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UNION PRESS-COURIER

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION 1942 Active Member

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.



ONE NEEDS BUT TO VISIT THE Patton Community Park most any Sunday or holiday, to be convinced that the Patton community has invested its money wisely—in recreation. During the past few years, the various communities in this section have sponsored enterprises of some nature. Perhaps they were football stadiums, or athletic fields, or perhaps they were parks and swimming pools. Whatever may be said in favor of all of them, there is no regret on

the part of Pattonites in the decision made here.

THAT THE PATTON PARK IS popular is attested by the fact that our neighbors from all around are coming to enjoy what it has to offer. That, in itself, is positive proof, that Patton has something worth while. Naturally it is a Mecca for youngsters all over the north of the county. We are fully convinced that a fine, pure water swimming pool, is something!

THE VARIOUS WAR ACTIVITIES that require the work and management of the women on the home front do not go begging for volunteers. In fact the women of the various towns in the north of the county are showing an intense interest in the affairs in which they can assist, such as the Red Cross, First Aid, Home Nursing, and several others. Many of these women are war wives and mothers, and their work is to be praised.

THE NEWS OF CLARIFICATION of how various men stand under the draft is gratifying to all. It is desirable for the government to impart as much certainty to the individual as the situation permits. For when the average man knows where he stands he can make the necessary adjustments. On the other hand, when civilian workers are merely marking time awaiting a call, it is difficult for them to be truly productive.

THE THEORY OF SELECTIVE service is excellent for it recognizes that in total warfare, success goes to the country with an effectively balanced national economy. The active warriors need to be supported by vast arrays of producers of civilian and military goods and services behind the lines. If each person responded solely to his emotions, there would be the hazard of a lopsided condition under which production and the services of supply might suffer.

FOR PURPOSES OF MORALE, IT is desirable for the useful civilian worker to feel that he is playing his part—and not shirking. Under the philosophy of selective service, the government itself assumes responsibility for determining the ratio of combatants and non-combatants, and for choosing the age, qualifications, martial state and other factors which determine whether a man should be in the armed forces or in civilian activity.

OWNERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES which have not yet been inspected, are warned by Revenue Secretary Edward B. Logan that the shortage of mechanics and the decrease in the

number of inspection stations may cause them trouble if they delay longer in having their cars inspected. No vehicle may be driven legally after July 31st unless it has a new inspection sticker. Reports from inspection stations in the state indicate that inspections thus far are running about a half million behind the total at the corresponding date last year. One thousand less stations are available to do the job than a year ago.

THE STATE'S SECOND BLACKOUT is scheduled for Wednesday evening or this week. It's important that every business and home in this community cooperate to make the test a success. We must remember that every one of us must observe not only the letter but the spirit of the blackout. Sitting in the dark isn't blacking out. See to it that your home or business establishment is rigged up with blackout equipment—and use that equipment so that your activities are carried on as nearly normally as possible without light showing outside.

IF YOU'VE DONE ANY TRAVELING lately you probably have noticed that the old inconvenience of railroads and bus lines maintaining standard time and some communities other time, throughout the summer, has disappeared. Whether or not you approve of daylight time in principle the fact remains that its universal adoption is an improvement over a nation half "fast" and half "slow."

FAST MOVING EVENTS ON THE manpower front portend an early request to Congress for legislation authorizing the government to place every man or woman where he or she can best serve the war effort. A national service act, requiring the registration of every man and woman in the nation, reportedly is in the drafting stage at present, but has not yet cleared through President Roosevelt.

CHURCH EFFORTS TO COPE with the liquor problem should be handled on a community wide basis, rather than by attempts to pass special legislation concerning the sale of liquor to men in uniform, according to Secretary of War Stimson, who is of the opinion that the liquor problem as it affects soldiers and sailors, is simply a part of the total community problem. It would not be conducive to good morale, he was quoted as saying, if men in uniform felt they were being denied the opportunity to buy liquor, while civilians were allowed to purchase it in the same way as before.

PENNSYLVANIA DEMOCRATS will strive to get out a large soldier vote in the November 3 general election despite admitted difficulties in obtaining absentee ballots from the thousands of residents serving in all parts of the world. While Pennsylvanians in the armed forces are widely scattered, they cannot apply for votes more than fifty days or less than 30 before the election. In the May primaries only 1,362 soldiers from this state took advantage of the absentee law. In the 1941 primary 1,947 soldier votes were counted and 2,870 in the general election.

CAMBRIA COUNTY IS NOT IN the gasoline rationing area, but if it were—and it might be any time now—the politicians would have a field day, come Nov. 3, with the "special rations" provided in Leon Henderson's latest gas regulation, when he ruled that the special rations will be issued all candidates for public offices for campaign hikes, to election officials, poll watchers and to persons transporting voters to the polls. There are not so many candidates in Cambria county, but when all the poll watchers, etc., are added up, that means gas!

COAL OPERATORS IN THE CENTRAL Pennsylvania field need miners. Top production cannot be maintained if miners are to be drafted or if they are transferred to war industry. A serious situation confronts the coal industry, which is expected to keep other industries in war production, despite shortages of miners.

HEREAFTER MEN WHO ARE accepted by the armed forces of the United States will be given a fourteen day furlough after they are sworn in for the purpose of closing up their private affairs before entering the service. This should prove a welcome innovation to the men still to be called up.

