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THE UNION PRESS-COURIER

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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

There are so many things these days that are confusing to a lot of us. Chief among the trouble-makers are the forecasters. Maybe the most confusing forecaster of them all, this winter, has been the weatherman. In fact he got to be nearly a joke, both in newspapers and by radio, many, many times during the past several months. Of course, February has given us some pretty seasonable winter weather, and the weatherman did redeem himself to some extent. But he blundered badly from time to time—and time and again—during December and January.



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Quite likely, the "bum steers" on the part of the weatherman were no fault of his, nor of the scientific service of which he is a part, but it does tend to show that even the government's scientific instruments and wire services are not infallible, and that nature still can beat the problems mortal man thinks he has solved. In some instances, forecasts of dire weather ahead proved the case in many areas in Western Pennsylvania, but did miss the tops of these Alleghenies Mountains, and we can have cause to be thankful for that. Usually we have tough weather in this area, when only a few miles away, down over the mountains, temperatures are more moderate—but not so during the present winter.

However, the chap who forecasts the weather isn't the only fellow who's been off on the wrong beam. Remember a couple of years ago, right after hostilities ceased in the war, how we had expert predictions of a recession surely in 1946, and thus far it has failed to come. Now some of the same experts are telling us what hardships we are facing for 1947. Maybe so, but if we all keep our feet on the ground, be sensible about matters, and quit a lot of forecasting, we'll likely find 1947 will have been a pretty good year to most of us.

And then there's the political folk of a victorious party at the general election last fall, who were forecasting how they would cut taxes. There still isn't time to analyze the truth or fallacy of this forecasting, but daily it begins to look like another bad bit of prediction. Maybe the income taxes, for example, will be reduced, but if those reductions really benefit the wealthy to a

real extent, and let the poorer classes realize on a token tax reduction, what have we gained. Remember, too, there were the chaps, too, in the state of Pennsylvania who told us before election of what fine financial shape the commonwealth was in—of the big surpluses of the economical administrations, and now we can do a bit of forecasting ourselves. There is every indication that you folks who live here in Pennsylvania are going to pay more taxes—you may pay them directly, or indirectly. There's no question about it—the taxes are coming. They must be levied to carry on the program of the administration. The big surplus—if any—won't be sufficient to carry on the plans of the administration.

Taxes must be levied by governments. As a citizen of a government, all of us are obligated to pay the cost of running it. Yet there are many who pay little tax. There are some who love about and pay no taxes. With some folks, it's not a disgrace to avoid taxes—but it is a boast that the tax collector doesn't catch up with them. Not only our national government, but likewise your state, county and local governments are maintained only by funds realized through taxation. Your children are educated in the public schools, for instance, through taxation by all the people of the community. All have a part in the financing. All, then should share the responsibility.

Borough and school officials function on a budget set up and planned on the apparent available taxes to be collected within the jurisdictional area they serve. In the event there are a lot of tax dodgers in their community, they are caught holding a bag. The result is that many of the things considered a necessity for the conduct of the municipality or the school district must be abandoned, and perhaps the chap who pays the least taxes, or no taxes, is the one who yells loudest about the laxity of the local officials, never for a minute considering that he, himself, may be to blame to some extent. It was always thus. Likely it always will be. The chap who is nailed down with real property can't dodge his taxes. But there are many others who can—and do.

Paying of taxes quite likely must of necessity be hinged on the taxable's ability to pay. If circumstances are such that make payment a hardship, there is most likely always relief afforded. The laws govern that. The chap who can afford to pay his just taxes and deliberately evades, is playing unfair with all his neighbors who bear the burden. Good citizenship has its obligations, and paying taxes is one of those obligations of citizenship.

We note in the newspapers that Gov. Duff has said until until this time, looked toward the central government for alleviation of their financial embarrassments. Which brings us back to taxation again. The only manner in which local school district could raise salaries of the teacher is by added taxation, and to many of the districts this would be nigh impossible under present statutes limiting the millage. Quite likely a lot of the legislative down at Harrisburg think differently on the matter than does the governor.

The legislative council of the State School Directors' Association has urged higher salaries for teachers, but suggested the state and not the local school districts

should provide the money. The directors, in discussing the salary question, that while higher salaries are needed to get capable teachers the real estate tax upon which districts depend, cannot bear heavier burdens.

Even from 'way out here in Cambria County, we can see where there's going to be lots of "fun" in the legislature before it finally adjourns, and probably the hottest potato of all will be the teacher salary question.

