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COUNTY DEMOCRATS RE-ELECT TORQUATO AS PARTY CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Helen Beattie of Ebensburg Is New Vice Chairman, Following Committee Meet.

John R. Torquato of Johnstown war re-elected chairman of the Cambria County Democratic Committee at a meeting of the organization last Friday night in the court house at Ebensburg.

Miss Helen Beattie of Ebensburg was elected vice chairman succeeding Mrs. Rosella Diamond of Summerhill, who was not a candidate for re-election. The election of both Mr. Torquato and Mrs. Beattie was by acclamation.

Mrs. Beattie had been active in Summerhill, who was not a candidate for many years, having served as party committeewoman from the East Ward, Ebensburg since 1928. Her husband, Ed Beattie, also has been active in party councils for a good many years, having served as committeeman since 1924.

A plea for harmony was made by Mr. Torquato following his election. "It has been my endeavor since I have been the county chairman to cooperate with everyone," Mr. Torquato said. "There is no reason why we should not have party harmony."

"We must have harmony and exert every effort to re-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt as President and also to reelect the entire county ticket and our candidates for the assembly in Johnstown."

Mr. Torquato lauded the record of Senator John J. Haluska, Assemblymen Tom Owens, Michael C. Chervenak, Jr., and Albert L. O'Connor. He also urged that workers do everything in their power to elect Hiram G. Andrews and Frank J. Pentrack as assemblymen in the city district.

Mr. Torquato in urging the election of the Democrat nominee for Congress, declared, "there can be no cutting of any candidate."

In a short address Mrs. Beattie urged that the members of the committee do everything possible to promote harmony in the party and promised to cooperate in every possible manner with the chairman.

Prior to the election Judge Ivan McKenrick urged members of the committee to do everything possible in support of the forthcoming Fifth War Loan drive. He asked that the members in entering and obtaining subscriptions indicate the desire that the amount subscribed be credited to the committee.

FATHER MADDEN IS BACK IN THE STATES

Captain Thomas E. Madden, chaplain with the artillery forces in Italy, who was wounded in action in January, has been evacuated to a hospital in the States, according to word received by his mother in Pittsburgh.

Father Madden, former editor of the Altoona Register, was regorted wounded in the front line of battle. His left leg was reported broken by shrapnel. Since that time he has been in an Italian base hospital and in two hospitals in North Africa. He is reported to be progressing but is still confined to a cast.

The chaplain reported to the Harvard chapel school Jan. 1, 1943. He was assigned to Fort Bragg, N. C., upon completion of his training. He was sent to the North African theatre of war almost a year ago.

TECH. SGT. JOS. GONAS, BARNESBORO, IS MISSING

Tech. Sgt. Joseph Gonas, of Barnesboro, has been missing in action since last May 8th, following a bombing mission over Nazi-occupied Europe, the flier's mother, Mrs. Pearl Garos, was informed by the War Department.

Sgt. Gonas was a gunner on a flying fortress and had been flying for several months from an American Air Force base somewhere in England. He was known to have participated in numerous bombing missions over enemy territory before he was lost. The flier holds the Air Medal with two Oak Leaf clusters.

The flier was graduated from the Barnesboro high school and entered the army Sept. 21, 1942. He received his basic training in St. Petersburg, Fla., and was later located in Clearwater, Fla.

State Police from the Ebensburg sub-station have taken nine youths into custody in connection with a series of robberies in Nanty-Glo, Ebensburg and Mundy's Corner. The youths are said to have admitted implication in the robberies. Cambria county detectives assisted state police in probing the series of robberies and in the subsequent arrest of the youths. All the defendants are residents of Nanty-Glo, Twin Rocks and Mundy's Corner.

OVER FIVE MILLION MEN NOW SERVING ABROAD OR AT SEA

Official Announcements Display Armed Might of Nation is Now Tremendous.

More than 5,200,000 men of the U. S. Armed Forces are now on duty abroad or at sea, official announcements revealed on June 1st.

The Navy disclosed that as of April 1 some 1,566,000 Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps personnel were serving afloat or at foreign posts. Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson announced earlier that 3,657,000 U. S. soldiers now are overseas and that by the end of the year more than 5,000,000 will be in the battle theatres on every continent.

