

Union Press-Courier

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The endeavor of the Union Press-Courier is to sincerely and honestly represent Trade Union Workers in efforts to obtain economic freedom through organizations as advocated by the CIO and AFL, and we solicit the support of trade unions. Material for publication must be authorized by the organization it represents and signed by the President and Secretary and bear the seal.

The Union Press-Courier gives its advertisers the advantage of the combined circulation of the two largest circulated weeklies in Cambria County and has a reader coverage that blankets Patton and the major mining towns.

PATTON, for instance, makes "War Christmas" seem absurd, with its usual decorations, with its special services, with its carol singing. With hearts heavy, of course, nevertheless Christmas still is a day of peace and hope and promise, and the nation, save only for December 25, 1917, has not known Christmas season in battle since 1864.

YET, MUCH on the surface will seem the same. Many boys in camp will be home, despite the war. The very spirit of Christmas in our hearts in these days of trial will cause us to appreciate the true meaning of the Christmas season all the more. May we earnestly hope that when the next Christmastide comes to us it will again be one of Peace and Good Will Among Men.

ONLY THREE WEEKS ago our country was divided in our policies toward involvement in the war. There were those who felt that we must take part in it, and there were those who preached an isolationist doctrine. Now our nation is united for war. By a single stroke of a pagan Axis partner, ours became a war of defense, and all opposition immediately vanished. Thus we have in this Christ-

mas the true thought that war is our lot by Providence—and that we must go through with it to final victory, whatever the hardship and the cost.

EARLY IN JANUARY the Pennsylvania Legislature will meet. But unlike the session of last winter, when a Democratic House of Representatives and a Republican Senate and Administration were always bickering, war will bring harmony in the interest of the people in this forthcoming gathering. The Democrats have offered the Republican Government an expression of their sincere wish to cooperate in the speedy enactment of such legislation as is required to properly provide for the state and national defense. Likewise have the Republican minorities in the National Government and Congress seen their eye with a Democratic majority and Administration. This is war-time. In the conduct of the war, party lines more in one—Americans.

THE CONGRESS of the United States now is home for Christmas, but before they worked their parliamentary machinery at an emergency pace. They pushed through measures to speed, intensify and coordinate the war effort; to mobilize the nation's man-power; to provide money and authority to equip the war machine; to grant the President extraordinary powers to direct the national effort.

THE SELECTIVE SERVICE that was passed in 1940 was last week drastically amended. Under its original provisions all men from 21 to 25 years of age who were in good health, without dependents and who did not have essential defense jobs, were eligible for military training. The act made possible a peace-time army of 800,000 with plans made for ultimate induction of 2,000,000. The nation's entry into conflict sharply raised estimates of man-power needs. The war department asked Congress to register men from 18 to 44 for all kinds of defense work and to authorize military service for those from 19 to 44. The department's proposal, supported by the White House, was approved by the Senate. The House showed a difference of opinion, passing a bill embodying the over-all registration, but setting the ages for military service at 21 to 44. A legislative conference arranged a compromise, fixing the lower limit at 20.

UNDER THE NEW LAW it was estimated the United States will have a potential army of 7,000,000 men. Army and selective service officials indicated that enrollment of eligibles would proceed slowly, that it would be some time before men outside the 21 to 25 limits were called. Tentative plans called for reclassification of those deferred in the past for slight physical disabilities, for defense jobs no longer considered essential and for dependencies of dubious validity.

ACCORDING TO PLANS being formulated the new men of fighting age will be registered in age groups by their local draft boards, but unlike the registration of a year ago, conducted in one day, it will be spread out over several days and perhaps weeks, to avoid the strain and confusion which attended the first registration. It is thought that among the first to be registered will be boys of 20 and those who became 21 after the last enrollment in July. There are, it is estimated, about 1,800,000 in those groups.

