A GENERAL NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

AN ATTAINMENT OF THE LARGEST GENERAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPAER CIRCULATION IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

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SHROYER DECLARES CAMBRIA HARDEST HIT BY SNOWFALLS

County Supervisors, Auditors and Good Roads Association Has Annual Convention.

Lido Giovachini of Colver was elected president of the Cambria Co. Supervisors, Auditors and Good Roads Association at last Friday's session of the annual meeting in the Ebensburg courthouse.

Mr. Giovachini, supervisor in Cambria Township, succeeds A. P. Norton of Lower Yoder Twp., who declined nomination after serving the past 3 years in the post.

Garfield Small of Richland Township, was elected vice president; Edward Miscoe, Lower Yoder Township, to his second term as recording secretary and Daniel H. Weimer, Upper Yoder township, treasurer.

Treasurer Weimer also was elected delegate to the state convention to be held on Feb. 14 and 15 in Reading.

John U. Shroyer, secretary of the State Department of Highways, declared in an address before the association that Cambria County roads presented one of the most difficult maintenance problems to the state in the winter's snowfalls.

Shroyer termed the prolonged winter's blitz the worst since 1884 and cited the fact that Cambria County has had 69 inches of snowfall since December 11th.

Due to the county's topography, Shroyer said, Cambria county presents a bigger maintenance problem than do the other counties. He said that Cambria county has 400 men now working in the highway department and that this number is proportionately higher than other counties in the state.

Secretary Shroyer said lack of equipment presented the biggest obstacle to snow removal in the county. He said the department has been unable to secure equipment on order.

He added that some owners of equipment have been asking exhorbitant prices for the equipment. Shroyer said the department has a rate ranging from $6 to $7.50 and hour for rental of equipment but that some of the owners have asked as high as $14 an hour.

In an address delivered at the afternoon session James B. Watters, chief engineer of the township roads, cited the allocations for road work for the year.

Due to inclement weather conditions the convention was attended by about only 50 persons. Attorney Philip N. Schettig of Ebensburg, delivered the address of welcome.

Retiring President Norton qouted the late President Calvin Coolidge, declined to accept the nomination for the coming year.

V

STULL WILL JUDGE ESSAY CONTEST

Complying with the mandates of the national convention, the Cambria County Ladies' Auxiliary to the American Legion, again will conduct the Americanism essay contest for junior and senior high school students as an important feature of the Americanism program this year.

Dr. Arthur M. Stull, supeintendent of the Cambria County Schools, will serve as judge of essays submitted.

Mrs. Gladys J. Hartman, Americanism chairman of the county has announced the conditions governing the essay contest. They include the following:

Subject and title: "Thomas Jefferson—His Contribution to American Democracy."

Length—The essay shall be no more than 500 words.

Eigibility—All pupils of junior and senior high schools.

Department rules—Each principal of the school shall submit their essays to the county Americanism chairman, Mrs. Gladys Hartman, not later than March 15th. Contestants submitting the winning essay in each department shall be awarded a complete set of the World Book Enclycopedia. It will be in the best binding and the latest edition of 18 volumes and guide with more than 10,000 pages and 15,000 illustrations.

In addition to the department award, the author of the essay judged to be the best of all the winning essays submitted by the various state departments will receive a cash award of $100.

Mrs. A. P. Strollo, Barnesboro, the president of the Combria County Legion Auxiliary Council, will give a $5.00 cash award to the county winner.

V

—The average yield for cotton per acre in the United States has been a little more than 270 pounds for the past ten years.

CPL. SKURKEY KILLED ON BELGIAN FRONT

Cpl. Gene P. Skurky, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Skurky, Patton, was killed Jan. 13 in Belgium while serving with an engineering cutfit.

The soldier entered the armed forces Dec. 1, 1941, and was sent overseas in October 1942. He saw action in North Africa and Sicily before being sent to the battlefront in France.

Cpl. Skurkey was graduated from Patton High School with the class of 1939 and was working for the Pennsylvania Railroad when he entered the service. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Patton.

Two brothers are in the armed forces—Ronald, a paratrooper, and Ensign Gerald, with the Navy in Jacksonville, Fla. Besides his parents and two brothers in the service, he leaves a brother, Joseph, San Diego, Cal., and a sister, Barbara at home.

