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CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA AREA. THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1941

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FIRST AID TRAINING BY BUREAU OF MINES GIVEN TO LOCAL MEN

Tenth District Miners Finish the Course; Safety Car Located at Ebensburg.

Approximately 1,600 coal miners in the tenth bituminous district have completed instruction in first aid under the supervision of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. This is Bill Lamont's district, with headquarters at Ebensburg.

The first aid training is furnished by the mining bureau at the request of the inspector of a district, the bureau taking in a district at a time. Safety Car No. 8 of the Bureau is now stationed at Ebensburg where it is expected to remain for another month or two. Assigned to the car are H. B. Lindeman and E. L. Christensen who have been supervising the training of the miners.

The method of instruction in the first aid classes is in select men of experience at each mine where classes are formed. These key men are given thirty hours' supervisory instruction and are then given a class to instruct. The miner taking the course is required to take 15 hours of satisfactory training. Following his satisfactory training, he is given a certificate and a pocket card. In addition to first aid training methods of barricading and discussions of explosions are reviewed by the miners.

Although the taking of the course is voluntary on the part of the miner, a large number of men have taken advantage of the bureau's instruction. Coal companies have cooperated with the Bureau in urging mine employees to enroll in the classes. Compulsory first aid training is required of miners in the coal fields of West Virginia and Indiana.

Formation of mine rescue teams at the various mines of the district is now being completed by the Bureau. The Bureau also collects samples of air and analyzes the gas and dust content.

Safety Car No. 8 is fully equipped for mine disaster work as well as for its primary function as a training station. One of the cars at present are being used by the mine bureau. The car is outfitted with comfortable living and sleeping quarters for a full rescue oxygen apparatus is carried by the car together with a number of safety lamps which are kept charged.

Should the car be in the vicinity of a mine disaster, Mr. Lindeman pointed out, the car or equipment could be taken to the mine to aid in effecting a rescue of entrapped men. This was the primary purpose of the outfitting of a number of such cars by the department. The accessibility of the mines in those days due to conditions of the railroad. When an explosion or disaster occurred in a mine, one of the bureau's cars was dispatched to the scene.

Interested visitors are welcome to inspect the car and its equipment.

Twenty Two Graduates from College Have Commencement

The graduation class of St. Francis college is composed of 22 members. The commencement exercises were held on Monday morning last in Doyle Memorial Gymnasium.

Those receiving diplomas were as follows: George Lantz, Crescon; Donald Shuebach, Carrolltown; Frank A. Blah, Jr., Ebensburg; Frank McEwen, Pittsburgh; Edward McCasville, Crescon; Michael Fowanda, Gilberton; Joseph Dominick, Scranton; Harry Falty, Duquesneville; Wilfred Brandt, Altoona; Joseph Westrick, Patton; Patrick Lintaght, Pittsburgh; George Levickish, McKeesport; John Lantry, of Spangler; Bernard O'Malley, Philadelphia; James Kirkpatrick, Altoona; Wm. Lantry, Altoona; Milan Gjerich, Conemaugh; Michael Mico, Barnesboro; Thomas Bishop, Crescon; John Vudra, Conemaugh and Norman Donora, Ebensburg.

Silver Dollars Used at Indiana to Meet Payroll

Officials of the McCreezy Tire and Rubber Company of Indiana released 6,130 silver dollars this week to meet the regular bi-monthly payroll at the Indiana plant. The "warwehels" were received from the Federal Reserve Bank in Pittsburgh and weighed 512 pounds.

Until the pay of the McCreezy firm was released it was estimated that there were less than 100 silver dollars in circulation in Indiana. By releasing the pay of its employees in silver the company and its employees will have an opportunity to determine what the steel industry means to the community, the firm pointed out.

Local Draft Boards to Conduct Second Registration Shortly

Local draft boards have been charged with the duty of conducting registration on July 1, when young men who have become 21 since October 16 will take their places in the nation's draft pool.

Governor Arthur H. James, on instruction from Brig. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, national deputy draft director, ordered boards to begin arrangements to handle the registration, which is expected to add between 80,000 and 70,000 men to Pennsylvania's pool. No outside help in this registration is anticipated.

LABOR SHORTAGE HANDICAPS WPA WORK ON ROADS

Almost Thirty Thousand More Men Could Be Employed by Commonwealth

Harrisburg—Inability to obtain sufficient manpower is handicapping the Department of Highways in the WPA program it is sponsoring.

The Department, the largest single employer of the WPA labor in this Commonwealth, could use more than 29,000 men above the total now employed.

The latest report compiled shows there were 20,907 men at work on 821 WPA projects sponsored by the Department of Highways. These projects employ 9,579 additional WPA laborers.

