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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 all efforts to obtain economic freedom. Material for publication must be signed by the writer and evidence of good faith. The Union Press-Courier gives its advertisers the advantage of combined circulations of two large-circulation weeklies and has a reader coverage that blankets Patton and the major mining towns in Northern Cambria County.

HARBINGERS OF SPRING



More Roads for Cambria?

Last Wednesday evening, John Thomas Jr., for 16 years a Cambria County Commissioner, retiring early last year, wrote the Johnstown Tribune his opinions on how Cambria County may or may not get additional state highway improvements, and expressed fear that unless the county agrees to pay property damages not many roads will be built by the state in this county.

Mr. Thomas, a friend of the writer's, stated that without the enthusiastic cooperation of the county commissioners with the highway department at Harrisburg, this county will get little in the way of state highway appropriations. He added that it does not help our cause when our representatives in Harrisburg vote solidly against the increase in gasoline tax, while the Allegheny Co. delegation voted for it. Surely Mr. Thomas couldn't be thinking a bit of politics just as well as more improved roads!

Some 17 years ago when Mr. Thomas assumed office, he said that he and his fellow commissioners notified the Pennsylvania Highway Department that they would not only pay damages for all roads built in the county, but also would settle all claims for damage. He says that unless this policy is followed, he fears there will not be many roads built. The present board of commissioners is busily engaged presently in settling road damages, and expressed fear that unless bridge bonds to pay, and all of these obligations are those inherited from the previous board.

In fact, with costs of everything mounting during the past couple of years, the present board is faced with a rather serious problem in handling the road damages of the present time, and yet they have assumed no major obligations in the past 15 months. While Cambria County in the past has assumed the full damage claims on practically all the roads the state has built within our confines, it is pretty definitely known that many counties in the state have assumed few, if any, damage claims, and they still managed to get state roads.

Cambria County remains so far in the red on road and bridge bond obligations, and in current road damage claims, that it will be many years, without new state aid, before the county can be released to the boroughs and townships, as was done by Blair County Commissioners this year. If the program mapped out by Mr. Thomas as having first priority were to be taken over in toto for damages by the county, any hopes of these taxing divisions receiving anything from this fund in the foreseeable future would be dim indeed.

Mr. Thomas' road program would call for a four-lane traffic route from Johnstown to Windber; a highway from Conemaugh to the Prospect Viaduct in Johnstown; Barnett Street in Johnstown, and a road from Nicktown to Beltsno, to Wehrum, to Chickaree, to Vinco. Mr. Thomas says the north Cambrians note this "The intended road is an ambitious, long-range project designed to bring the Spangler, Barnesboro, Hastings and Carrolltown people to Johnstown, which has the finest stores and shopping district in Pennsylvania, outside of Philadelphia and Pittsburg."

One can hardly blame Mr. Thomas for designing that all of these roads directly benefit Johnstown, and that the one road named that reaches the north of the county also has the ambitious purpose of routing Northern Cambria trade to Johnstown. But surely there are some other worthy improvements in Cambria County also to be sought for. The fact that Mr. Thomas seeks to divert trade from our section to Johnstown stores isn't likely to be popular with our own north county merchants, Northern Cambria County's stores, of course, are not as large as Johnstown's, but they are good stores, and one can buy most anything and everything here, with the same quality and choice, and within the same price range.

Former Commissioner Thomas deplors the fact that "it does not help the county or its representatives in Harrisburg vote solidly against the increase in gas tax," and that "if a couple of our people would vote for it, we could claim a divided delegation. Try to realize our position when we ask for roads and the Secretary of Highways says: 'Your representatives seem to think that you don't need roads. At least they voted against money to build roads.'"

Which leads us to wonder if the additional 1¢ gasoline tax money is to be spent ONLY among those folks whose representatives voted for the tax increase. Will just those districts, or will ALL people who buy gasoline in the state pay that tax? Should only the districts that had representatives favor the tax-hike benefit by it, and not others—whose citizens help pay also? If that fact pushes Cambria County out of the road picture, then the highway department must be operated on high-handed politics, and taxpayers not considered at all. We thought this great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was a democracy!

Some Days In County Court

Last week was pretty nearly a record-breaker for attendance at the three court rooms in Ebensburg when the March term of criminal court was in session, and the nature of the cases were mostly along the sex-violation trend—and pretty sloppy in character. Undoubtedly the very nature of the cases tried had a bearing on the attendance. Anyway, there were times when it was impossible to gain admission to either the court rooms or their galleries, as spectators virtually crowded the rooms to the very doors.

There were various times when the judges had to warn the curious that the court rooms would be cleared of spectators, and this usually happened when there was some outburst of amusement at testimony given by various witnesses. Judge McCann found it necessary to express his opinion on the "crowds" attending, and that opinion was not complimentary.

Mixed into the visiting population attending court were a number of high school classes of the county. Perhaps, unwittingly, certain high school faculties happened to pick some "bad" days for the students in government who were seeing justice at work first hand. Some of the "evidence" brought forth in the courts was not exactly elevating for young people. A much better time, and a safer time, for high school classes would be a visit to the county capital during Civil Court periods.