V

UMW AND AFL CLEAR WAY FOR NEW TALKS

An exchange of letters between John L. Lewis and William Green, president of the A.F.L., appeared to have cleared the way for reopening negotiations on the United Mine Workers' return to the Federation.

Mr. Lewis' reply to a letter from Mr. Green conveying the A.F.L. convention's desire to resume negotiations was not exactly a commitment of the miners, it was reported.

The U.M.W. president suggested that the Federation might make a proposal, but he had not changed his position of May 17, 1943, when the last negotiations were severed. On that date he got back the check he deposited with the A.F.L. as a per capita tax, submitted with his application for re-entry in the Federation.

The stumbling block then was jurisdiction over chemical workers. Since his withdrawal from C.I.O. and A.F.L., Mr. Lewis had built up a vigorous chemical workers union in his catch-all District 50.

The next move would seem to be up to the A.F.L. Executive Council, which begins its annual session in Miami Feb. 5. The council includes Mr. Green, George Meany, secretary-treasurer; Matthew Woll, vice president, and the presidents of 12 international unions, representing the top leadership in the Federation.

The convention in November expressed the desire that Mr. Green offer the olive branch to Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Green complied by notifying the U.M.W. head to this effect in mid-December. Mr. Lewis declined to discuss his reply with newspapermer.

Mr. Green declined to make public the Lewis correspondence, saying that the whole matter would be submitted to the Executive Council at its Florida session next month. He did remark that he had performed the duty required of him by the New Orleans convention in writing to Mr. Lewis in the first place.

V

MARY C. LIEB, NICKTOWN RESIDENT, 88 YEARS OLD

Mrs. Mary C. (Luther) Lieb, a lifelong resident of Cambria County was the guest of honor at a family gathering on Wednesday, in celebration of he 88th birthday anniversary.

The octogenarian, who makes her home with a daughter, Mrs. Bertha Kirsch, Nicktown, is in good health. She spends much of her time writing letters to her 12 grandsons in the armed forces.

A native of East Carroll Township, Mrs. Lieb was born Jan. 31, 1857; a daughter of the late John and Susan (Sharbaugh) Luther, early Cambria residents.

Widow of Adam Lieb, who died in 1916, she is the mother of 13 children, eight of whom are living. She has 73 grandchildren and 67 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Lieb's eight living children are A. A. Lieb, Carolltown; Albert and Louis, both of Ebensburg; Ray and R. G. Lieb, Mrs. Marie Soisson and Mrs. Bertha Kirsch, all of Nicktown, and Earl, Indiana. She is a sister of Michael J. Luther, Ebensburg, and Mrs. Emma Binder, Hastings.

V

PVT. LAPENNA RECEIVES SLIGHT WOUND

Pvt. Carmen Lapenna, 20, son of Mrs. Rose Lapenna, 700 Palmer Ave., Patton, was wounded Jan. 7 in Belgium. In a recent letter to his mother the soldier said he was wounded only slightly and was recuperating in a hospital in France. He was with an armored division but transferred to a glider outfit before he was wounded

He entered the Army March 21, 1942, and was assigned to overseas duty in January 1943. Two brothers are in the armed forces—Pfc. Ralph with the A. A. F. in Yuma, Ariz., and Gene, seaman second class in the Navy

COUNTY FARMERS TO HAVE MEETING ON THURSDAY NEXT

Annual Session of the Extension Association Is Set for Ebensburg Courthouse.

All past presidents of the Cambria County Agricultural Extensio Association will be honor guests at the 30th annual meeting of the organization on Thursday, February 8th, in the Ebensburg courthouse.

Edward Jones, Wilmore, who has served as president of the association since 1940 will be in charge of the meeting.

During the meeting a brief review of the extension activities during the past thirty years will be presented by the various past presidents. Reports on important projects to be be undertaken by the association during the present year also will be submitted.

Cambria County Farm Agent H. C. McWilliams will discuss production methods and will outline the aims of the organization for 1945.

In February, 1915, a group of 80 of the leading farmers of the county met in the Ebensburg courthouse and organized what is known as the Cambria County Agricultural Extension Association. A tthe time of its organization the group was known as the Cambria County Farm Bureau, the name having been changed later to distinguish the organization from the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Jos. O. Thomas, prominent South Ebensburg farmer, was eected the first president and served in that capacity for four years. At present he is residing with his son, Evan Thomas, in Johnstown. Mr. Thomas, who observed his 92nd birthday on Dec. 31 last, is planning to attend the meeting as one of the honor guests.

