania has developed into a colossal conspiracy, Senator Harry Shapiro, Philadelphia Democrat and Minority Floor Leader, told the Senate recently. Speaking from a manuscript studied with detailed statistics of earnings, premiums, and other insurance data, the Philadelphia placed the blame for the high cost of compensation in Pennsylvania squarely on the shoulders of a few private insurance companies and demonstrated that by providing adequate state control over compensation rates it might be operated at far lower cost to employers and much larger benefits to employees.

Shapiro pointed out how the Democratic party raised Pennsylvania from its disgraceful position of 27 in the ranks of states paying compensation to second place, and how, after Republicans had shouted that the Democratic measure was stifling business, the James administration dropped Pennsylvania to 29th.

Admitting that the Democratic Administration had passed laws which had resulted in a suspension of operations in New York City, he contended that the result springs from greed for profit by selfish insurance companies and from the failure of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to take the drastic action necessary to end this profiteering.

Tracing the history of compensation in the state, the Senator demonstrated how a great social program was twisted into a medium for tremendous private profit. The device used was the permitting of private companies to engage in the business and the placing of the rate fixing power in the hands of a committee dominated by the private insurance company Rating Bureau.

"Since 1921," he continued, "the State Workmen's Insurance Fund has been under the heel of the Rating Bureau. It has been compelled to maintain its premium rates at the same level as private insurance carriers even though it could safely adopt a very substantial lower rate for the same risks."

As a result of the exorbitant rates the companies engaged in compensation insurance have made enormous profits and have paid out of every dollar of premiums collected only fifty cents to injured employees. The rest has gone to expenses and profit.

"These industrial companies," he declared, "have been robbed of the money which rightfully belong to and was meant for them—robbed by the excessive administrative expenses and profits of these private companies who are in a business in which an economic or social principle they have no right to be engaged. And I charge further that these companies have victimized not only the employees, but the employers as well. . . . The employer has the right in exact that his employees, when injured, are being compensated."

"It was never intended by the Act and no employer ever believed that the insurance company was to become an equal partner in compensation for injuries to workmen."

Senator Shapiro has introduced legislation which will make compensation compulsory and the State Fund the only carrier; abolish self-insurance as unnecessary; after the first step is taken; provide for continued investigation by the State Government; Commission of the State Fund management with recommendations from the Commission for additional legislation in 1941.

Sunset Ballroom to Feature Leo Robbins Saturday Night

Leo Robbins and his Orchestra will play at Sunset this Saturday evening for the weekly Saturday night dance. Dances are being held in the newly decorated Sunset Ballroom every Saturday night during the summer. Bands on duty will be featured. Come! Your tickets will be there.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO SURFACE THREE HUNDRED MILES ROADS

On Rural Highways Where Only the Bases Have Been Placed During the Year.

The state department of highways has announced that it is planning to place bituminous surfaces on more than 300 miles of rural highway where only bases had been previously constructed. Many of the sections to be improved by the department this season were put in use before January, 1939.

The department has set aside \$600,000 of its maintenance funds to place bituminous surfaces on these roads. Studies made by department engineers show that the traffic using these road sections justifies further improvement by placing surfaces on them.

Maintenance costs were becoming heavier, the engineers say, and in addition the volume of traffic using the roads was heavy enough to warrant placing surfaces on the roads. All but a few of the sections of stone base road on which bituminous surfaces will be placed during the present season, carry from 100 to 350 vehicles a day.

There are approximately 1900 miles of road on the system improved only with a stone base. Why these roads were improved no provision was made for placing a bituminous surface on them. The 330 miles to be surfaced this year are those that have a base of six inches or more in depth.

Engineers in the field are working with the placing of surfacing on the early date. Anticipations for the surfacing of these 330 miles are in the course of preparation. It is expected that some of the work will be started within the next month or two weeks. The work will be done by the Department forces.

Persons living along these roads will have a much improved surface for some time, officials added. With the placing of surfacing on the 330 miles it is expected that traffic will increase still more.

