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9

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FARMERS ELECT E. J. FARABAUGH COUNTY LEADER

Loretton R. D. Man Is Named As Chairman of the Cambria Co. Agricultural Committee

E. J. Farabaugh, of Loretto R. D., was reelected chairman of the Cambria County Agricultural Conservation Committee at the annual reorganization last Thursday night in the Ebensburg headquarters.

Other members elected to the committee for the coming year are C. J. Beamer, Hastings, R. D., vice chairman; W. H. Fyock, Johnstown R. D. 2; T. H. Lauer, Ebensburg R. D. 1; first alternate; and P. C. Strittmatter, Patton R. D., second alternate.

The county committee will cooperate with eleven independent community committees in endeavoring to increase the production of food stuffs, so vitally needed for the war effort.

Chairman Farabaugh said the county committee will keep in constant contact with all farmers to learn their needs for maintaining peak production of vegetables and other food-stuffs.

The committee will assist farmers in obtaining certificates of necessity so that they can obtain parts for repairing farm machinery. The group also will aid farmers in securing gasoline and tires for equipment.

Cambria County Farm Agent H. C. McWilliams will work closely with the committee in promoting a program for increasing the output of all foodstuffs next summer and fall. The committee will aid farmers in obtaining additional fertilizer and seed for increased spring planting.

Committees also will endeavor to secure sufficient farm labor next spring so that farmers will be able to plant additional crops. It was revealed that if additional labor is not supplied the farmers will be unable to meet requests for increased production.

MORE DRIVERS BUT FEWER CARS RUN

Harrisburg. — Pennsylvania has more licensed drivers but fewer automobiles in operation now than a year ago, the Motor Vehicles Bureau reports.

Robert I. Shreffler, bureau administrator, said operators' permits increased 2.5 per cent while gasoline and tire rationing has caused a 5.9 per cent decline in automobile registration.

A total of 2,939,877 drivers held permits Dec. 1 this year compared to 2,867,297 the corresponding date last year. Automobile registration decreased from 1,989,210 December 1, 1941, to 1,872,647 the corresponding day this year.

Shreffler does not expect as many driving permits to be issued during 1943. Approximately 130,000 renewals for the coming year were received by the bureau this week, seven days after mailing began.

FORMER HASTINGS MAN IS APPOINTED A JUDGE

Attorney Blair F. Gunther, 39, of Pittsburgh, a native of Hastings, on Monday was appointed by Governor James to succeed his father-in-law, Judge Frank A. Plekarski, as an Allegheny court judge.

Judge Plekarski resigned because of ill health. The Cambria County native will fill the unexpired term ending the first Monday of January 1944.

Attorney Gunther was born in Hastings, a son of the late John Gunther and of Mrs. Amelia Gunther of Erie. His father died 20 years ago. As a youth Attorney Gunther attended the public schools in Hastings and Spangler. The family moved from northern Cambria county about twenty years ago.

The newly appointed judge attended Kanty Preparatory School in Erie, and was graduated from the law school of Duquesne University in 1927, starting law practice the following year.

He is a nephew of Fred Gunther, well known Hastings merchant.

TWIN ROCKS MINER IS FROZEN TO DEATH

The blustery snowstorm and near-zero weather over the week end brought the district's first death of the current winter from exposure.

The badly frozen body of Mike Krun, 55, of Twin Rocks, was found about 10 o'clock on Monday morning lying along the spur of the Cambria & Indiana Railroad which leads from Twin Rocks to Cardiff Mine.

A Twin Rocks lad discovered the body, and notified help. But the man had been dead for some time.

STORES OPEN DURING EVENINGS TILL XMAS

All stores in Barnesboro, and we presume over the entire north of the county, as well, are now open in the evenings until Christmas, to facilitate shopping requirements.

With gas rationing in effect, north county stores report a large volume of business, and we might suggest that our readers review the advertisements of the merchants in our columns. Prices are reasonable, and choice is good, considering the wartime restrictions. If you can't find it convenient to shop during the day—then do it in the evening. There are still ample selections, but the earlier you shop the better.

ICKES LIKELY WILL HELP IN SOLVING OF MINING DEADLOCK

Soft Coal Negotiators Can't Agree on the Terms for a Six Day Work Week in Industry

Washington. — Fuel Coordinator Harold L. Ickes is expected to intervene in the deadlocked negotiations between the United Mine Workers of America and the Appalachian soft coal operators for six day operations in bituminous mines.

