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9

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## All Operators Told to Ask for Draft Deferment of Coal Mine Employees to Sustain Production

C. J. Potter, Deputy Fuel Administrator Says the Continued Work of Every Miner Is Necessary for War's Demands.

Draft deferments for all district miners in order to continue "maximum production of coal for the effective prosecution of the war" will be sought by operators of government seized mines, it was announced last Friday night.

C. J. Potter, of Indiana, deputy coal administrator for the nation sent out instructions requesting all operators to ask draft deferments for all men engaged in mine operations and to appeal any cases refused by local Selective Service Boards.

Potter said that the patriotism of the miners is beyond question, as demonstrated by their record production work and by the service of large numbers of miners in the armed forces.

However, he said that successful prosecution of the war now depends upon a maximum output of bituminous coal and that this makes it necessary for all mine workers "to stay at their jobs and produce even more than they are producing now."

Selective Service officials of the district interpreted the request as a blanket deferment for all coal mine workers. Draft boards, it was revealed, have been notified by headquarters to reclassify miners and companies have been told to have their workers placed in the 2-A class.

The question of deferments for the coal miners has developed into a controversial issue in this district during the past several weeks.

The notice by the government was seen as the answer to action taken by some of the miners that they did not want deferments. Steadily draining of workers from the pits has crippled production to the point where the war effort was seriously threatened, coal heads declare.

Largest producers of coal are men under the 35-year-age mark, a draft board official said, and if the cream of the miners is taken production will be cut in half. He stated that too many men already had been taken from the coal pits.

Before draft boards can call miners for examination a release must be secured from the War Manpower Commission. With the placing of all miners in the deferred classification the WMC will refuse to grant any releases it was stated.

The complete text of the notice by Potter as announced by the regional office of the Solid Fuels Administration in Altoona, follows:

"The patriotism of the miner now is being demonstrated not only by production work but likewise by service of large numbers of mine workers in the armed forces.

"The continued maximum production of coal for the effective prosecution of the war makes it necessary however, for all mine workers to remain at their jobs and produce even more than they are producing now."

"Accordingly, all operating managers are instructed, where they have not made such requests, to apply immediately to their draft boards for deferments of all mine workers employed at the mine and to follow the usual appeal procedure in such requests in which deferments are denied."

## MUSIC CLUB PLANS HOLIDAY PROGRAM

"The Music of Bethlehem," a three-part Christmas Cantata, arranged for three voices, will be presented by the Music Club Chorus at the December meeting of the Patton Music Club on Tuesday evening, December 14th, at 8:15 p. m. in the Presbyterian Church, here.

The text of the Cantata was written by Mattie E. Shannon and the music by Fred B. Holton, and is under the direction of Miss Yvonne Yerger. Mrs. M. J. Shannon will accompany the singers.

A quartet composed of Edward Donahue, tenor; Snyder Yerger, bass; Madeline Cossitor, soprano, and Catherine Overberger, alto, also will give several selections of Christmas music.

Personnel of the Music Club Chorus: Sopranos—Madeline Cossitor, Mrs. Joseph Short, Barbara Overberger, Anna Mary Bortman, Gertrude Westrick, and Bess Donahue. Second Sopranos—Sue E. Gill, and Henrietta Yahner. Altos—Mrs. Mary Wealand and Catherine Overberger.

LOST—Two No. 3 ration books—Lawrence Volk and Alice Volk. 3t

## NORTHERN CAMBRIA SCHOOL BOARDS ARE AGAIN REORGANIZED

East Carroll Township Man Begins His Thirtieth Consecutive Year As Member

C. W. Meisel, of near Carrolltown, began serving his 33rd consecutive year as a member of the East Carroll Township School Board, and was reelected president of the board for the 17th consecutive term at the annual reorganization meeting Monday night.

Other Northern Cambria County Boards and the officers elected for the coming year, are as follows:

Patton Borough—Dr. E. P. Overberger, president; Dr. E. P. Cooper, vice president; Miss Ellen C. Dietrick, secretary, not a member of the board. Dr. John Allen Murray, Ralph A. Litzinger and Quentin Deringer are the other board members.

Elder Township—Daniel McGlynn, Hastings, president; Cyril McMullen, Hastings, vice president; Joseph Galinis, Hastings, Secretary; and Geo. S. Byrne, Patton, R. D., treasurer. Alvin Thomas, St. Boniface, is the other member of the board.

