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WAR-TIME SESSION OF STATE LEGISLATURE LIKELY NEXT MONTH

10-Member Legislative Committee Believes Congressional Re-appointment Solved

Governor James said late last week he would delay until after January 1 a call for a special legislative session to act on congressional reappointment and a host of problems likely to arise under war-time conditions.

A special 10-member legislative committee set the stage for a special session by agreeing Thursday night on a plan to cut Pennsylvania's delegation in Congress from 34 to 23 as required by the 1940 Federal census.

Asked if there was a possibility of the session being delayed for two months, he replied:

"I wouldn't say that."

Then he added "it would be safe enough" to assume the call would be delayed until January 1.

The Governor declared numerous problems might arise during the coming weeks that would require the action of the Legislature.

"It might be advisable for us to wait a few weeks to see what may be needed" before summoning the General Assembly, he added.

In this connection, he called attention to the possibility that hours of women workers might be lengthened from the present 44-hour week, requiring legislative action. He has already disclosed the state has run into difficulties in getting bids for materials on more than a day-to-day basis.

One of the subjects to be considered when the special session convenes, James said, is an anti-sabotage measure defeated during the 1941 regular session.

Attorney-General Clardy T. Reno said he is whipping such a bill into shape, along lines suggested by the Federal government, but that it is not yet ready for introduction.

The Governor acknowledged that some pressure for legislation to combat sabotage had been exerted from Washington.

Organized labor—both the C. I. O. and the A. F. L.—opposed a bill previously, contending a provision for the closing of streets along the defense plants, and contending that would infringe on their right to strike and to picket.

The measure provided heavy punishment for persons intentionally destroying property that might hinder the Nation's war work or for "intentionally defective workmanship" on defense goods.

It also proposed to:

1. Facilitate the detection of saboteurs entering unlawfully upon defense properties by providing for their questioning and detention.

2. Aid in convicting such persons by changes in the law of attempts, solicitation, conspiracy and the privilege against self-incrimination.

3. Guard against the act being used as a means of oppressing organized labor.

JOHNSTOWN WAR HERO DESTROYS 'JAP' PLANES

First Lieut. Boyd D. Wagner, 25, of Johnstown, last Friday distinguished himself as one of the first aerial heroes of the war.

In an encounter with the Japanese over the Philippines, he shot down two planes and destroyed 12 others on the ground.

The air corps officer's heroic deed immediately drew the commendation of Lieut. Gen. Douglas MacArthur, commander of the Far Eastern Army, who stated that Lieut. Wagner "distinguished himself by his daring attack on a Japanese air detachment at Aparri."

"Wagner ended his terse report by saying:

"My gas was running low so I returned home."

According to a wire story from the city of Manila, the encounter occurred when Lieut. Wagner was racing to the tip of Luzon Island where the "Japs" were seeking to land reinforcements under aerial protection in the Aparri sector.

Wanty-Glo Miners 100% Behind Red Cross Call

Members of Local Union 1286, U. M. W. of A., Wanty-Glo, are 100 per cent behind the American Red Cross campaign for war relief.

The 170 members of the local union voted last Saturday each to contribute \$1.00. Miners authorized the deduction from the pay period of December 15. Men who made the voluntary contribution are employed at Holiday mines, Springfield, Nos. 1 and 2 and the Cardiff mine.

M'CANN SAYS COUNTY HOLDS VITAL POSITION

Jurist Urges People to Keep on the Alert Because of Steel Mills and Coal Mines

President Judge John H. McCann in an impassioned address made before more than 400 persons in his court last Thursday morning declared "there is no place for anyone in this country who is not loyal to the government."

Judge McCann declared he was making the address as he had witnessed the departure "of 87 young men from the Crescon region, who left in defense of their country."

"I understand that 75 also left from Ebsenburg this morning," the jurist said. "We must all realize that our country is at war. The fate of the nation is at stake. We are facing the greatest crisis in our history and it is up to all of us to take a whole-hearted stand in support of the President. We must give everything we have."

