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 THOS. A. OWENS, JR. Associate Editor
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 The endeavor of the Union Press-Courier is to sincerely represent Organized Labor in their efforts to obtain economic freedom. We solicit the support of all Unions. Material for publication must be authorized by the organization it represents, bear signatures of the President and Secretary of the Local, together with the Local Seal.
 The Union Press-Courier gives its advertisers the advantage of the combined circulations of two largely circulated weeklies and has a reader coverage that blankets Patton and the major mining towns in Northern Cambria County.

EDITORIAL VIEWS AND COMMENT

Our Hats Are Off to Patton's Firemen

The Christmas Season is at hand! One can see it on the streets of Patton and on streets of most every town and hamlet. Here in Patton the Firemen usually see to it that the town is well lighted and displayed, and in the case of erecting the light strings, the work is done by volunteers from the company, and naturally the electrical connections are properly made.
 The Patton Fire Co. is ever at the service of the community, not only in the protection of your lives and property but in so many many other ways.
 It has ever been that way with the Patton Firemen since they were organized at the turn of the century. Younger men constantly have replaced the older ones in community spirit above reproach and in active and exemplary support of that spirit.
 The ranks of the firemen have

seldom been so very large—never as large as the community should warrant—but there seems to have been a thought among its members that quality rather than quantity rendered the best service. Quality in this case, of course, has meant the willingness of the members to accept and serve both faithfully and well.
 There never has been much complaint about the Patton Firemen from among our citizens such as is often noted in a lot of the other communities. In justice, there couldn't be in Patton's case. The very fact that someone might grumble about them usually placed the grumbler in a bad light himself.
 Our hats are off to the Patton Volunteer Firemen. May their prestige continue in the years to come as it has in the more than half a century of the past.

—The guy that plans to build his house on a pole is further along than most of us that build castles in the air.

Christmas
 Good friends mean gay parties . . . and a good party means tasty food. Mertens taste-tempting bakery treats do much to enhance your table besides adding a delicious zest to your meals.

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Quality
BAKERY PRODUCTS
 —FRESH DAILY AT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD GROCERS—

Let's Hope There's No SALES TAX

No one will deny that the school teacher is the poorest-paid professional person in this state, and perhaps in the Nation. No one in a sensible frame of mind will oppose better pay for the teachers. Without a doubt, the educational standards in many sections of the country have suffered because so many trained teachers have found it financially profitable to seek other means of livelihood.
 The State of Pennsylvania has nothing much to be proud of in regard to the manner in which they have provided salaries commensurate with the training and years of preparation a teacher requires. Doctors and dentists and lawyers and other professional folk wouldn't think of wages in such low brackets.
 Fast sessions of the Pennsylvania legislature have always had the teacher salary problem before them. However, there has always been a tendency there, among the administration leaders, to sidestep the issue as much as possible.
 Some increases were granted in the last session, and bonuses were given in other sessions, but most every member of the incoming legislature realizes that there must be something more permanent come now. After all, the teachers of Pennsylvania have been loyal, indeed, and most patient!

So, now we read that the executive committee of the State School Commission, appointed to make a study of the problem, has come forward with the suggestion that there must either be a flat one percent income tax or a two percent sales tax to run the state public school system, including higher salaries for teachers.
 We don't pretend to know whether any additional tax would really be necessary if the state's present tax revenues were shifted about a bit, or not. We do think that when a couple of administrations can brag so much before an election about the big surpluses they have acquired, surely some of those surpluses could be used to educational advantages.
 However, assuming that additional new taxes, and heavy taxes, are necessary, there should be some fairness in taxation that places the burden on those most able to pay. The commission estimates that \$75,000,000 a year is required and that three-fourths of that amount must be raised by new taxation.
 When one comes to the proposition of a tax that hits the folks most able to pay, surely a sales tax wouldn't be the answer.
 Maybe an income tax would.

We know from past experience in the Pennsylvania State Legislature, where certain Republican leaders, who are yet the leaders there, have indicated that they favored sales taxes for teacher revenue.
 For the protection of the common man and woman—and the children for that matter—a sales tax is an abominable thing. It can strike the kids on the candy and ice cream they buy. It means a nuisance tax on most everything one purchases. It is a direct tax on the very necessary things of life.
 It is, to our mind, unfair for the teachers themselves. It would be embarrassing, indeed, for most every person who purchases anything in Pennsylvania to think that the nuisance tax was legalized to pay the teachers.