Spangler Borough—A. J. Dominic, President; Dennis Holtz, vice president; James J. Dumm, secretary and Frank J. Lehniel, treasurer. Dr. A. W. Fees is the other member.

Carrolltown Borough—Harry J. Hips, president; Alvin S. Sharbaugh, vice president; M. J. Strittmatter, secretary; M. D. Connell, treasurer, not a member of the board. Fred B. Buck and Thomas A. Owens are the other board members.

Chest Township—Harry Lann, of Flinton R. D., president, a new member; Modestus Bender, Flinton, vice president; Herman Yahner, Patton, R. D., secretary; for the 24th consecutive year; and Frank X. Young, treasurer, not a member of the board.

Patton, Leiden, St. Lawrence, and Henry T. Johnson, Patton, R. D., are the other members.

Hastings Borough—James McNeil, president; M. L. Buck, vice president, Otto T. Strittmatter, secretary and D. A. Westover, treasurer, not a member of the board. Dr. F. C. Peters and Paul K. Easley, other members.

Susquehanna Township—Vincent A. Holtz, Hastings R. D., president; John Lake, Barnesboro, R. D., vice president; C. J. Bearer, Hastings, R. D., secretary, and O. J. Rickard, Barnesboro R. D., treasurer. Jacob Krug, Cherry Tree, is the other member.

Dean Township—Frank Gregg, of Dysart, president; Regis Hartog, a new member, vice president; P. B. Lawson, Dysart, R. D., treasurer; Mrs. Esther Conzo, Dysart, secretary, not a member. Earl Kopp, Dysart, R. D., and H. L. Johnston, Dean, are the other members.

East Carroll Township—C. W. Meisel, Carrolltown, president; James A. Dietrick, Patton, R. D., vice president; Hugh Whiteford, Patton R. D., secretary, not a member; and A. A. Feigener, treasurer, R. M. Niebauer, Ebensburg R. D., is the other board member.

West Carroll Township—Frank P. Miller, president; Paul Strong, vice president; Adrian Buck, secretary; and Fred B. Buck, treasurer. R. V. Lentz, a board member, is in the service. Henry Shero is the other member.

Prince Gallitzin—Clair Hartzog, Patton, president; Rupert Farabough, Loretto, vice president; A. C. Callahan, Chest Springs, continues as secretary; and M. D. Connell, Carrolltown, as treasurer. They are not members of the board. Other members are Raymond Seymour, and V. D. Huber, both of Loretto, and Frank J. Kittell, Gallitzin, R. D.

## TEACHERS VISIT DRAFT CENTERS

Visits to the nearest military induction centers will help high school administrators gear instructional programs to war needs under a plan disclosed this week by State Public Instruction Superintendent Francis B. Haas.

After observing the work of their induction centers in Philadelphia, Allentown, Harrisburg, Wilkes-Barre, Altoona, Greensburg, Erie or Pittsburgh, Mr. Haas said the secondary school principals and guidance counselors and county superintendents, will be given an opportunity to inspect the New Cumberland induction center—which processes all Pennsylvania Army selectees.

"The Third Service Command's Pre-Induction Training Branch hopes to make the school administrators more sensitive to the details in preparing boys for military service," Dr. G. Franklin Stove, the department's curriculum assistant, said.

## ANNIVERSARY OF JAP SNEAK ATTACK FINDS ALLIES ON OFFENSIVE

But We Have Had to Learn Much and Do A Great Deal More, With Toughest Ahead.

It was on a Sunday, two years ago this week, that the Japs knifed us in the back at Pearl Harbor.

We have almost forgotten our first astonishment and our early cockiness—our talk of beating the Jap Navy in three months and then of blockading Japan into surrender in six months more.

Since that time we have seen 717 Patton young men and women go into service under arms for their country. We have learned that some will never come back, and we now are seeing family men departing.

We have settled down to the long pull.

But it does no harm to recall the great gains we have made, especially the great strides since the first anniversary of Pearl Harbor a year ago.

For in last year we have split the Axis, and we have brought unity to the United Nations.

The picture wasn't too cheerful a year ago.

We had been in Guadalcanal for four months. We were still there. But so were the Japs. And the Japs were still making strenuous efforts to reinforce their garrison.

We had been in North Africa a month. The invasion wasn't going well. There were allied admissions that the Luftwaffe had won temporary air superiority.

Only two months before Rommel had been within 60 miles of Alexandria.

The Germans were still fighting outside Stalingrad.