PATTON HIGH SCHOOL WILL HOLD PLAY ON TUESDAY EVENING

'What a Life' to be Presented by Senior Class Members at Grand Theatre

'What a Life,' the Senior Class play annually put on by the Seniors of the Patton High School, will be presented Tuesday, April 23, at the Grand Theatre in Patton. The performance is scheduled promptly for 8 p. m.

Indications are that the play will be a great success. This year, as in the past, the seniors will do credit to their school.

The story takes place in the principal's office in Central High School during the month of April. The cast follows:

Miss Shea, Arlene Williamson; Mr. Nelson, Richard Overberger; Mr. Patterson, Basil Cady; Miss Pils, Betty Weiskind; Bill, Tommy Whitliver; Miss Eggleston, Rita Bender; Miss Johnson, Martha Goyan; Mr. Vechnin, Robert Albright; Harry Aldrich, Robert Overberger; Esters Pearson, Rita Peterson; Gerrie, Jane Lundquist; Mr. Bradley, George Turjak; Miss Miller, Stephanie Comitz; George Rigola, Patrick Gill; Mrs. Aldrich, Helen Turjak; El Ferguson, Harry Cassler, and Mary, Mary Jones.

Supporters are: June Solomon, George Davis, Harry Crowl, Eleanor Campbell, Gerald Dietrich, Barbara Weiskind, Ann Smith, Edwin Woemer, William Barnick, June Rhee, Margaret Sharburgh, James Bailey, Joan Pinski, Joseph Halucha, Thelma Kirk, Joseph Kelly, and Rita O'Donoghue.

A military drill will be given by Mary Deuser, Eva Shoshan, Martha Goyan, Vera Buck, Rita Peterson, Lucy Riner, Jeanette Courad and Betty Weiskind.

O'Connor Bill is Passed by House

Harrisburg—The House on Tuesday night approved a bill requiring borough councils to give policemen reasons for dismissals or salary reductions.

The bill was introduced by Representative Albert L. O'Connor and was sent to the Senate. It would establish a board of review to air complaints.

PATTON EAGLES TO HOLD A NUMBER OF INTERESTING FETES

Class Initiation, Banquet, Mothers' Day Services, Are on the Schedule Shortly.

Patton Aerie No. 1264, Fraternal Order of Eagles in observance of the completion of their newly remodeled home, will hold a number of interesting lodge fetes in the near future. For the past several months work has been in progress on the Eagle quarters. The most beautiful home in the state. A special room has been equipped in the home to cater to members and their ladies. The entire club rooms have been reconditioned. The official opening will be held on Wednesday, April 24th, with a banquet and dance. The banquet will be from 5:30 to 8:00 p. m. Dancing from 9 to 1. A floor show will be given at 10:30.

The banquet committee, who promise to make this event the best ever, is composed of Edward Jenkins, chairman; L. C. Smale, John Hudak, William Whiteford, Sr., Joseph Pavia, John J. Bender, and Mark Brown. Ladies will be guests of the members at this event.

On Sunday afternoon, May 6th, at 2:30 p. m. the Eagles will have a class initiation in the Aerie Home. The Initiatory Ceremony will be charge of the Patton Aerie Degree Team. There will be lunch and entertainment after the meeting. The affair in the afternoon and until 7:30 in the evening will be strictly stag.

On Sunday afternoon, May 12th, at 2:30 p. m., the annual Mothers' Day Services sponsored by the Patton Aerie will be held at the Aerie Home. This affair is open to the general public, an appropriate program will be afforded and all are invited. Details will be given in a later issue.

Officers of the Patton Aerie are as follows: Junior Post Worthy President, Ralph A. Litinger; Worthy President, George Manera; Worthy Vice President, John J. Bender; Worthy Secretary, Charles E. Green; Secretary, Harry C. Kufner; Treasurer, Albert Wilburn; Post Guard, Chester Bender; Outside Guard, Harry Dunn; and Trustees: G. A. Lehman, Edw. Jenkins, and Albert Thomas.

MINERS MEET ON SUNDAY IN INTEREST OF HOSPITAL NEEDS

Two Delegates Will Represent Each Local Union Paying into Uplink Fund

Joseph Jones, of St. Benedict, secretary of the Miners Board of the Sprague hospital, has sent out notices to each local union paying into the fund, the following:

St. Benedict, Pa. April 14, 1941. Greetings: Dear Bros:

There will be a general meeting of Local Unions paying to the Miners Hospital of Northern Cambria, on Sunday, April 27th, 1941, at 2 o'clock P. M.