"We are in the heart of a section of the country which may be subject to attack," Judge McCann continued. "We are probably only 250 miles by air from New York. Cambria County with its steel mills and coal mines is one of the strategic points essential to our conduct of the war. No word must pass from our lips in criticism of our Army and Navy leaders until we know the facts. No one knows the problem of defending Hawaii and the Philippines except our Army and Navy chiefs."

"Our flag has never known defeat and, God willing, it never shall. I have no desire to appear sensational, but we must realize that our boys are going to fight. The cost in blood and tears may be tremendous, but we must be confident that right and justice will prevail."

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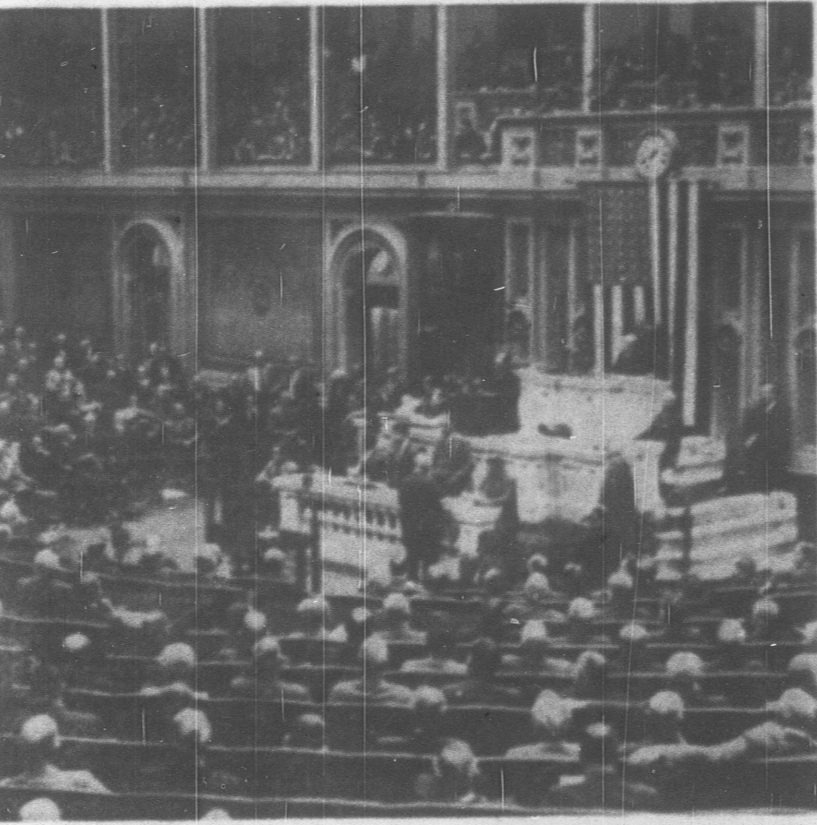
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Reading President's War Message



View of house of representatives in session as it voted unanimously that a state of war existed between this country and Germany and Italy. President Roosevelt sent a brief message asking congress to recognize a state of war with Germany and Italy. The message was read barely four hours after Germany and Italy announced declarations against the United States. Speaker Sam Rayburn presiding (seated at base of American flag).

EARLY NEXT WEEK

Because of the Christmas Holiday on Thursday of next week, and in order to give our advertisers coverage before the Holiday, the Press-Courier will be published on Tuesday morning of next week. Correspondents and advertisers are urged to have their copy in our office by noon on Monday.

PATTON SPORTSMEN ANNOUNCE SUCCESS

By H. W. FLEMING

Hunting season has closed again for another year. Some of the Patton sportsmen were disappointed with their luck, others were much pleased—and a few will never hunt again.