The two groups, after a series of consultations, advised Ickes Saturday they were unable to agree to a contract embodying the six day work week, principally because of a controversy whether the increase from the present five day week should be mandatory.

The union insisted that the extra day asked by the government as a production increase measure should be a voluntary contribution by miners. Operators are willing to pay time and a half for the sixth day of operations, but said the U. M. W. proposal that the added time be contributed voluntarily "left them no voice or control over the sixth day operations of the management's property."

Ickes requested an extension of working hours beyond the present 35-hour limit per week on September 29, contending the increase was necessary to meet the nation's 1943 soft coal requirements of 600,000,000 tons.

THREE LEGION POSTS HONOR MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL DRAFT BOARD

Matt Gibby, western vice commander of the American Legion, lauded the excellent work being accomplished by the selective service boards of Pennsylvania in an address on Thursday night at a dinner in the Barnesboro American Legion Home in honor of members of Cambria County Selective Service Board No. 2, with headquarters at Ebensburg.

The Legion official also told how the American Legion is cooperating with draft boards in carrying out orders issued by the government. A musical program was rendered during the evening. The Carrolltown, Spangler and Barnesboro Posts of the American Legion sponsored the banquet.

Members of the board are Judge George W. Griffith, Judge, Ebensburg; Thomas Evans, Colver, and Frank Morley, Barnesboro. Board clerks, doctors and Attorney Neice A. Malloy, the board appeals officer, also were honor guests.

FARMERS TO GET "V" PRODUCTION AWARDS

Harrisburg. — "V" certificates will be awarded Pennsylvania farmers with outstanding food production records.

The Agricultural Adjustment Agency said the presentations will be made at a Harrisburg ceremony later this month for growers who have "maintained or increased production of foods essential to victory, conserved their soil and wholeheartedly cooperated with their neighbors in a united effort to meet the national goals of food for freedom."

County AAA committeemen will nominate farmers for the award.

CASSANDRA MAN IS MADE A MAJOR

James Donald Sheridan of Cassandra, son of Mrs. Mary A. Sheridan, has been promoted to the rank of Major at Camp Wheeler, Ga., it was announced Saturday.

Major Sheridan, former chief clerk to Lieut.-Col. Louis J. Lampke, when he was stationed in Johnstown, is adjutant of the Infantry Replacement Training Center at Camp Wheeler.

The Press-Courier office is modernly equipped to produce modern printing.

The SPIRIT of SANTA CLAUS



THERE will be many shadows clouding our Christmas Day this year:—Christmas is important! It comes at the close of the old year binding up the wounds of bitterness, making fast the moorings of friendship, renewing the promise of peace and good will, invoking the magic of memories.

Christmas is the children's feast: has the Master not said that what we do unto the least of His little ones we do also unto Him? It is twenty centuries since there was no room for Him in the inn and many children have neither a bed nor place of safety these nights. For these, we give our efforts, our bundles, and our prayers.

In America, the children must not lose their faith in Santa Claus. The best explanation regarding Santa Claus and the Christmas Spirit I have ever been offered or able to figure out for myself, is the one that was given to me by my mother on that fateful day when I accidentally caught a delivery boy entering the house bearing an ill-conceived rocking horse.

Santa Claus typifies the Christmas Spirit: the mothers and fathers, those bewhiskered gentlemen in the stores (who puzzle lots of boys and girls by being so numerous), the delivery boys, and all of us who support and participate in the campaign of spreading cheer, we are the life blood and sustaining power of the Christmas Spirit.

The children of today must have their toys this Christmas; and we must be extra-careful that no child has occasion to lose his faith in Santa Claus. There are plenty of sleds and drums, dolls and painted carts and Christmas trees to go around; but it is up to Santa's helpers to see that every child in the land is remembered.

And we grown-ups must have our Christmas, too. For when we out-grow our toys we set this day aside to reunite our families and strengthen the bonds of friendship.

"Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight."