There was still a chance that the Axis might achieve its great military hope of a junction—still a chance Japan might invade India, while Germany and Italy struck through the Middle East.

If Germany had been able to join Japan and exchange her manufactured goods for raw materials Japan looted from the Far East—we would be counting the length of the war in decades—not years.

United Nations victories this last year—in Russia, in North Africa, in Italy, our success in the Solomons and New Guinea, our reinforcement of India—have ended forever the hope of a union of our enemies.

By the surrender of Italy, we smashed a good sized piece of the Axis. It's one down and two to go.

On the other side we have achieved unity among the anti-Axis forces.

The Moscow conference in October, the Cairo parley a month later and the conference of President Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin in the Middle East have made the United States, Britain, Russia and China a united Big Four, not just a name.

We have achieved—by diplomacy and by arms—a unity the Axis never had.

Too much credit cannot be given to President Roosevelt.

It's no secret that the Chinese had feared British imperialism, applauded the American policy as exemplified in the Philippines. Our guess is that Roosevelt had more to do with bringing China and Britain together at Cairo than any other man.

"All of us, says the Republican Philadelphia Inquirer, "have been critical of some of the mistakes made by the administration on the home front. But suppose Roosevelt had devoted more of his time to affairs like rationing? We might have a lot less confusion over red stamps and A gasoline books but be a lot less farther along in the war, a long way off from our diplomatic victories. Let's think of that, too, as we look back on the achievements of the past year."

KEEP BOARD INFORMED.

A farm worker who fails to keep his local selective service board informed of a change of address or occupation may be reclassified or possibly inducted into the armed forces. Only the selective service board with whom the individual has registered has authority to grant a temporary release for non-farm work to protect his deferred classification.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish, in this manner, to thank all those who assisted us in any way in our recent bereavement, the illness and death of our son and brother, Howard Strittmatter; also for the floral and spiritual bouquets and use of automobiles.—The P. C. Strittmatter Family.

KINDLING WOOD and mine caps, will deliver to towns within 15 miles of Patton. Call Patton 3764, or write G. C. Beunier, Box 174, Patton, Pa. 3t

## County-Wide Mobilization of All Civilian Defense Units Is Called for Next Wednesday

### BARNESBORO LAD GERMAN PRISONER

Staff Sergeant Harry Hafko, 19, of Barnesboro, a gunner on a Flying Fortress, who was listed as missing since October 10th, was reported taken prisoner by the Germans.

The flier's mother, Mrs. Kate Hafko was notified Monday by the War Department that her son was captured after his plane was shot down during a raid over enemy territory.

The soldier has three brothers in the armed forces—Pfc. John Hafko, twin of Harry, attending the Army Gunnery School at Fort Myers, Fla.; Sgt. Charles, stationed in New Mexico, and Nicholas, serving with the Navy in the Aleutian Islands.

### MINE INSPECTOR EXAMS ANNOUNCED

A new examination for coal mine inspectors requiring a written test was announced last Saturday by the Civil Service Commission.

Jerome K. Hudson, the commission Johnstown secretary, said appointment will be made for field service in the Bureau of Mines, Department of Interior, from applicants who are aged from 30 to 55 years.

Applications for the federal positions which pay from \$3,163 to \$5,288 a year must be filed not later than January 20, Mr. Hudson announced.

Detailed information is available at Civil Service Headquarters in the Johnstown postoffice building.

### CRESSON BOARD MEN INDUCTED

Only a small number of men, registered with Selective Service Board No. 1, Cresson headquarters, were inducted this week at the Altoona Induction Center. They are:

**Marines.**  
Hugo G. Donatello, Patton.  
**Navy.**  
Paul J. Nagle, Dysart.  
Alfred P. Raymond, Gallitzin.  
Arthur E. Glass, Gallitzin, R. D.  
Charles F. Niebauer, Hastings.  
Daniel P. Hurley, Lakemore, Ohio.  
Stanley G. Clayko, Lilly.  
Donald J. Wills, Ashville.  
Joseph Bradley, Cresson.

**Army.**  
Stephen A. Dillon, Hastings.  
Walter T. Sarnesky, Lilly.  
Gerald J. Yahner, Hastings.  
Joseph W. Abel, Hastings.  
Harold A. Lauer, Cresson.  
Roger E. McIntosh, Lilly.  
Duane E. Eheraw, Cresson.  
Clyde F. Rodgers, Saxton R. D.