The Patton Sportsmen's Association looks back over the year with great satisfaction. A few of the highlights of the year for them were:

An intensive game feeding program during the winter months; stocking of approximately 6,000 fish in local streams; stocking of 252 ringneck pheasants, fifty of which were raised in the association's rearing pen; the banquet with Harris G. Breth as a guest speaker and an attendance of 150 persons; the purchase of 60 rabbits by the organization, and the Sportsmen's Round-Up, attended by 150 persons.

The Patton Sportsmen's Association who were guests of the association at social functions were: Harris G. Breth, outdoor commentator for station KDKA; Robin Hoffelinger of the Sportsmen's Commission; Allen Barrett, of the State Fish Commission, and Lincoln Leuder, also of the Game Commission.

The Patton Sportsmen's Association will have its reorganization meeting at 8 p. m. Friday, December 19, in the Patton Hotel. All sportsmen, whether members of the organization or not, are urged to attend the meeting.

Over Two Thousands First-Aid Men in County Ready to Serve

More than 2,100 first-aid-trained persons in Cambria County are available for rescue work in case of emergency, the Board of Directors of the Cambria County Chapter, American Red Cross, was told at its monthly meeting last week by E. Blough, chairman of the chapter's disaster preparedness committee.

Chairman Blough, who heads an extensive, countywide committee, also revealed that a survey now is under way to determine the supply of surgical dressings available in the county and declared that meetings of the various disaster committees will be held in the near future to arrange specific duties for each group in the event of any contingency.

BAKERTON MINER INJURED

Henry Housman, 29, Bakerton, was admitted to the Miners Hospital last week suffering severe injuries to the right foot and leg. He was employed in Sterling No. 1 mine at Bakerton on a five-car trip of mine cars passed over his foot and leg.

He was taken to Miners Hospital, suffering from deep lacerations of the scalp and a fracture of the right leg.

—Read the advertisements in this paper, then shop.

PENNSYLVANIA MINES CAN INCREASE OUTPUT

State Secretary Richard Maize Address Miners' Institute at Ebsenburg Saturday

Pennsylvania miners are set up to greatly increase their output, Secretary Maize declared at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Miners' Institute at Ebsenburg Saturday.

"The initial production of power at Grand Coulee Dam was months ahead of schedule," he said.

During the fiscal year, the Bonneville Power Administration possesses nearly 60,000,000 pounds of aluminum pig metal and resulted in the establishment of power-using aluminum plants with a capacity sufficient to build one-fourth of all the planes scheduled for production during the ensuing 12 months.

Secretary Maize, who is also state coordinator of mines under the office of Production Management, declared that production of the Pennsylvania mines can be greatly increased.

"The production of the bituminous mines in the state can be increased by 20 per cent and that of our anthracite mines by 40 per cent," Secretary Maize declared. "There is no doubt in my mind that the operators and miners will respond to the call of the Nation's needs and in the event the increased production is needed it will be obtained."

Secretary Maize outlined the methods to be followed by operators to obtain supplies. Each mine will be given a serial number by the OPM, he explained. When ordering supplies this serial number must be used.

Under his powers, Secretary Maize has charge of all mines in the state.

REVLOC CATHOLIC CHURCH EXTENSIVELY RENOVATED

Extensive renovations were completed recently at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Revloc. Earlier in the year the interior was repainted and later the work included exterior painting, erection of a picket fence, and improvements to church property.

Rev. Father Joseph Kirschbeck is rector of the church, which was built and dedicated in 1924. A large hall on the ground floor serves the social needs of the church, and is also used by the Revloc Local, U. M. W. A., for union meetings.

JUDGE RECOVERS

Judge Charles C. Greer recovered sufficiently to leave Windber Hospital last Saturday. The Cambria jurist underwent a major operation about two months ago.

WAR NEEDS MONEY!

It will cost money to defeat Germany, Italy and Japan. Your government calls on you to help NOW.

Buy defense bonds or stamps today. Buy them every day, if you can. But buy them on a regular basis.

Bonds cost as little as \$18.75. Stamps come as low as 10 cents. Defense bonds and stamps can be bought at all banks and postoffices, and stamps can be purchased at retail stores also.