In addition the Department had 281 projects that cannot be started for the lack of men. According to Department estimates these 281 jobs could give employment for 9,464 others.

There are 123 projects delayed estimated to provide work for 3,266 persons on the Department sponsored WPA program and 194 projects pending approval. These pending approval would give work to 7,251 persons.

Reports received at Harrisburg from the Department of Highways indicate that the WPA recently has been notified of new assignments. On May 1, 1941, there were 28,961 male persons certified by the Department of Public Assistance as being available for assignment. For the week ending May 14, the number available for assignment by WPA had increased to 34,620 men.

The number of men being employed on jobs of the Department's sponsored WPA program has been dropping steadily for the past few months. At the week ending April 2, six weeks later the number employed dropped to 21,186 persons.

Many of the jobs were planned to operate with two shifts of WPA labor to expediate the work. However, the WPA has not supplied the manpower and these jobs are being worked with only one shift.

Scout Council Ready to Open Drive for '41 Funds

More than 300 workers of the Admiral Robert E. Peary Council of the Boy Scouts of America are engaged in planning the opening "gun" for the 1941 Budget Campaign which is scheduled to open on June 8 at 6 o'clock.

Elwood Burgess, general campaign chairman, for the 1941 campaign announced that members of his steering committee have assured him they believe this campaign would be the most successful to date. He further commented that there is no time in the history of our country like the present for the training of boys in the essentials of character and citizenship.

One member of the steering committee is John Foreman, general superintendent of the Sterling Coal Co., Barnesboro.

A goal of \$8,000 for this campaign has been set.

Seeking Applicants for Civil Service Positions

The U. S. Civil Service Commission has announced that there is an urgent need for men to fill the positions of Inspector, Engineering Materials and Inspector, Ship Construction in the Navy Department. Salaries for these positions range from \$1800 a year to \$2800 a year.

Applications may be filed until further notice with the Manager, Third U. S. Civil Service District, Customhouse, Philadelphia, Pa. Copies of the announcements and application forms may be obtained from the Secy. of U. S. Civil Service Examination, at first and second class postoffices.

COAL CONTRACTS NOT COMPLETED BECAUSE OF SOUTHERN FIELDS

Southern Operators Still Will Not Agree to Pay Same Wages As Miner Gets in the North

Attempts to negotiate a contract between operator and miner on the part of the Defense Mediation Board have been stymied by southern operators' district officials report. Although no word of the conference proceedings are received by Miners' Union Locals, district officials said some of the details of the negotiations filter back through the scale committee and district officers who are in attendance at the hearings.

Charges that the southern operators, opposed to eliminating the forty cent differential, were holding up the proceedings were made by union officials. Taking advantage of President Roosevelt's plea for a "work stoppage", the southern bloc has maintained a status quo in the deliberations, content to continue operating under the present temporary contract which includes the forty cent differential favoring them.

Officials also stated that demands have been made by John L. Lewis that the mediation board release the case. It is claimed that the mediation board calls the two parties together for a conference, and on the day following the day, then adjourns until the following day, when the same proceeding is again carried out. All this is done to keep the two bodies in a conference, it is said.

Following the completion of the Appalachian agreement, district union officers and operators will be called together for a conference during which a contract embodying specific terms relative to working conditions in this district will be negotiated.

Certain terms and proposals aside from those stipulated in the Appalachian contract will be presented to the operators' consideration at this conference, it was stated by union officials, who desired to withhold approval of the contract until the conference is held. He said one has not yet received the contract for the work on the contract for the union but it is expected that the contract will be held in either Altoona or Philadelphia.

Ebensburg Board Names Selectees for Call in June

Cambria County Draft Board No. 2 with headquarters at Ebensburg, has included in its draft call for induction into the army on Friday of this week, June 6th, the following from the monthly register:

- Rex Charlton; Barnesboro; Edward Hicke; Barnesboro; Michael Secours; Spangler; Julius Francis Klawick; Barnesboro; Mike Victor Pavlik; Barnesboro; William Joseph Stubo, Carrolltown; Ulrich Deza Lumar; Barnesboro; Raymond Leroy Spangler; Spangler; Charles Albert Bescham; Barnesboro; John Gormish; Barnesboro; Bernard F. Kerchish; Carrolltown; Donald Patrick Illig; Bradley Junction; Flori Fallone; Spangler; Robert Musser Kerr; Barnesboro; John Joseph Shuter; Spangler; John Joseph Eneigh; Anthony Giraulo; Ebensburg; Albert Gus Yescavage; Barnesboro; Louis Caccicame; Barnesboro; Thomas Morrell Kleg; Barnesboro; Thomas Emerick; St. Benedict; Michael Bosky; Colver; Harry Curtis; Barnesboro; Joseph Franko; Barnesboro; R. D. L. Kenneth Merle Fyock; Barnesboro; Anthony Homersky; Marteller; Mike George Janosko; Eneigh; Bosco Peter Previte; Barnesboro; James Lee Startsch; Barnesboro; Paul Anthony McCoy; Barnesboro; John Louis Fabian; Barnesboro; Paul Francis Bacha; Barnesboro; Samuel Richard Loboda; Spangler; Thomas Arthur Smith; Barnesboro; Louis Solosky; Barnesboro; Maria Knarvova, Jr.; Berwick; John Joseph Yurochka; Spangler; Mike James Alessi; Barnesboro; and Joe Magyar; Colver.