The discussion of your hospital and the best interest of our members will be in order. For instance: Training schools for nurses, apprentices for the miners, and developments and extensions.

Each local union will be allowed two delegates. There will be discussion of representation and of retiring board members, of which two are to be elected. The retiring board members are Charles Cowan and Bernard Collins. These two are eligible for reelection. The best way that your local union is represented. This is your hospital. Thanking you, I am, yours sincerely, Joseph Jones, Secretary.

DISTRICT MINES ARE READY TO OPERATE

All that is needed for thousands of miners in Cambria and surrounding coal fields to resume work is the "go" from New York, where wage and hour negotiations have been under way for more than a month.

Word from numerous coal mining communities is that the operators and miners alike were "at" for resumption of operations upon receipt of word from the U. S. W. officials.

At such time as the miners receive the "go" since March 21, they will find underground workings generally in shape then. In the time the shutdown was ordered, in addition to regular maintenance crews, keeping the mines free from water many operators back to work in the last few days of the month to make needed repairs. A number of these mines were ready for a "full and ahead" schedule when the "work resumes."

Retired Railroaders to Be Guests at Banquet

President Judge John H. McCann and F. W. Swoope, general superintendent of the Pittsburgh Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, will be principal speakers at the annual banquet in honor of retired employees of the P. R. R. Cresson Branch.

Howard Mellon, trainmaster of the Cresson Branch, will be the toastmaster for the affair. Honored guests will include all retired former employees of the division. During the past year 25 Cresson Branch workers were added to the list.

FORMAL OPENING OF NEW MOOSE HOME IN PATTON ON SUNDAY

Entertainment for Members and Ladies and Initiation Will Feature Program

Members of Patton Lodge No. 488, Loyal Order of Moose, and in fact the citizens of Patton in general, can well feel proud of the fine new brick home now completed by the Lodge on Lang Avenue. Work was started last fall by Hildebrand Bros. of Tyrone and continued throughout the winter.

The present building, which has housed the Patton Moose for the past many years, for the present will also be utilized as part of a similar unit on the site of the present home at some future time.

With the new addition, the Moose will be afforded an excellent social and community space, and will have adequate facilities for the expansion of their social activities as well as for community activities from time to time. The grand opening of the new building will be held on Sunday, April 27, starting at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and continuing throughout the evening. Invited to attend this affair are members of the local Moose lodge and their ladies, as well as members of Association and other local organizations at Central Patton.

As a special feature of the opening a class of candidates will be initiated into the order at 4 p. m. with a program interspersed with floor show entertainment. Dancing will be on the cards in the evening. A free luncheon will be afforded at 6 o'clock.

Officers of the Patton Lodge No. 488 are as follows: Tedford C. Gill, Governor; Louis Szymanski, Vice Governor; Harry J. Zern, Secretary; R. Peter Short, Treasurer; Fred Kahnsley, President; Arthur Jenkins, Howard Murray, and George Woerner.

The Building Committee was composed of: John Allen Murray, Knute Peterson, W. Earl Sharrbaugh, and all the above officers of the lodge.

The Patton Lodge was organized in 1911. Quite a number of the charter members are still living. During the past year the membership of the local lodge has grown by leaps and bounds, and the lodge has been outstanding in community affairs.

Cambria County Industrial League to Open on May 10

Drawing up of the constitution, setting the opening date and laying rough outlines for the schedule practically completed plans for the start of the Cambria County Industrial League at a meeting held Sunday afternoon at the Miners Hall in Moscow.

All seven towns were represented at the session and set the opening for Saturday, May 10. Delegates from Spangler and Bickerton were among those present and gave reports that their towns are practically sure of staying in the circuit.

It was determined that each town will play a total of 30 games to be divided into a split season. The loop also adopted an official ball, choosing the Union White.

In addition to Spangler and Bickerton, other towns represented were Marquette-Glen, Colver, Bevoce, Cardiff and Moscow.