Past presidents of the association and their tenure of office are as follows:: Joseph O. Thomas, from 1915 to 1919; A. B. Kirsch, from 1919 to 1921; C. H. Hostletter, from 1923 to 1925; P. C. Strittmatter, from 1925 to 1928; C. T. Settlemyer, from 1928 to 1934; Lyman Sherbine from 1934 to 1937, and J. N. Griffith, from 1937 t o1940.

The original board of directors in addition to Mr. Thomas were F. A. Westrick, Patton, vice president; Alex Strittmatter, Ebensburg R. D., secretary; L. S. Hummell, Ebensburg, treasurer; A. B. Kirsch, Nicktown; Abram Hostletler, Johnstown, R. D.; John H. Stephens, Johnstown; T. A. Osborne, Ebensburg; and Dr. M. S. Bentz, Ebensburg.

V

CRESSON SELECTIVE SERVICE RECRUITS

Cambria County Selective Service Board No. 1, with headquarters at Cresson, have announced the following men to report for duty in the armed forces::

John Walter Stevens, Gallitzin.
Harold Francis Weaver, Cresson.
Edgar Louis Johnston, Dean.
Edward Blaine Moore, Portage R. D.
William Paul Roberts, Cresson.
Robert Charles Ketenheim, Cresson.
Francis Henry Sumner, Loretto, R. D.
Wilfred Robert Montier, Fallentimber.
Reginald Henry Yeager, Hastings R. D.
Joseph Ginter McClelland, Patton.
Alfred Wilfred Lewis, Blandburg.
Gerald Francis Albright, Patton.
Bernard Walter Oretin, Dysart, R. D. 1.
James Augustus Fogel, Ashville.
Paul Francis McAleer, Cresson.

V

PFC. GLASSER AWARDED THE PURPLE HEART

The Order of the Purple Heart has been posthumously awarded to Pfc. Joseph Glasser, 28, of Carolltown, and has been received by his wife, Mrs. Florence Glasser. Pfc. Glasser was killed Sept. 13, 1944, while serving with and Anti-Aircraft Company in Italy. He entered the service August 23, 1943, and after training at Camp Adair, Oregon, was assigned to overseas duty. Pfc. Glasser is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Glasser of Carrolltown.

His wife also has received the combat infantryman's badge, and the Bronze Star both awarded her husband.

V

PVT ZAHAR WOUNDED

A government casualty list made public yesterday carried the name of Pvt. Michael Zahar, 28, of Emeigh Run, Cambria Co., as wounded.

COUNTY FIREMEN HAVE MEETING AT SPANGLER RECENTLY

Communities Are Requested to Clear Roads to Fire Plugs, and Wells and Dams.

A plea for all municipalities in the county to take immediate steps for clearing away snow from sources of water used for fire protection was made duirng a meeting of the Volunteer Firemen's Association of Cambria County and Vicinity held last Thursday evening in the Spangler Fire Hall.

President Robert Whalen said that in many boroughs, towns and townships, small dams or wells are used in water supplies in cases of emergencies. In many places roads or lanes leading to these sources of water are closed by deep snow drifts and that no effort has been made to open them.

Firemen pointed out that they are powerless when they are unable to gain access to water when called on to combat a serious fire.

Members of the Nanty-Glo Fire Co. announced that the annual convention will be held on Wednesday, August 1st. Nanty-Glo will be host to the conclave this year and the company announced that plans already are under way for the affair.

It also was announced that the 4-zone system used prior to the outbreak of the war again will be activated and will be used after Feb. 1. It was found that the system eliminates many unnecessary runs for the fire companies.

Firemen discussed at length a 17-mile run made by the Nanty-Glo firemen to combat a fire in a home at Heilwood, Indiana county. It was discovered that the borough had made no arrangements with any fire company for protection. Barnesboro, Spangler and Nanty-Glo will offer their services to the Indiana county coal mining community.

A lunch was served by the ladies' auxiliary of the host company and a program of entertainment was furnished by the firemen.

The next meeting will be held on Washington's birthday, Thursday evening, Feb. 22, in Dale Boro fire hall.

V

SUFFERS EYE INJURY.

Mrs. Matilda Yanuta, aged 45, of Colver, was taken to the Memorial Hospital, Johnstown, last Thursday for treatment of an eye injury. Mrs. Yanuta was said to have been hurt when she was attacked by a heifer as she was tying the animal in a stable. Her condition is described as fair.