Rebekah Meeting Here
The Carolina Troxell Rebekah Lodge held its regular meeting on Friday evening. After the closing of the lodge a play was presented by members from Elanburg in observance of St. Valentine's Day. The members of the refreshment committee served a covered luncheon. Mrs. Margaret Garman of Bellwood and two members of the Bellwood Lodge were present. The following members were present: Mrs. Margaret Garman, Mrs. Julia Conrad Mrs. Anna Ehmke, Mrs. Velta Williams, Mrs. Lee Cree, Mrs. Pauline Heverly, Mrs. Marguerite Williams, Mrs. Flora Bricker, Mrs. Sarah Wilkerson, Mrs. E. Troxell, Mrs. Mildred Gates, Mrs. Lena Schmittle, Mrs. Maude Newton, Mrs. Lillian Michaels, Mrs. Margaret Lovell, Mrs. Hazel Newton, Mrs. Della Chicone, Mrs. Mabel Lovell, Mrs. Leona Van Scoyoc, Mrs. Anna Matthews, Mrs. Vestra Duff, Mrs. Dorothy Matthews, Mrs. Sarah Wilkerson, Mrs. Hilda Beck, Mrs. Cora Beck, Mrs. Mabel Lecher, Mrs. Ida McCartney, Mrs. Kathryn Bowman, Mrs. Annie C. Troxell, Mrs. Agnes T. Muhlleim, Mrs. Marguerite Bowman, Mrs. Clinza Hommer, Mrs. Elsie Kuhn, Mrs. Lucy Fox, Mrs. Georgia Troxell, Mrs. Mae Stine, Mrs. Agnes Muhlleim, Mrs. Dora Estes. A very nice time was reported by all.

A meeting was held in Roseland U. B. Church on Tuesday evening to sign petitions for an R. E. A. Electric line. Miss Catherine Conrad read the check. Joe Mancuso Jr. spent Friday in Indiana.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE
IN THE ESTATE OF PROSPERA CAVOTO, late of the Borough of Spangler, County of Cambria and State of Pennsylvania, deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters Testamentary in the Estate of the above named decedent have been granted to the undersigned. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims or demands against the same will make them known without delay to: ANTHONY CAVOTO, Executor, 710 Philadelphia Ave., BARNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA. SMORTO, WILDEMAN & PEDUZZI, Attorneys at Law, 3-13 BARNESBORO, PA.

EXTRA PRUDENCE
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were business callers in Philipsburg on Wednesday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Wade Good made a business trip to Altoona Saturday.

Dean Locals
Mrs. Fortunato Funicelli, who underwent an operation in the Altoona Hospital several weeks ago, was discharged on Feb. 6. While Houtzdale spent the week end at the Joe Mancuso home.

Hastings
By HELEN MANCUSO
Stephen Easley and Tom Semelberger motored to Altoona on Saturday. George Clarke spent Friday in Johnstown. Mrs. Oscar Binder and daughter, Gretchen, motored to Altoona last Wednesday. Mrs. John Miscoe and daughter, Barbara, are spending a week in Johnstown. Mrs. Ted Holtz and son and Kay and Rosanna Gill spent last Wednesday in Altoona. Leona Nevinus of Lock Haven visited at the John Nevinus home here over the week end. Blanche Gach spent the week end in Altoona. Jane Thomas motored to Altoona on Saturday. Eleanor Molino spent the week end with relatives in Altoona. Mrs. Thomas, who spent the week end at the home in East End last Sunday. Cecilia Bachleda, a Hastings High School student, is receiving treatment for meningitis at the Municipal Isolation Hospital in Altoona.

Joe Mancuso Jr. spent Friday in Indiana. Jim McNellis, a student at the Pennsylvania State College, was a week end visitor at his home in Hastings. Boy Scout Troops 76 and 73 spent the week end camping at Peale's Cabins, near St. Benedict.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Strittmatter attended the lumbermen's convention at Pittsburgh several days last week.

NEW HEAT POWDER
ECHO POWDER is antiseptic, use it for Fricky Heat, Itching Skin, Sunburn, Insect Bites, also Nettle Rash, Athlete's Foot, and other minor skin and foot irritations—Use with confidence. Discover, as did many soldiers, how quickly Echo Powder puts skin "at ease." Just dust it on—no ugly appearance, rub it in—it disappears, but, oh, that wonderful, cooling feeling of relief. Checks bacterial growth, soothes the skin. Also deodorant for sanitary napkins and douches. Echo Powder guaranteed to be the finest antiseptic and hygienic powder you have ever used or your money back. Made by makers of VICTORY Ointment. —(Adv.)

Mr. and Mrs. Jack McCann of Cresson were visitors Monday at the E. M. Weakland home here. Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Mancuso of Houtzdale spent the week end at the Joe Mancuso home.

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