### GARDEN CLUB TO HAVE A CHRISTMAS PARTY

Mrs. Frank Schwab, Mrs. Charles Snyder and Mrs. L. Claire Smale, of the Board of Managers of the Garden Study Club, met at the home of Mrs. E. P. Cooper on Tuesday evening and made arrangements for a Christmas Tea to be held at the Red Cross Rooms on Fifth avenue at 2:30 P. M. on Saturday, December 11th.

Miss Eastman of Ebensburg, will be the speaker for the afternoon and will show many novel Christmas arrangements for indoor and outdoor decoration. Miss Eastman excels in appropriate Christmas settings and the Garden Study Club is privileged to have her here during this busy holiday season.

The following members, who compose the entire board of managers, will act as hostesses at the holiday tea: Mrs. E. P. Cooper, Mrs. Charles Snyder, Mrs. Frank Schwab, Miss Yvonne Yerger, Mrs. Jerry Sheehan, Mrs. D. J. Link, Miss Agnes Palcho, Mrs. Kathryn Cowher, Mrs. Charles Swab, Mrs. L. Claire Smale, and Mrs. Barth Young.

All members of the Garden Study Club are urged to attend the Holiday Tea and to bring along a guest, and hear Miss Eastman, and see her demonstrate unique ideas for Christmas decorations.

HELP SANTA CLAUS. Christmas shoppers have been asked by ODT to lend Santa Claus a helping hand by observing the following: Shop now. Mail now. Do not wait until the eleventh hour.

### Walter Stinson Outlines Plans of Procedure for Next Wednesday Evening in Accord With Ruling from State Headquarters.....

County-wide mobilization of civilian defense personnel has been ordered by Cimm. Walter J. Stinson of Ebensburg in conjunction with a state-wide mobilization Wednesday, December 15th, beginning at 7 p. m.

Air-raid wardens and other defense personnel will man posts and control centers and go through all necessary maneuvers of a simulated air raid, with sabotage attempts, but the public will not participate in the raid.

Orders are that under no conditions will defense units use audible warning devices unless ordered to do so by the county commander.

General orders by State Commander Lynn G. Adams, transmitted through Col. Ralph M. Mitchell, U. S. Army, retired, controller, call for a muster consisting of the segregation of individuals into service groups and checking of their presence from accurate, previously prepared rolls.

The inspection will cover both personnel and equipment and should include verification, inspection of equipment for serviceability and a check to determine that each individual has with him his identification card and arm band. The state commander also recommends a check of allocated federal property issued to individuals such as helmets and gas masks.

Local inspections are to be made by commanders, accompanied by their staffs, and wherever possible by county council officials as a means of simulating morale.

The mobilization and inspection will culminate with exercises into which the actual dispatch of units to the localities of hypothetical incidents will be exemplified at local levels and the work of all services will be coordinated in control centers. The exercise will commence at 8 p. m.

The general situation for the mobilization will be announced through the press associations December 15, Cimm. Adams announces. Reports of the mobilization and inspections are to be made by local commanders to the county commander who in turn will report it to the state unit.

Local commanders will prepare incidents for their corps, which will be communicated by sealed letter to senior wardens, to be opened at a specified time. This plan will give the element of surprise which would be present in an actual raid. The warden will take the necessary action and report the incident to the district control center. Control centers will take the appropriate action and report to the next higher commander.

County control centers are required to send at least one message and not more than two to the state control center before 9:30 p. m., giving a report of the situation, the extent of damage, whether or not aid is needed from outside the county, and if so, what and where.

Within ten days the county commander is to mail to the state commander copies of logs kept in all of the control centers December 15, accompanied by a written report by the county commander giving details of the mobilization, inspection, remarks, criticisms, recommendations and requests.

Actual movement of reinforcements and supplies, when ordered by the state control center, is left to the judgment of county authorities. Arrangements are to be made with police in all communities for special attention to traffic control, since civilian defense equipment actually will be moved during the exercises.

### NICKTOWN SOLDIER LISTED WOUNDED

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Ager of Nicktown have been notified that their son, Pvt. Clair P. Ager, aged 20, was wounded slightly in action while fighting the Germans in Italy. The soldier has been evacuated to a base hospital. Pvt. Ager entered the service about a year ago and was transferred to overseas duty about three months ago.

### CARD OF THANKS.

We wish, in this manner, to thank all those who assisted us in any way in our recent bereavement, the death of our husband and father, Emery Flesher, for the spiritual and floral bouquets and for the use of cars at the funeral.—Mrs. Emery Flesher and Family.