V

WOMAN INJURED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Katherine Kollar of Patton, was injured at 11:30 o'clock Sunday morning when the car in which she was riding collided with another machine on Route 219 about one mile south of Wesley Chapel.

Miss Kollar was treater for a dislocated left arm. She was riding in a machine operated by her sister, Cecelia M. Kollar, Patton, when acar operated by Cloyd Bollinger, Colver, skidded and crashed into the vehicle.

Bollinger told State Police that he was traveling toward Johnstown when his machine went into a skid on the slippery highway and collided with the Kollar car.

V

SGT. MILLER REPORTED MISSING IN GERMANY

The second of three sons of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller of Chest Springs who are serving in the armed forces fell a war casualty Dec. 16 when Sgt. Leonard Miller was reported missing in Germany.

He was serving with an infantry outfit when he was lost. A twin brother of the missing soldier, Earl, was wounded last summer while serving in the European theater of operations. Another brother. Robert, is serving with the Navy in the Pacific area.

Sgt. Miller entered the armed forces Feb. 14, 1943, and was sent overseas last October.

V

PAUL GEORGE AWARDED PURPLE HEART MEDAL

Mr. and Mrs. Paul George received the Purple Heart Medal on Monday that was awarded their son, Pvt. James C. George, who was injured in France in November. Pvt. George was shot twice in the right foot and is recuperating in an England Hospital. In a recent letter to his parents, he mentioned about being in a wheel chair and said his buddies took him to see movies that are shown in the hospital.

V

Buy War Bonds and Stamps.

PRIMARY LIKELY MIDDLE OF JUNE

Bi-partisan agreement last week at Harisburg fixed the 1945 primary election date at June 19th.

It was the first fruit of Governor Martin's drive to eliminate partisan controversy from major legislative needs. The executive said he hoped the harmony move would extend to other subjects.

The object of holding the primary earlier than September 11th as customary, is to allow more time for distribution and return of ballots by Pennsylvania GI voters for the November general election.

Rival party heads negotiated the agreement last Wednesday.

Cambria county will elect a Judge of the Orphans' Court, a Sheriff and two Jury Commissioners this year. Municipal offices also will be filled.

V

APPROVES CONTROL FOR STRIP MINING

The tremendous wartime increase in Pennsylvania strip mine production —to 13 pct. of total anthracite and bituminous coal output in the state last year—has resulted in demands for "immediate control legislation," Richard Maize, state mines secretary, declared during the week.

The surface mining and culm bank output of coal has jumped 200 per cent under war time demands of industrial and residence consumers with the result that, during 1944 alone—

1. Almost 20,000,000 of the 144,000,000 tons of bituminous coal mined came from stripping operations.

2. An estimated 8,000,000 of the 62,000,000 tons of anthracite produced were from strip mines and culm banks.

While the percentage of output of open pit mining to the state's entire production does not appear out of hand, the stripping operations resulted in the tearing up of an estimated 3,000 acres of land—land which has not been replaced, Maize said, admitting some of the acreage was unfit for farming or other use.

As a move to push pending stripmining control bills through the present session of the State Legislature, Maize said he will ask the lawmakers to synchronize the measures to bring the surface miners under stringent Mines Department control.

V

"BROWNOUT" IS TO BE RIGIDLY ENFORCED

Washington—The War Production Board gave notice on Tuesday that its order "browning out" unessential lighting would be rigidly enforced by discontinuing electric service.

"In addition, any person who wilfully violates the order is subject, under the Second War Powers Act, to fine and imprisonment," WPB's Office of War Utilities announced.

If a store, theater, or other business feels that the order, effective at midnight, on Wednesday, would cut off lights necessary to public health or safety, the establishment must present to the nearest WPB field office a statement to that effect from local fire police, or health authorities, WPB ruled.

Other prohibited lighting includes privately-owned clocks outside stores or in display windows; outdoors signs over stairway entrances to place of business; outside lighting promoting War Bond drives, blood donations or other civil activities; bulletins in front of churches; lighting on statues and civic monuments.

Protective lighting around war plants is permitted as well as porch lighting for private homes.

V

DAVIS WOUNDED WHILE SERVING IN THIRD ARMY

Mrs. Frances McK. Davis, 201 East Ogle Street, Ebensburg has been advised that her son, Sgt. Donald E., was wounded Jan. 8 while serving with Patton's Third Army in Belgium.