KATHLEEN CROWELL ENLISTS IN WAVES

Miss Kathleen Crowell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Crowell of Patton, who recently enlisted in the Navy's Auxiliary Branch of the WAVES, left last Sunday from Pittsburgh, for Cedar Falls, Iowa, where she will receive her basic training at the Iowa State Teachers' College. Accompanying her to Pittsburgh were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Crowell, and sons, Gerald and Charles, Jr. While there they visited Mr. Crowell's sister and brother, who reside in Swisshale. Miss Crowell is a graduate of the Patton High School, Class of '39, and while a student was very active in sports. She is also a graduate of the Cambria-Rowe Business College, of Johnstown, and since her graduation there about a year ago, had been employed in the Navy Department at Washington, D. C.

A MILLION YANKS SERVING OVERSEAS

Washington.—President Roosevelt, disclosing that American forces overseas will number more than one million by the end of this month, told Congress the other day that the "Axis powers have temporarily at least, lost the initiative."

The President's statement was in a letter submitting a report to Congress on Lend-Lease operations for the three months' ended last Friday.

In asserting that the Axis had lost the initiative for the time being at least, Mr. Roosevelt said that "we must do all we can to keep them from regaining it."

The report showed that lend-lease assistance to the nation's Allies totaled \$2,367,000,000 for the period—an increase of more than one-third over the previous quarter and more than four times the lend-lease total for the quarter immediately preceding the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

The report described the Allied force which occupied French North Africa as "the greatest overseas expeditionary force in history."

The President did not, however, go into details about foreign operations which will push the total of American forces in other lands beyond 1,000,000 by the first of the year.

SOFT COAL OUTPUT UP, ANTHRACITE IS DOWN

Washington.—Solid Fuels Administrator Harold L. Ickes reported on Saturday that production of bituminous coal increased, while anthracite decreased during the week ending on December 5th.

Soft coal production was estimated at 11,200,000 tons, compared with a revised estimate of 10,745,000 tons for the Thanksgiving Holiday week ended November 28th.

Anthracite production was figured at 1,101,000 tons, compared with 1,156,000 tons for the previous week.

REAL PINCH IN 1944.

A real pinch on canned food for civilians is not due until 1944; that year you'll get about 33 pounds of canned food each, compared with 46 pounds in pre-war period. Army will get all the canned blueberries, canned figs and canned carrots.

And: the government is quietly at work on Ration book No. 3.

USE FEW LIGHTS IN OUTSIDE DISPLAYS

In line with the request of the War Production Board to save power, the Patton Chamber of Commerce suggests a minimum of outside Xmas lighting decorations this year.

To offset this, we hope that use of greens and other such types of decorations will be greater than ever.

We wish to thank all those who have cooperated in past years in connection with our Christmas lighting, and let us hope that next year we can use our Christmas lights again.

Patton Chamber of Commerce.

MINE WORK IS NO WOMAN'S JOB SAY UNION'S LEADERS

Couple of Coal Companies Hired Some Females But They Soon Released Them.

The United Mine Workers have hung out an emphatic "men only" sign, so far as working in or around coal operations are concerned.

Millions of women have entered manufacturing industries, and the percentage of women is steadily growing as compared to men in the war industries, but the United Mine Workers Journal made it positive there will be nothing like that in or around coal mines.

Two recent instances of employment of women around coal mines were called "grandstand publicity" plays. One was in western Canada, and the other in Algoma, West Virginia, where William Berry, general manager of the Algoma Coal Company, was said by the miners' paper to have hired five women as tipple workers on the alleged pretense of solving a manpower shortage.

The Algoma manager, the paper declared, "dreamed up the manpower shortage, because investigation has revealed that on the very day the five women were hired, eight men were refused jobs at the Algoma mine."

In both cases the women were discharged and replaced by men as soon as UMWA representatives learned of the situation, it was reported, "but not before the gullible Department of the Interior had received the news and had issued a release which caused press services to pick up the Algoma story and put out considerable publicity for the mine management."

In notifying the Algoma management it must immediately stop the practice of hiring women, George J. Titler, president of District 29 in southern West Virginia, said, "It is regrettable that coal operators will attempt to reduce the social standard of wives and daughters of our membership to a level with those practices in the dark ages—that of slaving in the production of coal which was abolished in England in the 18th Century."

"Employment of women in and around mines," said the Journal, "is not practical. Every miner knows this, and so does every operator. Coal mining is not a woman's job and that is all there is to it. For that reason the UMWA contracts specifically cover men, not women."