NEXT to be called on will be those from 36 to 44, who number about 10,000,000. They may be asked to register in two or more groups. After the men liable to military service are enrolled, the other groups will be required to register, according to tentative plans. They will include the youths of 18 and 19, and the men of 45 to 64 inclusive.

IN CONNECTION with the work of the draft boards, their's is a task of national service, without pay. The other day, a door business neighbor, Barton C. Winslow, came into our office and displayed a Presidential Certificate of Appointment. Mr. Winslow is a member of the draft board serving our local district. He and his colleagues the nation over can be proud of the assignments given them. After all, they are picked men of sterling character, who give yeoman service to their country and ask nothing in return.

MEANTIME home defense plans go steadily forward in all the communities in the nation. In Patton last week, a rousing meeting was held in the fire hall at the call of Burgess Hialiska, and the organization of local defense was made. Not only Patton, but all the rest of the north of the county municipalities have gone forward in this matter. The country is at war. Day by day we realize it more and more.

LABOR has taken its stand in the interests of national defense and labor will not be found wanting. In their patriotic unselfishness they ask the same of management. Both CIO and AFL leaders announce their willingness to cooperate with the government in every way.

A PATTON young man, Richard Duck, last week was among the graduating class at Annapolis, and is one of the first war-time class of ensigns to be graduated with honors from the Academy. Patton folks generally join with Ensign Duck and his family in rejoicing in his signal honor.

CHRISTMAS, 1940, can have its true meaning in the thought that our Christian nation is taking part in a struggle to continue in this world the Message of Bethlehem.

ALL-OUT FOR VICTORY

By LEN DECAUX

One single purpose above all others now inspires the membership of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, along with all true Americans. It is to win victory over Hitler and his Axis partners, who have attacked our country because it stood in the way of their drive for world conquest and the enslavement of the human race.

To this historic purpose, to this immediate necessity, all else must be subordinated. Until victory is won, there can be no peace, no security, no hope for human progress.

The CIO gave its answer to Hitler's world challenge at the Detroit convention. And when his Japanese allies struck the blow that brought war to the United States, the unions of the CIO and their members rose to a man, and to a woman, to make this answer one of deeds and blood for blow.

Countless members of the CIO and of CIO families are in the armed forces. And those who serve in industry ask only for the fullest opportunity to use all their brains and energies in the most efficient and maximum production of the weapons and supplies needed by fighting men.

The CIO has long and repeatedly advanced constructive proposals for achieving all-out production for national defense, including its industry council plan and other specific proposals for major industries. It will now redouble its energies to promote and plan for ever-increasing production.

At the same time the CIO will not be lax in defending the material interests of the working people and their democratic rights. For decent wages and fair conditions are essential for industrial morale and increased production. And the voluntary effort of a free people defending its democratic rights is the best assurance that we shall out-produce the slave labor of Hitler.

All our brains and all our efforts must now be devoted to the main task of defeating the military machine of Hitler and his allies. That is the program of the CIO, that is the program of the American people. All-out for victory!

Defense Bonds and Stamps may be bought at any post office, bank or savings and loan institution. Buy as many as you can as often as you can!



OUR BUSINESS is dependent upon our many loyal friends who have favored us in many ways during the past year.

It may have been through your patronage... it may have been through a kindly word of recommendation on your part... but in whatever way you have favored us, we are grateful.

It is our sincere and ardent wish that each of you may receive the full blessings of a joyous and happy Yuletide season.

Westrick Motor Co. CARROLLTOWN, PA.



We are choosing the simple, age-old greeting, "Merry Christmas," to hail you, our friends, in this joyous holiday season. We choose these time-worn words because we believe them best qualified to carry the full quota of sentiment and Christmas good will that we want to convey.

HOOVER SERVICE STATION N. SPANGLER, PA.

