

Recognized & Endorsed by More Than Fifty Local Unions and Central Bodies Over Cambria County and Adjacent Mining Areas.

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COAL STRIKE ENDS WHEN POLICY GROUP ACCEPTS FDR PLAN

Two Hundred Thousand Return to Pits Following Action of Last Saturday.

With half of the membership of the United Mine Workers of America in the nation out on sympathy strikes, and with every commercial mine in Northern Cambria county, and nearly all in the entire county down, because of last week's strike call in the "captive" mines, it all came to an abrupt end last Saturday, and mines again are working full blast.

At meetings of the United Mine Workers' Policy Committee in Washington on Saturday, President Roosevelt's plea for arbitration was accepted. It calls for the captive mine problem to be decided by a board of three members: Dr. John R. Steelman, head of the department of Labor's Conciliation Service; Benjamin F. Fairless, president of the United States Steel Corporation; and John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America.

The Union Shop in the captive mines had been the strike issue. Ninety-five per cent of all the miners belong to the union. Only five per cent are unorganized, and it is these few that Mr. Lewis and the United Mine Workers have been endeavoring to get into the fold.

Apparently, Fairless will cast his vote against the Union Shop, a position he has taken since the beginning of the strike. Lewis will favor an agreement forcing all the captive miners to join the union, and Steelman, then, must cast the deciding vote. News stories state both sides have agreed to abide by the decision of the board. We accept the President's suggestion fully and without qualification, Mr. Lewis is reported here said at a press conference.

The executive board of the CIO, which met on Saturday at its headquarters in Washington, immediately sent the following telegram to John L. Lewis: "The executive board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations conveys its appreciation to the United Mine Workers of America and its Policy Committee for the splendid contribution it has made to the nation in accepting arbitration of its captive coal mine dispute in the effort to arrive at a satisfactory solution of this problem. We feel certain that the merits of the United Mine Workers' case assures a well earned victory."

The strike in the captive mines was called early last week after the mediation board had turned down the UMWA union shop demand by a nine to two vote, and this was followed by the resignation of Philip Murray, the CIO president, and Thomas Kennedy, UMWA secretary-treasurer, from the board, along with all other CIO alternate members.

CONTROLLER TO PAY THE TAX COLLECTORS

County Controller Dennis L. Westrick after conferring with a committee representing the Cambria County Tax Collector's Association, last week agreed to make payment "soon" of approximately \$4,000 to the collectors representing 2 per cent commissions on taxes collected by the county treasurer's office after they had become delinquent. The payments will be made on delinquent taxes paid into the treasurer's office since 1930.

The question of whether the collectors are entitled to the commissions had been raised by Henry L. Cannon, who he served as county controller. He contended that the collectors did nothing to earn the money and therefore should not be paid.

Later Mr. Westrick asserted that the state law under which the collector's asked payment was unconstitutional as the title of the act did not set forth any statement that the commissions should be paid to the collectors. The State Superior Court upheld the contention of the tax collectors that the act is constitutional.

The committee which met with Mr. Westrick was composed of W. F. Hillslett, West Taylor Township; Harry T. Rodgers of Westmont; John J. Whalen, of Spangler and Telford C. Gill of Patton.

HELPED FIRE-SUFFERERS. Cambria County Chapter, American Red Cross, has distributed \$621 among eight families whose homes were burned at Pifficktown, near South Fork, a few weeks ago. The Red Cross representatives were on the scene to aid the sufferers before the fire engines had left at the time of the fire. Help was given in reestablishing the families in homes after an investigation revealed the need, and further aid may yet be given.

GUFFEY TO OPPOSE COAL ACT CHANGE

Senator Joseph F. Guffey, (D-Pa.), has announced that he would oppose any attempt to repeal the Guffey Coal Act. He declares that the law has saved the bituminous coal business of this country and, therefore, has been helpful to the mine workers, operators, and the public at large.

He said that repeal of the act would but make the coal industry chaotic, and that the industry, faced with the possibility of reduced returns, might, with or without justification, urge that wages previously agreed to should be abrogated.