'Purge' of County Vote List Launched by Commissioners

Clerks in the office of the county commissioners at Ebensburg, have started the annual job of "purging" the list of more than 91,000 names appearing on the voters' registration books.

The names of persons who have not voted in the last two years face the "purge" unless the commissioners receive notice of reinstatement. Approximately 9,000 cards have been sent out to registered electors who did not make a trip to the polls during the last two years. Unless voters return for reinstatement notice to the commissioners within ten days, it was announced, names will be removed from the permanent registration lists.

County commissioners expect that the "purge" will reduce the total of 1941 qualified voters by more than 6,000, including the names of many persons who have died in the last two years or have moved out of the county.

NEW DRAFT INDUCTION PLAN GIVES MEN MORE TIME FOR ADJUSTMENT

Local Boards Receive Instruction from State Headquarters on Why and Wherefore

The following communication was distributed last Thursday to the 422 Local Boards in the Selective Service System of Pennsylvania:

"One of the principal purposes of the new induction plan being tested in Pennsylvania is to give the selectee a 'breathing spell' at home between the time he is approved for general military service by the U. S. Army and his actual induction."

"Heretofore the local boards have released to the newspapers the names, addresses, ages and occupations of the men ordered to report to induction stations."

"We suggest that the local boards, under the new plan, hold to the principles of this old and proven plan. In other words, do not release the names of men sent to Army Examination Stations to attend physical examinations, but release their names, addresses, ages and occupations after they have been approved for general military service at the Army Examination Stations."

"The Army Examination Stations are not making public the names of the men approved. The Reception Centers will make public names of the men actually inducted."

South Fork Girl and George Davis of Patton Will Receive \$300 Scholarships at Pitt

A Patton boy and a South Fork girl are the winners of \$300 scholarships at the University of Pittsburgh, as the result of their top-ranking grades in the 10th annual academic contest sponsored last month by Junior Pitt.

Announcement of the two winners was made Monday by Vitis Adair, administrative head of the Junior College.

The scholarships were won by Lois Mansfield, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Mansfield, South Fork, and George T. Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Davis, 307 Beach Avenue, Patton.

Twenty-six pupils from 14 district schools competed in the examination held May 19 in the high school building and the papers were graded at the University of Pittsburgh.

The scholarships pay \$150 toward each year's tuition at the Johnstown Pitt Center, approximately one-half of the total amount of tuition expense. The scholarships are renewed each semester for two years providing their winners maintain the required scholastic average.

Davis is a graduate of Patton High School and Miss Mansfield was graduated from South Fork High School.

A. F. I. Affiliation Rejected by I. T. U. Indianapolis

The International Typographical Union has defied a proposal to return to the American Federation of Labor, Secretary-Treasurer Woodruff Randolph announced on Tuesday.

Bakerton One-Day Mine Strike Ends

A one-day strike at the Bakerton mine of the Sterling Coal Company ended Tuesday morning when approximately 500 men returned to their jobs in the pit.

The strike was called Saturday by the Bakerton Local of the United Mine Workers for what was described as a misinterpretation of the yardage rule.

The union and the company differences were "ironed out" at a U. M. W. meeting Monday night in Bakerton and the men voted to return to work on Tuesday morning.

DISTRICT HEARING IN CASE OF ACCUSED JAMESTOWN OFFICIAL

Conducted Last Week by Board Members Lewis Evans and William Parks

The appeal of John Mrozek, black-balled Sonman worker, to District No. 2 was heard at the Jamestown Union Hall on Wednesday evening of last week. Conducting the hearing were Lewis Evans of Colver and William Parks of Scalp Level, district organizers. The two district officials heard testimony presented by Mrozek and members of the Jamestown Local No. 1218. Following a conference to deliberate the evidence presented at the district hearing, a decision will be rendered. Mr. Evans stated, and further added that he expected the verdict to be announced in the near future. Mrozek maintained his plea of innocence at the hearing, it was reported, asserting his inexperience in the office of financial secretary led James Hess and Albert Novotny, deposed president and treasurer, respectively, to take advantage of him.