The Union Press-Courier urges all Americans to support your government with your dollars.

COAL RESERVES ARE LISTED BY ICKES AS GASOLINE SOURCE

Full-Scale Production Able to Be Started at Once if Shortage of Petroleum Develops

Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes stated recently that the Department's experiments with strategic and critical materials indicate that, in an emergency, the United States can begin "full-scale" production of gasoline from coal.

He said in his annual report to the President that there is no immediate shortage or lack of base petroleum supplies, but that the hydrogeneration of coal, thus far confined to tests on a semi-commercial scale, could be started commercially "at any time x x x natural resources show signs of depletion."

"The world conflict, Ickes said, "has opened our eyes as never before to the extent and the possibilities of American resources."

"We have been enabled to turn to our national heritage and in the coming months and years to make the vital necessities for continuing our present defenses. In cooperation with the National Fuel Administration as a result of emergency, we have hastened the development of synthetic electric power in the West. x x x"

"The initial production of power at Grand Coulee Dam was months ahead of schedule. x x x"

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CIVILIAN DEFENSE MEETING IN PATTON FRIDAY THIS WEEK

Burgess John J. Haluska Urges All Citizens to Attend Town Gathering at Fire Hall

In conformity with instructions issued by the State Council of Defense, Burgess John J. Haluska has issued a call for a meeting of citizens in the Patton Fire Hall on Friday evening of this week. His proclamation is as follows:

"Because of recent developments in the war situation, every American is now thoroughly aroused and eager to do his share toward victory. In order that this enthusiasm may be used to accomplish concrete results, and at the order of the State Council of Defense, the Patton Defense Council will on Friday evening of this week, in the Firemen's Hall, at eight o'clock, organize our citizens accordingly. All citizens, men and women, are urged to attend. There is a job for all of us. No specific ability or experience is needed."

"This meeting is really one of the most important in the history of Patton, and I urge upon all citizens of the community to attend, and do their part in the movement so vital to all of us. The organization and planning effected at this meeting is all a part of the set-up of the State Defense Council, which is dovetailed with the National program."

"Especially do I solicit the attendance of Legion members, Veterans of Foreign Wars members and all ex-servicemen. But just as important is the attendance of all men and women."

"Let's put Patton to the forefront in its wartime program. Come to the Fire Hall on Friday evening of this week at eight o'clock."

JOHN J. HALUSKA, Burgess

WARTIME DEFENSES

Training warden schools for the handling and extinguishing of incendiaries and other types of bombs would be started as warden for the various communities are designated.

After training warden will return to their own communities to open similar schools to give their own deputies the same type of training.

Chief Moran also urged every fire company to make an inventory of fire fighting equipment to ascertain what additional equipment might be necessary to strengthen further the community's fire defenses. Efforts, he said, would be made to obtain additional equipment wherever possible.

ONLY SIX HUNTERS ARE KILLED IN DEER SEASON

The closing of Pennsylvania's annual deer season brought expressions of gratification from the State Game Commission over one of the best accident records in years. Half a dozen fatalities have been reported compared with 18 last year.

"We were very fortunate on accidents due to an intensive educational campaign by the commission and the fact that there were less hunters in the woods," said Game Director Seth Gordon. "The record looks mighty good."

The kill was comparatively light during the 13-day season. Unfavorable weather, scarcity of deer, and a reduced number of hunters due to defense work, kept the kill down. Those tagged, however, were reported in good condition with big racks.

Hunting is over in Pennsylvania for the winter except for fox and bobcat chasing and shooting of crows. Gordon says bobcat hunting is a growing sport in the state.

HAVE THIBBOTT ON SICK LEAVE FOR HOUSE VOTE

Congressman Harve Thibbott has called attention to the fact that he was on sick leave from the House when the vote was taken December 3 on the Smith anti-strike bill.

News dispatches listed Thibbott "absent and unrecorded." Attention was called to the Congressional Record which shows that Thibbott had been excused on sick leave.