And the sales tax certainly falls heavily upon those most unable to pay. The wealthy, the well-to-do, would have no more to pay than the wage-earner. The folks who have large families would be particularly discriminated against. The more necessities of life purchased, the more food and clothing—the more tax to pay.
 When the School Commission even comes up with a suggestion that a sales tax might be one way of raising the necessary revenue, that's unfair. It's unfair to the many in the lower brackets of life here in Pennsylvania to even have "sales tax" mentioned—let alone suggested.

If there must be a tax, for goodness sakes, let it not be a sales tax.
 Maybe an income tax would be by far the better. It would make the folks with the larger incomes pay the most, and there are the folks who are best able to pay a larger share.
 We wouldn't get excited about this particular thought if we did not actually know from experience what is in the minds of some of our G. O. P. legislators. We've been at Harrisburg in the past. We well know what we are talking about.

The Republican party in this state had an outstanding victory in the November election. They can well assume that maybe anything they may do should be interpreted as a mandate from the people.
 The list of contributors to the Republican campaign funds in this state are topped by folks who are in the higher income brackets—by the folks who wouldn't really be enthusiastic about any income tax to pay teachers.
 Don't let any sales tax propaganda get by, dear reader. When the new session of the Legislature opens, write your representatives and your senator, and tell them where you stand.
 Personally, we don't think any of our Democratic members of the House and Senate at Harrisburg would stand for a sales tax for an instant. But watch the Republican member. They are in vast majority, and their leaders in the past have indicated such thoughts.
 Down the sales tax NOW! We all agree that something must be done for the teachers, but let the bulk of the funds come from those most able to pay.

HOLLENTOWN 'CHATR'
 By MISS ADELINE MARKS
 Mr. Paul Greene of Bellwood spent the week end with Carl Hollen. He had a very enjoyable day hunting with Carl and John Hollen and Charley Marks.
 Blair Richard was a lucky one among deer hunters—bagging an eight-point buck on Saturday.
 Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hollen and son spent an enjoyable evening at home of Mr. and Mrs. John Tonkin.
 Mrs. Frank Apple was a business caller in Coalport Wednesday.
 Rev. and Mrs. Lloyd Weyandt spent a few days at Bouring Springs visiting their parents.
 Mr. John Hollen spent Friday in Altoona on business.
 Calvin McCartney is a frequent visitor in Tyrone, Pa.
 Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Apple spent their 40th wedding anniversary by enjoying a supper at the Robert Chilecoats Restaurant in Bedford.
 Mr. Bob Apple and Miss Josephine Fiedler were trying their luck at deer hunting last Wednesday afternoon.
 Mrs. Ethel Conley was a recent visitor with her daughter, Mrs. Winfield Scott.
 Mr. George Hollen was a recent

business caller in Altoona.
 Mr. Ivan Troxell of Blandburg was a recent visitor at the Melvin Weston home.
 Mr. Lemuel E. Hollen Sr. was very lucky recently in catching three red foxes.
 Mrs. A. C. Brittain was a visitor at the home of her mother, Mrs. Curtin Hollen, on Tuesday.
 Mrs. Clarence Conrad, Mrs. Geo. Hollen, Mrs. Carl Hollen and Mrs. J. L. Marks attended an American Legion Auxiliary Christmas Party at the Legion Home in Blandburg recently. Gold Star pins were presented to the Gold Star Mothers. A nice lunch was served and gifts were exchanged.
 Mr. and Mrs. Chester Hollen are glad to report their baby is recuperating after a few days' illness.
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Conley and twin daughters, Ellen and Helen, spent an enjoyable Sunday at the home of Van Ormer.
 Miss Lillian Mizey spent Sunday at the home of Miss Adeline Marks.
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Broughton of Mountaineer entertained John Hollen of this place.
 Mr. and Mrs. John Carter of Altoona were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Apple on Sunday.
 Miss Adeline Marks was a visitor at the Carl Hollen home on Friday.
 Misses Patsy Conrad and Verna Fiedler and Jimmy Hollen spent an enjoyable evening at the Bland's Park Skating Rink at a party sponsored by the Junior Class of Reade Twp. High School.
 Charles Lamb spent a few evenings at the home of Gordon Chilecoat in Blandburg, returning to his home in Blairsville Sunday.
 Mrs. Mabel Glasgow spent Monday, Christmas shopping in Altoona.

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 AND CONFIDENCE
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 "SAFETY"
 STREAMLINED
SLED ICE SKATES
 89c PAIR
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AARONSON'S
 Patton, Pa.