The union was expected to have no difficulty in controlling the situation because not only is its membership restricted to "workmen" under its constitution but it operates under an almost complete "union shop" in the far flung industry.

BARNESBORO MAN IS NOW A MAJOR

John Binder of Barnesboro, who was called to the service about nine months ago and who was given the rank of captain, has been promoted to the rank of major, it was revealed Saturday. Major Binder is a graduate of West Point. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Binder, and is the senior member of the Binder Bros. Hardware Company. At the present time he is serving on the West Coast. He formerly was located at Camp Robins, Georgia.

A AND P EMPLOYEES TO GET ADDED STIPENDS

New York.—Additional compensation totalling \$1,400,000 will be distributed to employees of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company before Christmas, it has been announced by John A. Hartford, president.

All A & P employees throughout the country with six months or more of service will participate in the cash distribution.

The company's employees were voted similar compensation last year.

FIREMEN WILL MAKE EQUIPMENT SURVEY OVER THE COUNTY

Cambria Group to Ask Rationing Board for Five Gallons of Gas to Attend Meetings.

Inventories of all available equipment of every fire company which holds membership in the Volunteer Firemen's Association of Cambria County and Vicinity will be made and turned over to the Cambria County Council of Defense.

Decision to check on all available equipment in the county was made at a meeting of the association last Thursday night in the Cresson Fire has been transferred from the Naval depot, was in charge of the meeting.

Charles Kreutzberger, fire chief of the Defense Council, will be given a list of every fire truck, pumper, emergency squad car and every foot of hose available in the county in the event of an emergency. With the complete knowledge of where every piece of equipment is located, defense officials will be able to hold to a minimum calls made during emergencies.

The firemen adopted a resolution to ask the Cambria County Rationing Board for five gallons of gasoline be given to each member company for attending monthly meetings. The gasoline will be divided among donors of automobiles and as many firemen as possible will be transported to the meetings.

Firemen also adopted a new code system for summoning assistance in the event of emergencies. The three zone system was eliminated so that emergency calls can be held to a minimum. Only a designated number of firemen in each company will be authorized to call other companies for help and these men will have to divulge a secret number or letter before the company will respond to the alarm.

President Davis pointed out that under the new system that only companies that are actually needed will be called. The firemen, in emergencies, will call the company which is able to provide the most suitable equipment. For instance, when a heavy pumper is needed, a company with that type of equipment will be summoned or when additional hose is needed a company which normally carries a large amount of hose will receive the call.

The president also announced that the 1943 county convention probably will be held the first week in August in Beaverdale.

The firemen adopted the following schedule of meetings for the coming year: January, Ebensburg; February, Coalport; March, Southmont; April, Carrolltown; May, Beaverdale; June, Vintondale; July, none; August, county convention in Beaverdale; September, Ideal Fire Co., Bens Creek; October, Clymer; November, none; and December, Riverside.

SHERIFFS SEEK RIGHT TO SUCCEED SELVES

A drive is to be made in the coming session of the legislature to have passed a constitutional amendment to permit a sheriff to succeed himself in office. He is barred by the constitution from being a candidate for a second term.

The legislative committee of the Pennsylvania Sheriffs' Association will meet in Harrisburg on Thursday of this week to plan the campaign in the Legislature.

A constitutional amendment, to be adopted in Pennsylvania, must be passed in two sessions of the legislature and then ratified by the voters.

Under that schedule it would be possible for an amendment to be adopted in time to permit Sheriffs whose terms will expire in January, 1946, to be candidates for re-election in 1945.

SURPRISE TEST AIR RAID SOUNDED LAST SUNDAY

Sunday noon brought us a surprise daylight air-raid, and it was declared by defense officials to be the best yet in this section of the state.

The twenty-minute drill, between 12 noon and 12:20 p. m., which caught the entire district by complete surprise, found many persons attending church services and still many others on their way home from the services. The weather was cold and blustery, and wardens and police shivered at their posts.

Mrs. Augusta O'Donnell of Spangler was elected secretary of the Cambria County Department of Public Assistance at a meeting of the county DPA last week. Mrs. O'Donnell, a member of the county staff for some time, was acting as temporary secretary since the resignation of Mrs. Mary M. Hayes of Westmont.