CREWS PREPARING TO KEEP HIGHWAYS OPEN TO TRAFFIC

Ordering Trucks, Plows, Other Equipment Ready As Winter Nears; Big Road Problem.

Although last week we had a lot of Indian summer weather, don't let that fool you that winter isn't just around the corner. While we hope it isn't nevertheless, our better judgment tells us it is—and the State Highway Department is all ready for it.

Recent weeks have seen huge supplies of cinders piled at strategic points along the main highways in preparation for Pennsylvania's erratic winters, that turn rains to very treacherous sleet with no forewarning, or blanket the Alleghenies with blinding snows, trapping autoists on mountain roads until the friendly cinders are blown away by plowing the snow ahead and leaving a traction giving trail of ash behind.

No news story is needed here to tell of the winters our section usually is dealt. The past few winters have not been so bad, so that we can expect somewhat more this season. But what all of us have seen winters that were terrible winters that were beyond the facilities of the snow-clearing forces, because Nature tossed the snow back into the ceilings as fast as man and his equipment could get it out.

However, the state highway department is ready to face any situation in the way of snow removal that may come before it.

The dense situation this winter requires more than ever that roads be kept open and properly ashed, for the reason that men have to go to and from work. In this connection it is well to state that the Patton and Carrolltown road is just as important to have ashes as are the so-called through routes in this section. Early in last year's program the state highway department neglected proper ashing of this thoroughfare, but during the balance of the season took good care of it. Without proper ashing, when slippery, this road, because of its steep grades, presents a dangerous hazard.

SCHOOLS IN THIS SECTION GET CHECKS FROM STATE

Sixteen Cambria County School Districts last week received checks from the State Treasury Department to cover vocational education expenses.

School districts to benefit from the disbursement and the amounts as announced by State Treasurer G. Harold Wagner, follow:

- Adams township, \$1,280; Barnesboro Borough, \$551.50; Blacklick township, \$240; Cambria township, \$1,664; Carrolltown borough, \$224; Croyle township, \$368; Ebensburg borough, for Ebensburg-Cambria High School, \$2,526.31; Franklin Borough, \$687.66; Gallitzin Borough, \$288; Hastings Borough, \$240; Johnstown City School District, \$18,125; Nanty-Goo Borough, \$480; Patton Borough, \$240; Portage Borough, \$362.50; Richland township, \$637; and West Carroll township, \$600.

ARMY ASKS STATE FOR MANY MORE SELECTEES

Harrisburg. — The United States Army called upon Governor James last week to provide 6,692 men, including 431 Negroes, for induction between January 6 and 30, 1942.

The Army ordered 2,697 for Fort Meade, Md., and 3,795 for New Cumberland, Pa.

Local board quotas will be determined by selective service headquarters later.

Miner Dies at Work. A. V. Britten, aged 72, of Van Ormer, died one afternoon last week while at work on a tramway of the McDonald Coal Company at Van Ormer. A heart attack is attributed as the cause of his demise.

MEDIATION PRINCIPLE REAFFIRMED BY CIO AT ITS CONVENTION

Philip Murray Again Chosen to Head Destines of Outstanding Industrial Labor Body.

The Congress of Industrial Organizations in its four day annual convention held last week in Detroit, Michigan, reaffirmed the principle of government mediation of labor disputes in a resolution pledging unanimous support of the nation's defense effort.

Acting swiftly to end their fourth annual convention on Friday, 500 delegates representing the CIO's five million workers, re-elected Philip Murray and backed his position supporting President Roosevelt's foreign policy.

In approving a resolution on strikes and national defense, the assembly denounced "business as usual" employers who insist upon the ever increasing accumulation of war profits.

"The CIO will cooperate completely in the attempt to adjust all labor disputes on a voluntary basis through collective bargaining machinery, established in wage agreements," the measure said, "and to utilize to the utmost degree the mediation facilities of the government in the effort that no step will be left unturned to achieve a successful prosecution of our national defense program."

This measure did not mention the national defense mediation board, which CIO members, led by President Murray, have bolted in protest against the captive coal mine dispute.