A very merry Christmas

CHRISTMAS, 1941—Stripped of surface gaiety by the terrible fact of war, but laden with a rediscovered promise of the better world that must one day be won by blood and work and faith, our greatest holiday will be celebrated Thursday of this week. This is the greatest of all holidays on the Christian calendar—the day supremely dedicated to the Prince of Peace, now struck by such savage blows by pagan forces seeking to dominate a stricken world.

IN THIS SPIRIT adults will celebrate the day, in reverent faith that mankind yet will make good the promise implicit in ancient Bethlehem and the wondrous drama of redemption which began there two thousand years ago. But for the children not yet aware as their elders are that life and liberty, itself, are menaced throughout the world, the first Christmas in America of the Second World War, will be the same as in the past.



Christmas, that glorious season of seasons which draws the soul out of bondage in spite of binding withes and cutting cords, enabling the spirit to soar upwards whence the melody has descended! May that Peace of Spirit which is our divine heritage be yours in full measure this Yuletide season, with all the material joys that make a life abundantly worth while.

Eagle Printing Company Barnesboro, Penna.



This is the season for good cheer — fateful though the past year has been. This is the season for peace in the hearts of men and may that peace belong to you always, is our wish in appreciation of your good will towards us.

RATOWSKY'S Dept. Store PATTON, PA.



Just as a snowball grows bigger as it rolls downhill so may the blessings of the Christmas season and the New Year grow bigger for you as the months roll by. We are going to give you more reason than ever in next year for giving us your valued patronage.

East Side Beer Garden LOUIS IANNIELLO Groceries — Confectionery PATTON, PA.



Against the background of Christmas is the ideal of a world at peace. This ideal has nourished the Christmas joy of numerous millions since the days when shepherds first tended flocks in old Judea.

HALUSKA MOTORS PATTON, PA.



'Tis Christmas! Our thoughts revert from the complicated to the simple, from the cares of maturity to the carefree thoughts of childhood, from the material to the spiritual.

'Tis Christmas... and time to count our many friends and recall the happy relationships we have had with them during the year... time to express our gratitude and to wish all our friends the choicest blessings the Yule season can bestow.

DIETRICK MOTORS PATTON, PA.



WE celebrate now the birth of one who gave us the Sermon on the Mount, keystone of whose arch was the injunction "Love ye one another." Upon this firm foundation all human friendship is built.

American Stores Co. TED YAHNER, MGR. PATTON, PA.

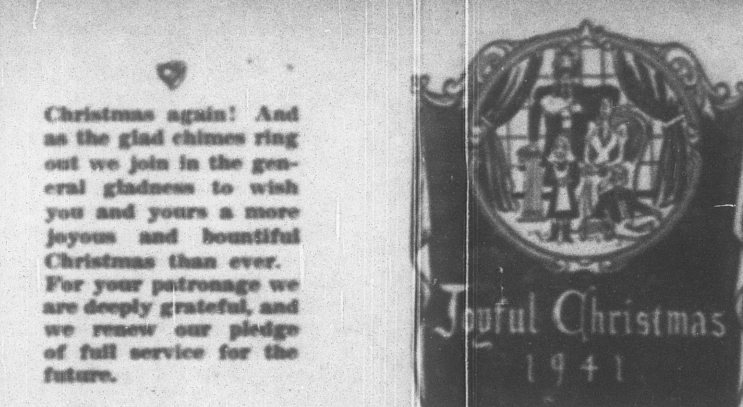


A star in the sky, new hope in the heart, and the Christmas trees glowing from windows and out of doors.

A most appropriate time to thank you for your patronage, and to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

HUBER'S HDWE. PATTON, PA.

GREETINGS



Quality Meat Market PATTON PENNA.



BRING in the Yule log, make the hearthfire glow, and let the spirit of joy be unconfined! It is Christmas... that magic time for all the world!

In this "happiest holiday season" we can only wish for you that the happiest possible Christmas joy be yours.

It has been a source of genuine pleasure to have served you during the past year, and we hope for a continuance of our friendly relations.

First National Bank at Patton