MINING BUREAU ISSUES CIRCULAR WITH RESULT OF YEARS OF RESEARCH

Over 600 Standards Recommended to Coal Mining Industry to Safeguard Workers

A list of more than 600 standards which are being recommended to the coal mining industry for safeguarding the health and lives of miners and improving operating efficiency has been compiled by the Bureau of Mines as part of its program of improving health and safety in and around coal mines. Dr. R. R. Sayers, director of the bureau, informed Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes recently. Drawing from a wealth of experience gained from more than three decades of research in the coal fields and in the laboratory, Bureau experts designed the list for use of federal coal mine inspectors, mine operators and miners.

Operating under the Federal Coal Mine Inspection Act of 1941, the federal inspectors have gone into the field to investigate conditions in coal mines and to offer recommendations

for eliminating hazardous practices and conditions so man power and material will be conserved for the peace-time production program to follow.

Dr. Sayers informed Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes that there is wide variation in health and safety regulations in the states and that the Bureau's standards are far more comprehensive than any state laws. The standards enumerated by the bureau, which have been published in pamphlet form, are subject to modification to keep pace with changes in mining methods.

Completion of the pamphlet marks the first time that so many proven health and safety recommendations dealing with coal mines have appeared in one publication," Dr. Sayers added. "The publication explains in a clear-cut manner methods advocated by the Bureau—methods which have been adopted in many mines and which are paying dividends in lives saved and in more economical production of coal."

The publication was prepared by a committee of several of the most experienced safety engineers of the Health and Safety Branch of the Bureau which is headed by Dan Harrington. The coal mine inspection division, a unit of this branch, will incorporate the data in the field book used by the coal mine inspectors. As the inspectors tour a mine, they will compare the Bureau standards with practices and conditions prevailing in the operations they are inspecting.

When used by operators and miners the circular can be consulted for determining which methods of operation are approved by the Bureau and the ones considered hazardous. It describes approved practices and conditions under two principal headings: surface hazards and underground operations.

The surface hazards are grouped under the following topics: General surface conditions, surface plant and equipment (tipple or cleaning plant), headframe (if a shaft mine), machinery (surface and underground), mine refuse disposal, surface haulage, hoisting equipment, cages, steam plant, surface electrical equipment, surface explosives (storage and transportation).

Underground operations are covered under these topics: General practice, ventilation, explosives, electricity underground, con-

trol of coal dust and rock dusting, haulage, timbering, safety organization, first aid and mine rescue.

Since its establishment in 1910, the Bureau has given first aid training to more than one and one-half million persons in the mineral industries of the Nation.

"All employees (underground and surface) should be given first aid training as soon as possible after being employed," the circular advises. "Additional first aid training should be given all employees annually."

The publication also stresses the importance of joint safety meetings of officials and employees in preventing the large number of accidents in the coal mining industry. Falls of roof and coal, which cause approximately one-half the accidents in coal mines, can be prevented by proper and adequate timbering, the Bureau has found. There are 26 prescribed practices listed in the publication under the topic "Timbering."

Mechanization of mines and the widespread use of electricity to power machinery have increased hazards in the industry. As a result, the Bureau lists 63 points under the topic "Electricity Underground," 71 under "Haulage," or transportation of coal and men, 76 under "General Practice" underground.

The publication includes 74 standards for ventilation systems and 66 for the transportation, storage and use of explosives underground.

Certain equipment and materials are classed by the Bureau as "permissible," meaning they have been tested by Bureau experts and if kept in proper condition and used in a prescribed manner, have been found safer to use than the usual types of nonpermissible equipment. The Bureau recommends use of "permissible" appliances and materials, but the publication also describes standards for safer use of "non-permissible" equipment and materials which are found in many of the mines in the Nation.

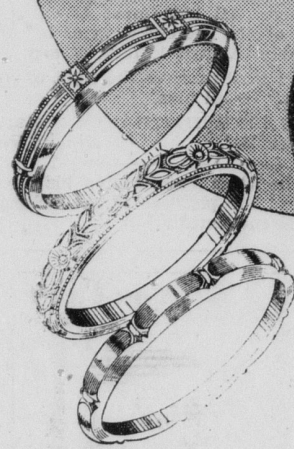
Copies of the publication may be obtained by writing to the Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C., for information circular 7204, "Tentative Coal Mine Inspection Standards."

American workers will soon be turning out two bombers an hour and American-made tanks will roll from "the English Channel to Berlin!"

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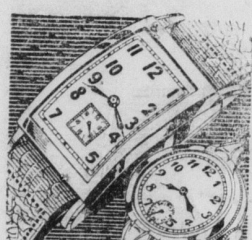
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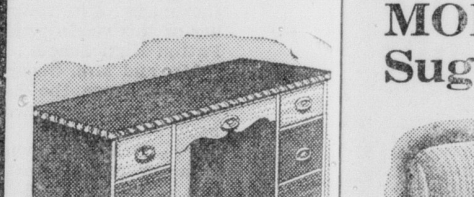
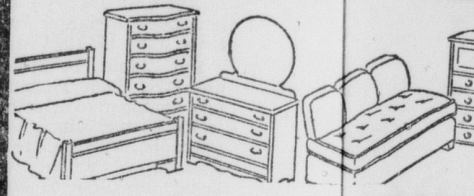
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