The resolution appealed to government and industry to recognize that "labor's participation in the formulation and administration of our national defense program is essential in the endeavor to 'defeat Hitlerism.'"

"The CIO and affiliated unions are firmly resolved to do all in their power in cooperating with industry and government to obtain maximum efficiency in the prosecution of our national defense program," it continued.

FAST PRESIDENTS HONOURED

Past presidents of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Volunteer Firemen's Association of Cambria County and vicinity were honored at the annual banquet Thursday night in the Forty of Eight home restaurant by the number of northern Cambria county ladies attended.

The banquet was held at the Forty of Eight home restaurant, where the ladies of the association were entertained by the members of the association. The evening was a most enjoyable one, and the ladies were well served by the staff.

JOBS AND WAGES AT ALL-TIME HIGH

Swept along on a flood of national defense orders, factory employment and wage disbursements in Pennsylvania reached an all-time peak in October, the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia reports.

The bank's statement, based on a survey of 2,880 state establishments, listed slightly more than 1,150,000 workers receiving wages of approximately \$36,000,000 weekly.

Employment was 18 per cent above a year ago, payrolls were up 41 per cent and the total number of working hours gained 30 per cent, the bank said.

Largest increases were reported in the transportation equipment, metal and stone, clay and glass products industries, with the so-called heavy industries also showing large gains.

Legion Auxiliary at Lilly Reorganization is Planned

Reorganization of the Lilly Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary has been scheduled for Tuesday evening of this week with leaders of the Cambria County Council of the Legion Auxiliary scheduled to take part. The meeting will be held in the Lilly High School at 7:30 o'clock.

Mrs. Thomas A. Owens of Carrolltown, president of the Cambria County Council, will be in charge of the ceremony and Mrs. O. F. Suttifer of Somerset, Western Director, will be a guest. All members of the county council are invited to attend.

BASIC CIVIL RIGHTS OF LABOR WOULD BE ERASED BY SOLONS

If Some Members of Congress Had Their Way We'd Just As Well Pledge Mr. Hitler.

Bills to erect concentration camps in America, to jail strikers for long prison terms, to tap private phone conversations, to exile militant union men, even a serious proposal to execute striking workers, marked a year of almost incessant attacks on basic civil rights in this country, President Philip Murray reported at the fourth CIO convention last week.

At the same time, anti-union activity of the FBI redoubled, with open wire-tapping practiced against the president of a CIO international union in one case and a strenuous campaign by the Department of Justice to secure passage of a bill legalizing FBI snooping.

These attacks on basic American rights, taking place under cover of the "hysteria and excitement surrounding the defense crisis," were beaten back by the CIO, as President Murray noted, but the dangers are by no means past.

The Hobbs bill (HR 3) for example, and the Allen Bill (HR 4861) would herd aliens who have been ordered deported but who cannot be sent abroad into concentration camps for life. Both these bills have been kept from passing only by united CIO and other progressive opposition, but they can be revived at any time.

The CIO's best victory in stemming this anti-democratic offensive came in the defeat of the wire-tapping bill offered by Rep. Hobbs and backed by the Dept. of Justice and by Congressional leaders. Commenting on this campaign and on other evidence of anti-union work by the FBI, President Murray's report declared:

"The FBI continues to be a grave threat because of its various violations of civil rights. The serious danger to a Fascist Germany is being developed in this country."

As the report points out, the U. S. Department of Justice has refused to prosecute violators of civil rights, though a special bureau was set up for that purpose. CIO organizers have been tarred and feathered by vigilante gangs, especially in the South, and so-called "investigations" by the Department seem to have little or no result in checking such outrages.

PATTON EAGLES TO INITIATE ON SUNDAY

Patton Aerie, No. 1244, Fraternal Order of Eagles, are planning for an outstanding initiatory ceremony and entertainment next Sunday. A large class of candidates will be taken into the mysteries of the order beginning at 2:30 in the afternoon. The initiatory ceremony will be in charge of the Patton Aerie Degree team. Lunch will be served after the meeting. In the evening there will be a dance and floor show for the members and their ladies.