Stimson also said that the Allied master plan to overwhelm Hitler's European fortress is in its final stage and that the "period of decisive action is now at hand." He said that overseas deployment of U. S. air and service forces is almost completed and that the movement of battle-girded land armies is "rapidly nearing the peak."

The Navy announcement also said that an additional 900,000 Navy personnel currently are either enroute overseas or are in training for sea or foreign duty. These men, added to those already abroad would give the United States an overseas military force of more than 6,000,000 trained and equipped to crack Japan and Germany.

Stimson revealed that the Army Air Forces possess 75,000 planes, including 34,000 combat craft and is operating 923 bases in foreign soil, including 750 air fields. Assistant Secretary of the Navy Artemus Gates recently announced that the Navy soon would have 37,700 planes of all types. A combination of these figures shows that the armed forces will have a total air strength of 112,700 planes.

Stimson also disclosed U. S. casualties in Italy number 55,150 from the time of the initial landing last September, to May 27, 16 days after the current offensive started. The total includes 9,686 killed, 39,910 wounded and 8,554 missing.

SERGEANT WILLIAMS MISSING IN ACTION

Sgt. John W. Williams, known to his many local friends as "Jack", a son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Williams of Patton, has been missing in action since April 22nd, according to word received by his parents. The soldier, a tail gunner on a Flying Fortress, was listed missing when his plane failed to return after a bombing mission over Germany.

The flier entered the Air Force in March of 1943, and was assigned to overseas duty early in April. A brother, Cpl. Bert A. is with the Army in Montana, and another brother, Pvt. Robert is with the Army in Mississippi.

TED REAM MISSING OVER FRENCH AREA

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ream, of St. Benedict, the former a well known official of the L. U. 2008, United Mine Workers of America, have been informed by the War Department that their son, First Lieutenant Theodore R. Ream, 22, has been missing in action since May 27 when he failed to return from a bombing raid over France.

The flier was sent overseas eleven months ago and was first based in North Africa and later, Italy. He joined the Army Air Forces on April 11, 1942, and was commissioned in December of that year at Tucson, Arizona. He was elevated to the rank of first lieutenant four months ago.

Lt. Ream graduated in 1940 from Carrolltown High School and worked for the Carrolltown Coal Company. He has four brothers in service—Cpl. Vincent, overseas; Staff Sgt. Harold, who recently returned to the States after many missions overseas as a gunner; George, seaman, second class, with the Navy at New Orleans; and Marlin, pharmacist's mate second class, with the Navy. Two sisters, Mary and Chloe, are at home.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish in this manner to thank all our friends who so generously assisted us in our recent bereavement, the illness and death of our wife and mother, Mrs. Evelyn Shuss, for the spiritual bouquets, floral offerings, and use of cars at the funeral.—Charles Shuss and Family.

INVASION---AND YOU!

The Army of Humanity is on the march! The hour of Liberation has struck! The flower of the youth of the United States and her Allies are on the soil of France, starting a bloody task that will not be easy—a task that may require weeks, and months, and possibly even much longer, a task that, too, will bring many anxious hours, and days, and weeks, and months, and to so many of us right here at home who have family members—loved ones—now fighting, or later to be fighting, on the vast battlefields that will be created—and there is much we CAN do here at home to help!

Next Monday, June 12th, the campaign for the Fifth War Loan will begin. There could be no more appropriate time than now for the opening of this imperative drive! Now, when the dollars of we folks here at home will keep flowing freely all the needed supplies and materials that this great Army of Invasion of Hitlerism will require.

The next time you write to that fighting man on the front in France—or on any of our world-wide fronts—will you be able to tell him what you have done about the Fifth War Loan? Every community in Cambria county has its quota to meet. Will you do your share? Will you help "back the attack?" You can do no less than invest your money in the interest of OUR boys!

CORPUS CHRISTI AT ST. LAWRENCE

The feast of Corpus Christi, in honor of the Institution of the Blessed Sacrament will be solemnized in St. Lawrence church, next Sunday morning, June 11th.