Pending the verdict handed down by the district Mrozek has continued in his job as car-washer at the bottom of the Sonman shaft. Should the district maintain the decision reached by the Sonman local at a recent election, Mrozek will be banished from the mine.

Following the implication of the three union officials as an endorsement of the charges, they were notified to appear for a "trial" before a jury selected from the local membership. The failure of Hess and Novotny to put in an appearance forfeited their right to a district appeal. Mrozek by appearing on the witness stand and presenting his case, although "found guilty by the union jury" had the right to appeal to the district.

All three will appear before the grand jury this week in Ebensburg. Jamestown officials have received a summons to appear before the court, they announced. Novotny, who had asserted when placed under bond that he would go before a judge as quickly as possible to plead guilty, has now changed his plea to "not guilty." It was revealed by union officials.

Coal Price Change Petition Dismissed

The Bituminous Coal Division announced that it has dismissed proceedings instituted by the Northern Cambria Bituminous Coal Producers' Association of Spangler and the United Mine Workers of America to revise minimum prices for coal shipped by truck into Cambria, Indiana and Clearfield Counties in Pennsylvania.

The dismissal was requested by the petitioners.

New Island now has an air three cent charge for loads between the ages of 194 and 18.

CRICHTON ASSERTS THE COAL RESERVES ARE OVERESTIMATED

Johnstown Man Tells Geology Conference Supply May Last But Hundred Years

Coal reserves in the United States are vastly overestimated, Andrew B. Crichton, Johnstown mining engineer and geologist, asserted in a speech on Friday night before the eleventh annual field conference of Pennsylvania Geologists.

Denying the accuracy of present federal estimates, Mr. Crichton told the geologists that in his opinion America's coal reserves may be exhausted within 100 years at the present rate of consumption. Most recent tabulation by the United States Geological Survey indicates that sufficient coal remains underground to fulfill all demands for the next three hundred or more years providing future drains on the supply do not exceed the present rate of mining.

Mr. Crichton's talk, delivered at a banquet at the Fort Stanwix Hotel, highlighted the opening session of the conference at which approximately 70 geologists and engineers from Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, Virginia, and Maryland attended.

Beating his estimates on a thorough survey which he completed in the past two years, Mr. Crichton contended a complete new re-evaluation of all coal lands in the nation is essential in order that accurate information be made available as to the quantity of coal in reserve for future generations.

He pointed out that the latest federal survey, made about ten years ago, indicated some 70,000,000,000 tons of coal remaining below ground. On the basis of his calculation from a much more recent survey, Mr. Crichton expressed the belief that a re-evaluation of the situation would disclose an actual total that might be less than half of the now generally accepted estimate.

Geologists attending the conference found in Mr. Crichton's studies that the carbon content of the coal is the most important factor in determining its value. Mr. Crichton would have access to confidential figures on energy work that could not have been included in the federal estimate. It was also noted that a vast number of test borings and investigative calculations had been made in the interval since the last federal survey that will materially increase concrete knowledge of the processes or absence of coal, and could very largely affect figures on which the federal estimate was based.

Colver Miner Is Killed by Rock Fall Tuesday

Barred under a fall of rock and slates, Raymond Arthur Gibson, 25-year-old Colver miner, was injured Tuesday morning in the Colver mine of the Ebensburg Coal Company.

Coroner Patrick McDermott said that Gibson and his buddy, Aldo Federsch, 21, also of Colver, were taking down rock when the heading and the back heading when the rock fall trapped Gibson.

Death was attributed to suffocation and a fractured back. The young man was dead when removed from under the huge pile of slate and rock. The coroner said the men were removing about eight inches of bony from beneath a three-inch draw of slate when the slabs unexpectedly gave way and caught Gibson.

Born in Alverda, Indiana county, on May 12, 1916, Raymond Arthur Gibson was a son of Arthur and Alice (Jackson) Gibson of Colver. He had been employed by the coal concern for the last three years. Mr. Gibson was a graduate of Ebensburg-Cambria High School, class of 1937.

Besides his parents he leaves his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth (Davis) Gibson, and a son, Wayne, and three brothers and sisters: Mrs. Irma Disbert, Ebensburg; Mrs. Beulah Stinson, Clearfield; Mrs. Lucille Mann, Colver; and Walter, Agnes, Alice, Amos, David and Patricia Ann Gibson all at home.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon in the Colver Presbyterian Church. Interment will be in Lloyd's Cemetery at Ebensburg.

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