Growth of the local lodge continues year in and out unabated, and membership comes from all over the north of Cambria as well as adjoining territory.

STATE'S JOBLESS FUND TWO MILLION DOLLARS

Pennsylvania employers, whose payrolls have been inflated by the national defense boom, will contribute approximately \$100,000,000 in assessments on wages to the unemployment compensation division at Harrisburg by the end of the year, returns disclose. The contributions, from the 2.7 percent payroll levy under the social security laws, will break all collection records since the jobless benefit system was started in 1937, and will represent a sum four times greater than benefit payments, expected to total \$25,000,000. The fund last week soared to a new high at \$200,000,000.

PLAY AT COLVER.

Pupils of the fourth and fifth grades of the Colver school staged the play, "Who Stole the Pumpkin Pie" at the regular meeting of the Colver Parent-Teacher Association on Thursday evening last. Another feature of the program was the showing of the motion picture, "On to Washington."

POLISH LEGION ELECTS.

At a recent reorganization meeting of the Young Men's Polish Legion of Barnesboro, Steve Pavlock was named president for the coming year and John Serafin of Carrolltown, was elected as financial secretary for the 11th consecutive year.

WORKERS WILL HAVE THEIR WAGES RAIDED

All indications are that workers, too, must be prepared to have their pay envelopes raided every week next year by the government; it is proposed to confiscate one slice under the disguise of social security; millions of workers heretofore exempt from income tax, it has already been definitely decreed, will have to pay; also, every worker, every consumer, will have to hand over either new or increased taxes on almost everything they buy. Thus, wage earners will be penalized as never before, to supply money to help finance Washington's spending for defense.

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HOLIDAY EDITION OF UNION PRESS-COURIER BOON TO ADVERTISER

Annual Christmas Number Covering Northern Cambria to Be Issued December 11th.

The Union Press-Courier does not believe in, nor does it practice, promotional advertising. Our standard subscription list, weekly, makes any sort of free distribution to insure advertising coverage unnecessary.

However, once a year, in early December, this newspaper, does stray a bit from the rule, when it issues its annual holiday number. This is done because in doing so we feel we are rendering a service to both advertiser and reader alike.

The holiday edition of the Press-Courier, this year, will be issued on December 11th, and like in former years, it will cover the north of the county like a blanket—including the rural areas as well as the mining communities. Most important of all is the fact that all of this distribution will be made through the mails. No hand distribution will be employed.

We maintain that the method of putting across the message in this way is the best of all. Unlike circular advertisements that very likely aren't read by more than a fraction of the recipients, the Union Press-Courier's holiday number will be read throughout with appropriate interesting holiday reading and suggestions as well as carrying a full compliment of the North County news. It will be composed with the thought in mind that it will so interest the recipient that he will hang onto it—and read it.

Advertisers have from year to year used this medium—and they all are repeaters. In fact, we honestly believe we have rendered a convenient service to both advertiser and reader alike.

If you want your share of the business in ALL Northern Cambria, Mr. Merchant, here's your ONE opportunity.

NICKTOWN UNITS FINISH COURSES

Completion of Nicktown courses in Junior Red Cross, first aid and of adult courses in standard and advanced first aid were announced recently by officials of the Cambria County chapter.

The classes were conducted by Basil Cameron of Colver, assisted by Mrs. Ada Mackall of Nanty-Goo. Upon receipt of junior, standard and advanced certificates from National Red Cross headquarters in Washington, those who completed the courses will be presented with certificates by John B. Berry, chapter chairman of first aid. Reported as completing the courses are the following:

Junior course—Jean Marie Ann Fresh, Rose Marie Huber, George Krumenacker, Alto Krumenacker, James William Lieb, Mary Julia Agnes Lieb, Winifred Caroline Lieb, George Richard Lovetts, James Norton, Donald Parrish, Barrie Pfeister, Donna Jean Pfeister.

Standard and advanced courses—Grace Bechel, Veda Brown, Patty Fresh, Vivienne Hughes, Jean Kline, Louise Krumenacker, F. N. Lambour, Charles Lieb, Gwen N. Lieb, Marie W. Lieb, Herman J. Lieb, Christine Lovetts, Andrew S. Peters, Anna Marie Pfeister, Fred R. Pfeister, Catherine Nacher, Rita Natcher, Mary Rietsa, Martin Smith, James T. Weiland, Kathleen Weiland.