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 Dozens of Styles. For Work, for Dress, for Scuff!
Duck Pants Boys' Pants **Work Pants** **Dress Pants**
 for work or for hunting, wear repellent, will wear like iron \$3.95
 "Longies" for boys in colors . . . well made \$5.97
 Heavy whipcord, moleskins and other weights. Good wearing & warm. Sizes 29 to 50 \$2.95 \$3.95 \$4.95
 Beautiful shades for Dad and Son. Actual \$7 and \$10 values. Some taken from new 2-pants suits. Must be seen to be appreciated. \$5.95 \$6.95 \$7.95

Free Boot Hangers, Shopping Bags, Free
 Yes, We Have Them!
 Baby Shoes and Hose . . . Ladies' Rubber Footwear . . . Boys' and Girls' NAVY Style PEA COATS . . . Men's Leather Jackets . . . Men's 2, 4, and 5-Buckle Artics . . . Men's 16-Inch Lace Boots . . . Men's House Slippers with elastic sides . . . Work Shirts of all kinds . . . Collar Stays . . . Steel Fishing Rods . . . Etc. . . Etc!
 Xtra! Flannel Shirts
 STEEL GREY FLANNEL SHIRTS . . . THEY WEAR! \$2.69

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 JUST ARRIVED! Red and Black Check All Wool Outdoor Coats worth \$20! Note our low price. Just a few, so hurry! Made by the famous DUX-BAK Company. \$16.95

Endicott Johnson Pocket Knives
 Pre-War Quality
 Just arrived—Beautiful knives for DAD or SON . . . all shapes and styles, brass lined and highest grade steel. Has 2, 3 and 4 blades.
FREE Bottle of 3-in-1 OIL With Every Knife!
 12 STYLES and . . . PRICED RIGHT!
 \$1.25 \$1.50 \$1.75 \$2.00

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 TIES • BELTS • SUSPENDERS
 HOSE • DRESS SHIRTS • CAPS
 WOOL GLOVES • MUFFLERS
 AND FOR BOYS
 MITTENS • HOSE • LONGIES
 RUBBERS • SHOES • ARTICS
SWEATERS
 for work and dress! Button and slip-on style, all colors. 30% to 100% wool . . . All first quality! . . . A dandy gift!
 ZIPPO POCKET LIGHTERS . \$2.50 \$3.97 \$5.95

ICE SKATES . ROLLER SKATES for Beginners!
 FOR CHILDREN—ROLLERS \$2.49 —SINGLE 89c —DOUBLE \$1.49
 4 TO 10 YEARS RUNNER

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 Good leather moccasins . . . Ideal as house slippers or outdoors . . . and very comfy.
 SIZES 6 to 12 . . . \$3.49

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 Men's heavy 2-piece shirts and drawers. 25% and 50% wool unionsuits . . . Short sleeves and long—ALSO BOYS' HEAVY RIB

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 Every Night Until 8:30 . . . Saturday, 9:30
 TO HELP YOU SHOP UNTIL DEC. 24. Do Your Shopping in Patton First.

AARONSON'S
 . . . MAY HAVE IT!
 That hard-to-get item you are looking for may be right at AARONSON'S! Look over this advertisement, and remember that we have many other hard-to-get items that are not listed on this advertisement.
New Goods Just Unpacked!
WE'VE GOT IT
PRICED RIGHT
 We guarantee everything you buy here to be of first quality and lower in price than elsewhere. If at any time you see the same quality and brand lower elsewhere, we will be pleased to refund the difference. SHOP IN PATTON FIRST!
HURRY We were very lucky to receive the following hard-to-get items, so hurry down to AARONSON'S. A small deposit will hold any item.

Woolrich
100% Woolrich SHIRTS
 Heavy weight, in beautiful colors \$6.95

22 Rifle Shells
 SHORTS, 26c a box. Long Rifle, 42c
Shot Guns • Rifles
12 and 16-Gauge Shot Guns
 Harrington & Richardson guns, best grade. Worth more! Buy now, for guns will be scarce . . . Scarce for two years! \$20.66

10-SHOT CLIP .22 RIFLE
 Harrington & Richardson .22 Rifle. It's a beauty, and well made. \$37.61
DRY-BAK HUNTING COATS
 You don't have to be a hunter to wear a coat like this. Ideal for all outdoor workers. Has storm collar and is waterproof. \$9.85

Need A Pair of Pants?
 Dozens of Styles. For Work, for Dress, for Scuff!
Duck Pants Boys' Pants **Work Pants** **Dress Pants**
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FREE Bottle of 3-in-1 OIL With Every Knife!
 12 STYLES and . . . PRICED RIGHT!
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 They're colorful and gay
ORNAMENTS
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 They come in exciting new shapes and colors this year, with a glitter you haven't seen since the war.
 Artificial Snow, box . . . 10c
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