The soldier is a son of Judge Ivan J. McKendrick. He played the trombone with a well-known orchestra in New York City before entering the Army in February 1941. He was sent overseas in January 1943. A brother, Staff Sgt. Marlin H., is with the Army in the Pacific theater of war.

V

PVT. MARK HOFFMAN WOUNDED IN GERMANY

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hoffman of Baker's Cross Roads, were informed by the War Department, that their son, Pfc. Mark Hoffman, was wounded slightly on January 12, in Germany. Pfc. Hoffman was with the 78th Infantry Division of the First Army. He entered service on March 14, 1944 and went overseas on October 14, 1944.

CAMBRIA COUNTY ASKED TO RAISE $242,400 THIS YEAR

Campaign Opens Last of Feb. and Runs Through First Two Weeks in March.

Residents of Cambria County have been asked to raise $242,400 as their share to carry the financial load of the American Red Cross.

To "Keep Red Cross at His side" on all fronts of the global war, Cambria County Chapter of the American Red Cross will campaign for this amount in a drive which will run through the closing days of February and the first two weeks in March.

Announcement of the quota was made Tuesday evening at the annual meeting of Cambria County Chapter, Red Cross, at Masonic Temple, Johnstown, when E. P. Blough, chapter chairman, outlined plans for the campaign.

Tom Nokes of Johnstown, veteran campaigner, was named general chairman of the Red Cross War Fund, with Ralph S. Robb as vice chairman.

War Fund chairman for the various county branches were named as follows: Allegheny Ridge, J. R. Mayers of Portage; Beaver Valley, John Sloan of Summerhill; Blacklick, Roy Feeley of Nanty Glo; Mountain, Mahlon J. Baumgardner of Ebensburg; Susquehanna, Louis Luxenberg of Barnesboro, and Clearfield, Joseph H. Marks of Fallentimber.

"Keep Red Cross at His Side" is the 1945 slogan for the War Fund. Labor, industry, agriculture and professional groups, together with women organized on a house-to-house canvass, will furnish the medium of carrying the Red Cross message to every home and business place in Cambria County.

V

COAL CONSUMERS HAVE NOT HAD MANY WORRIES

Coal consumers have not had too many worries so far in this war, although that is not to imply there are not a few tight spots and that these and others are not likely to get tighter, Ivan A. George says in Coal Age, McGraw-Hill publication.

"Consumers have fared pretty well to date," says the article, "because coal has come up with the tonnage—for example, some 620,000,000 bituminous and 65,000,000 anthricite in 1944.

"This record reflects credit first of all on management and mine workers —the men on the firing line. It reflects credit on the manufacturers of mining equipment and supplies. And it reflects credit also on those men in government who have labored to keep coal in position to produce and make sure its output goes to the right places."

V

MORE RED STAMPS ARE VALID THIS WEEK

The District Office of Price Administration at Altoona has announced that the following red stamps, all worth ten points each for the purchase of meats and fats, became valid last Sunday—Y-5, Z-5 and A-2 through D-2. Red stamps are validated on the first day of each rationing period and, since the February rationing period lasts five weeks instead of four, beginning ast Sunday and ending March 3, six red stamps instead of five are in effect.

The OPA further anounced that blue stamps of the following denominations will be good Feb. 1—for processed foods: H2,J2, K2, L2 and M2, totaling 50 blue points.

V

Hastings Soldier Commissioned.

John Bernard Kolonay of Hastings, was graduated on Wednesday of last week from the engineer officer candidate school at Ft. Belvoir, Va., and received his second lieutenant's commission. Son of Mr. and Mrs. John Kolonay of Hastings the 27 year old officer attended Hastings High School and Wharton School of Finance.

Husband of the former Genevieve A. Gunther, who resides in Hastings, Lt. Kolonay entered the Army May 11th, 1944, in New Cumberland, Pa. Before entering the army he was employed as an inspector and foreman by the Westinghouse Eectric Co.

V

PVT. YOHN WOUNDED IN EUROPEAN AREA

Pvt. Madison Yohn, 25 of Ashvile R. D. was wounded several months ago while serving with the Army in the European area. He worked in the coal mines before entering the armed forces.

V

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to our neighbors and friends, for their assistance, during the illness and death of my husband and our father.

Mrs. Thos. R. Williams and family.