SPANGLER SOLDIER CITED.

Thomas H. Batschbach of Spangler, has been chosen the outstanding member of his training company at the U. S. Naval Station at Newport, R. I. In recognition of his selection the Spangler young man was presented an honor certificate in the presence of high ranking naval officers.

—An advertisement in the Union Press-Courier will bring quick results.

TWO SUGGESTIONS FOR RELIEF OF OUR BIG CONGRESS AREA

Poll of Assembly on Five Proposals Being Made; May Affect Twenty-Seventh District

A special committee struggling with the problem of cutting Pennsylvania's congressional districts from 34 to 22 have asked fellow members of the General Assembly during the past week for their opinions on five separate proposals. Two of these have some bearing on our own top-heavy 27th district. One called Plan A, is a pretty fair proposition, and seems to have an aim an equitable apportionment. It would make Cambria and Clearfield Counties one district. Another, called Plan B would take Jefferson county away from our district and give it to Blair, Centre and Clearfield counties. The other plans submitted have no bearing whatsoever on our district.

But, likely when apportionment is revised, we'll be sitting just as we are for at least another ten years. In only one proposal offered by the committee has any really equitable reapportionment plan been agreed upon. Representative Al O'Connor had a fair and just reapportionment plan proposed as chairman of the Reapportionment Committee in the House at the 1941 session, but he got exactly nowhere with it. All the balance of the local legislators were back of the O'Connor plan, Senator Haluska, and Representatives Chervenak and Owens.

Of course, any plan that can be supported by the general assembly at a forthcoming special session will be much better than electing all of the state's 33 congressmen at large. Such a condition would likely find the rural counties without representation and the large cities copping all the jobs. Hence, so far as our members are concerned, they'll likely go along with anything that will eliminate the existing congressional plan on a state-wide basis.

Under the five plans proposed by the general assembly members are:

- 1—Re-shuffling 38 rural counties in the northern part of the state.
- 2—Cutting Philadelphia from seven to six districts and shifting the geographical arrangement of most of the other counties without touching Allegheny County. This plan is the one that would make Cambria and Clearfield counties a district.
- 3—Removing one from Philadelphia and adding Beaver to Allegheny, as well as taking Jefferson county away from the 27th district.
- 4—Adding Greene county to the present 24th district, made up of Somerset and Fayette, and removing 100,000 population from Allegheny to be added to the 25th district now consisting of Greene and Washington.
- 5—Adding 160,000 of Allegheny's population to Washington, creating a district of Fayette, Greene and part of Washington, cutting Somerset from the 24th district and adding it to the 18th.

TEACHERS HAD MEET IN SPANGLER SCHOOL

A meeting of Cambria County teachers of reading in all grades was held last Saturday morning in the Spangler high school.

The program opened with greetings by Dr. Arthur H. Stull, county superintendent of schools.

Three of the books required in 8th grade literature were reviewed by the following teachers:

"Young Pa of the Upper Yangtze," Mary D. Kline and Sarah Scollon; "Call It Courage," and the Newberry Medal Award, Mary Olivia Steffy; "Ivangeline," (accompanied by lantern slides), Pearl McCully Sullivan.

The story of the Calicoet medal was reviewed by Yvonne O. Torgler and Louise C. Young, of the Patton schools. Choral speaking (primary level) was discussed by Mabel Brown of the Horace Mann School, Indiana.

RAILROAD WORKERS DINE.

More than 100 employees of the P. R. R. and Cambria and Blacklick Railroad attended the annual banquet of Lodge 386, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, at the Fort Stanwix Hotel, Johnstown, Tuesday evening of this week.

BEAR KILL NOT BAD.

Northwestern Pennsylvania bear hunters reported fair success in the four day season of last week and an unusually large number of the animals were bagged.

—A pat on the back develops character—but it must be administered young enough, often enough and long enough.