The services will begin with a high mass at nine o'clock. Special music for the occasion, rendered by the St. Lawrence choir, will consist of the "Missa Exultet," by Witt, with the "Gloria" by Shultes, as the Offertory motet.

Immediately after the Mass the entire congregation will join in the outdoor procession of the Blessed Sacrament. Two special altars will be erected in the cemetery, where Benediction will be given.

The services will close with Benediction in church, and the singing of the "Holy God."

NEED FOR SERVICE OFFICER STRESSED

The need for a service officer in Cambria county was stressed, last week by Col. Frank A. Weber, deputy adjutant general of the State Department of Military Affairs at a meeting of the county commissioners and representatives of service organizations.

The need of such an officer to take care of veterans returning from the war was held by Col. Weber to be the responsibility of the commissioners and all of the people of the county. He explained that such an officer should be chosen without regard to politics and regardless of what veterans' organization he is a member of.

GOOD SAMARITAN ACT LANDS MAN IN JAIL

Three persons were ordered to pay fines totaling \$125 and costs Thursday last after a man attempted to take a state examination for an automobile operator's license for a friend.

John R. Perkins, 28, Whitmer, drove to Ebensburg and posed as his friend Elmo Gray, also of Whitmer, in whose name the learner's permit had been issued. Perkins was accompanied by Gray's wife, in whose name the car is registered.

When police discovered the attempted impersonation they arrested Perkins, Gray and the latter's wife. Perkins and Gray each were sentenced to pay fines of \$50 and costs, and Mrs. Gray was ordered to pay fine of \$25 and costs. In default of payment Gray was committed to the county jail.

SPANGLER FAY HURT IN FALL ON BOTTLE

While hurrying home, to escape a storm, Irvin Sheriff, 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Sheriff, Spangler, was injured severely in a fall last week. The lad was said to have lain in the rain for some time, before his family, alarmed by his absence, started a search that led to the finding of the youth near his home.

Young Sheriff was said to have started to run down a hill when he stumbled on a glass jar. He was said to have suffered a severe laceration of the right arm and suffered from loss of blood before he was found. The lad was taken to Spangler hospital where his condition is improving.

COUNTY DEFENSE HEADS INSTRUCTED ON VOTER DRIVE

Prepare for Canvass Required to Send Ballots to Absentee Service Folks.

Instructions on the important task of registering every absentee voter in Cambria county for the general election in November were given to divisional leaders of civilian defense at conferences held Sunday in Johnstown and Ebensburg.

All homes from which one or more members have gone forth to serve their country will be canvassed between June 14 and 25 by civilian defense workers to obtain the information needed to mail out ballots to absentee voters.

Walter J. Stinson, county defense chairman for the canvass. His assistants will be Walter Anderson, Judge A. A. Nelson and Harry Zieme. Zone supervisors will be Herman Riblett, No. 1; John Kimball, No. 2; and Ralph Greenwood, No. 3.

The chairman of each defense council will be in charge of the canvass in his respective district. His divisional leaders, in turn, will direct the canvass by members of the various units such as air raid wardens, auxiliary firemen, etc.

The Pennsylvania Council of Defense was asked to make the canvass under authority of Act No. 4, Special Session of the Assembly of 1944, and, with the approval of the secretary of the commonwealth as required in this act, promulgated rules and regulations for the absentee voter canvass.

Under the setup, the civilian defense workers will carry identification cards which they will present when seeking information. No information beyond that required for filling out the official card is to be sought.

As a move to guarantee that the absentee voter's correct address will be on hand when the ballots are mailed out, the canvasser's will leave a change of address card at each home for use if a new military address is received after the canvass has been made.

BITUMINOUS MINES RETURNED TO OWNERS

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes last Wednesday night announced the return of all bituminous mines held by the government, except properties of the Southern Coal Producers' Association, to private possession and operation.

Ickes returned the mines after being notified that the operators will put into effect immediately a new wage contract.

PATTON MOOSE INITIATES CLASS

Initiation of 113 candidates featured a gathering of the Patton Lodge No. 488, Loyal Order of Moose, last Sunday afternoon, June 4th. The Barnesboro Degree Team performed the initiatory work of the ritual. Regional Director, J. Jack Stoehr, P. S. G., was the principal speaker of the afternoon.