Secretary Zannuchi announced that the schedule will be ready by the time the final organization meeting is held Wednesday, April 26, in the Union Hall at Bevoce.

Northern Cambria Hearing Postponed

The Bituminous Coal Division Friday postponed the Northern Cambria Bituminous Coal Producers Association, Spangler, and the U. S. W. A., seeking revision of minimum prices for coal shipped by truck into the Northern Cambria area of Cambria, Indiana and Chester Counties.

FIFTY-YEAR BAN IS GIVEN TO OUSTED JAMESTOWN HEADS

Hess, Novotny, Mrosok to Face Criminal Charges; \$2,267 Reported Missing

Three deposed officials of Jamestown Local 1318, United Mine Workers of America, were barred from union mines virtually for life by a vote of the local membership Saturday night. Auditors reported to the union that \$2,267.56 in union funds is missing.

After receiving a sealed verdict of guilty, found by a union jury which tried the trio Saturday, the membership unanimously voted to suspend each of the three men for 50 years. In addition, criminal charges were preferred against the men who must now face commonwealth action.

Those suspended were James Hess, Albert Novotny and John Mrosok, the former president, treasurer and financial secretary, respectively. Hess, already under \$2,000 bond on a charge of altering records and embezzlement, subsequently posted additional \$1,000 bond and awaited hearing before Justice of the Peace Walter Burkelt on a charge of conspiracy. Conspiracy and fraudulent conversion charges were also filed against Novotny and Mrosok, who also waived their bond. Mrosok posted bond immediately, but Novotny was lodged in the Cambria County jail until early Sunday, when he managed to obtain bail.

William Richardson, who succeeded Hess as president of the local, said that action Saturday night, unless reversed by district or international officers, will bar the men from membership in any U. M. W. local for 50 years. Most coal mines operate under a "closed shop" agreement with the operators.

Approximately half of the local's 1,100 members attended the meeting at which the suspension vote was taken. None of the three accused of shortages was at the session.

Mrosok alone had appeared at the trial held Saturday morning and afternoon in Federal court. He pleaded not guilty to the charges. The prosecution said he had been uncooperative with the duties of his office and charged that Hess and Novotny took advantage of him. Mrosok was appointed financial secretary last July, following the Sennett Shipe explosion in which 62 men lost their lives, including the former financial secretary, John N. Bliski.

The auditors failed to find any shortages in the relief funds turned over to the Jamestown local following the Sennett disaster. Mrosok, because he appeared at the union trial is entitled to carry his appeal to the higher authorities who have the power to overrule the union's decision.

Some were taken, according to the auditors, from the check book, the death benefit and general funds. The shortages were first disclosed March 4 after a preliminary investigation by several union members, acting independently, had disclosed that the union accounts did not agree with the company payment records.

Union officials said that Novotny was bonded for \$1,000 and Mrosok for \$500, although Hess was not under a bond. It was expected that the union will seek payment from the bonding company for the missing funds.

ONE HUNDRED FIREMEN ATTEND PATTON DINNER

More than 100 members of the Patton Volunteer Fire Company and their guests Wednesday night at last week attended the company's 50th annual banquet held in the Firemen's Hall. Members of the Ladies Auxiliary prepared and served the dinner.

Speakers included Mayor John A. Conroy and Fire Chief John Al. Mason of Johnstown, and Attorney Neal Somerville, a charter member of the company who reviewed the highlights of the organization.

The invocation was offered by Rev. J. Henry Thorchman, pastor of the Patton Presbyterian Church. Elmer Crowell, secretary of the Fire Company was in charge of the program.

The oldest fireman present was J. B. Blane, now past 80 years of age. He helped organize the company and signed the charter, as did a number of the past presidents.

MINING INSPECTOR RATING IS FIXED

Washington—Senate and House outlaws Tuesday on continuation of Federal mine inspectors who would annually visit every coal mine in the United States under pending legislation.

The agreement requires that inspectors should have a least five years of practical experience in mining. The inspection bill has been passed by both houses, and approval of the contract's agreement on qualifications would send the measure to President Roosevelt for approval.