Visiting lodge members present included Barnesboro, Cresson, Gallitzin, Coalport and Clearfield. A supper was prepared and served by the Ladies of the Moose, to members and their friends. Music for the evening was furnished by the Farabaugh Orchestra of Carrolltown.

CHICKEN AND NOODLE SUPPER SCHEDULED

A chicken and noodle supper is scheduled to be held in the St. Lawrence Grove on Father's Day, Sunday, June 18th, for the benefit of the St. Lawrence church. The general public is cordially invited.

There will also be games and amusements and an enjoyable outing can be looked forward to. Supper will be served from 4:30 to 6:30. Refreshments also will be served on the grounds.

Pfc. Robert B. Mason, a son of Mrs. Rosa Mason of Barnesboro, was killed in action in the Mediterranean War Theatre, according to dispatch received by the soldier's mother from the War Department. No details of his death were received.

MINES TO LAUNCH DRIVE TO BOOST COAL PRODUCTION

Both United Mine Workers and Coal Operators in District Behind the Move.

With the heaviest demands in history pressing the industry, coal mines of the district within the next week will launch a concerted effort to stimulate increased production, it was announced on Monday.

Production committees will be re-organized at all mines in the Johnstown region under the program mapped out at a meeting of officials of the Central Pennsylvania Coal Producers' Association and District No. 2 of the United Mine Workers of America.

E. W. Deringer, production manager for the operators, and Clarence Donaldson, U. M. W. vice president, of District 2, will head the drive.

The two co-chairmen of the production committee of the Central Pennsylvania fields will go to Washington Monday to meet with various agencies, including the War Manpower Commission and the War Production Board, it was announced. The new production movement will be inaugurated immediately following their return.

Letters are being prepared jointly by the Central Pennsylvania Producers and the mine union to be forwarded to all mines of the region advising them of the new program and urging full cooperation in the campaign for greater production of war vital fuel.

Committees have been functioning at mines of the district but the drive bogged down during the difficulties encountered by the industry over a new contract last year.

Plans for a revival of all committees was made at a conference of Charles O'Neill, president, and Walter Jones, secretary, of the producers' Association and James Mark, president of the miners' union. Rallies will be conducted in communities to stress the vital necessity of maintaining peak production, according to present plans.

Slashes in the working personnel of the coal mines has added to the production woes of the operations with the War Manpower Commission promising high priority to the industry in recruitment of miners.

Letters have been forwarded by the Central Pennsylvania producers' group to members informing them to make payment of the \$40 retroactive amount according to terms of the contract negotiated with the union and approved recently by the War Labor Board.

A question of whether "day" workers, those not actually producing the coal, would share in the payment, has been cleared up with announcement that all mine workers will receive retroactive pay.

Miners in the employ of the company from April 1 to June 19, inclusive, during the past year, will receive the \$40 and others will be paid pro rata for the period they worked, according to the letter.

Another concession made by the Central Pennsylvania producers is the payment of the retroactive money to employees who were sick or injured. These are considered on the payroll, the producers explained.

GERALDINE BENDER, OF PATTON, IS BRIDE

Miss Geraldine Bender, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent A. Bender of Patton, became the bride of Germaine Niebauer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Niebauer of St. Lawrence, at a ceremony performed last Thursday in St. Lawrence Catholic Church by Rev. Father Flavian Yeanko, O. S. B., pastor.

Miss Loretta Bender, a sister of the bride and Leonard Bender, her cousin, were the attendants. A wedding breakfast was served in the Ebensburg Inn. The couple will reside in Patton where the bridegroom is employed.

COUNTY ADOPTS RULE ON TAX COMPROMISES

The Cambria County Commissioners last week passed a resolution in the matter of compromise of taxes with the owners of the properties. No compromise will be accepted by the county commissioners at less than face value of all taxes unless the offer or compromise is accompanied by resolutions from the other taxing authorities concerned agreeing to the compromise. This rule does not apply to the sale of properties after the right of redemption has expired. In that case any one is privileged to make a higher offer.