Just a bit demoralizing, too, was the fact that the greater part of the visiting spectators at times were observed to be women. Some of the evidence dispatched by various witnesses actually made men blush. Certainly the women couldn't have fared much better. No doubt the work stoppage in the mines, railroads and other places last week brought folks to Ebensburg to "pass the time" who otherwise would not have been there. Simply because we did observe, we noticed some folks who were "making a week of it," their faces being noted each day.

Thursday afternoon, only two cases remained to be tried—one was a hit-and-run case in Judge McCann's court, the other was a sex case in Judge Griffith's court. The former case, which brought forth some interesting FBI deductions, was so sparsely attended that probably few others than the litigants and the witnesses and jury were present. The latter court room, however, was filled to bulging. Some folks must enjoy hearing a lot of "dirt" of the nature that they would be ashamed to even speak outside of the court room.

Some Random Comment

Last Sunday's Philadelphia Bulletin, in its publication of news taken from Philadelphia newspapers of 100 years ago, related that miners were on strike in March of 1849, and that they could hardly be blamed for walking out. Miners then, it appears, received wages equivalent to \$4 a week, and all of the wages usually were taken out in merchandise at the company store which, the paper observed—actually amounted to only about \$3 in actual cash. No wonder labor has organized.

The recently-constructed highway between Carrolltown and Spangler seems to be thought by some motorists to be a speed-way through the Village of Foxburg. West Carroll Twp. officials are making plans to regulate the travel and likely there will be arrests made. A heavily-populated section, without sidewalks, speeding presents a menace.

Army officials say that Selective Service registrants who have passed pre-induction physical examinations may be enlisted immediately in the Army Reserve Corps or National Guard. This is a new ruling which will permit men to take advantage of planned summer training and inactive duty training pay. Enlistments in the two groups may be processed at the Johnstown recruiting station. Heretofore no one in the draft ages could enlist in either group. Remember last summer the rush made to join these services before the President signed the draft bill? Meanwhile, instead of the armed forces drafting men, recruits are compelled to wait up to 45 days from acceptance until they are in service.

FALLENTIMBER

We are sorry to note that in last week's issue of this paper, that the account given of the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Merle Tonkin, should have been fifty years rather than fifteen years.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Miller and daughter, Nancy Catherine were Monday evening visitors in Altoona.

Mrs. Pearl Hollen of Glasgow visited on Tuesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Beers.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Matiah were Monday evening visitors in Altoona.

Boyd O'Hara of Harmorville spent several days visiting in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Toohay and son spent several days' visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Toohay of Buffalo, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bandrowsky and sons were Monday evening visitors in Altoona.

Mrs. Rosie Edmiston spent Friday visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. Clarence Conrad of Hollentown.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Campbell Jr. and daughter, Connie Louise, visited in Altoona last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bandrowsky and son were Monday evening visitors in Altoona.

Mr. and Mrs. John Merryweather of Barnesboro visited on Friday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kopp.

Mr. and Mrs. Luth Miller and daughter, Nancy Catherine, spent the week end visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Beers of Akron, Ohio.

Mrs. Darrell Beers and children of Akron, Ohio are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Beers.

Mr. and Mrs. John Tonkin and daughters, Beverly, Nancy and Patty, spent Sunday visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Merryweather of Barnesboro.

Mrs. Francis Gates and son of this place spent Saturday in Bellwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Perrott and family of Salem, Ohio, spent the week end at the home of the lady's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell J. Lovell.

Lewis Knapp of Etna, Pa., spent several days visiting relatives and friends here.

Judge John H. McCann last week gave a large courtroom audience a sound scolding for their display of curiosity in the "wild and morbid" details of sex trials.

The jurist's pointed and forceful criticism came near the end of his charge to the jury in a morals case.

"This courtroom has been crowded," said the president judge, "since this case began." "It's a sad commentary on the morals of a community when people crowd to the courtroom to hear a story like the testimony given here.

"Especially the younger people should be ashamed of themselves," he continued.

Since criminal court opened at Ebensburg last Monday, courtroom audiences have been swelled by groups of visiting high school students.

Flintown

By MISS DORA HOCKENBERRY

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Dotto of Clearfield spent Sunday visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Dotto.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Slovokoski and family of Washington, D. C. spent the week end visiting with Mrs. Anna Slovokoski.

Edith Hockenberry of LaJose spent the week end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Matthias Hockenberry.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gondak were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gondak and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Zabenski on Sunday.

"Jiggs" Swope of Utahville was a visitor in town recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Hockenberry and children motored to Phillipsburg last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gomer Stewart of Lytleville visited on Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kava and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stewart.

Mr. and Mrs. Merle Boone were visitors in town last Saturday.

Miss Clara Coleman on Saturday in celebration of her birthday this past week.

Mrs. Nelson Clapper visited at the home of her mother, Mrs. Anna Coleman during the past week.

William Best who is in the U. S. Air Force, is spending a brief leave here at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Best.

Florence Tomcheck and Harold Hockenberry motored to Phillipsburg last Sunday.

The daughter of Paul Troxell is at present recovering from a serious illness.

Mrs. Lillian Scott of Van Ormer visited relatives here Friday.

Carl Hollen, who had been a patient at the Phillipsburg State Hospital, has recovered sufficiently to be returned to his home.

Guest of Mrs. George Hollen last week was Mrs. Mary Hollen.

Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Hollen and George Hollen were callers in Altoona on Friday.

Rev. Lloyd Weyandt and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Hollen and daughter, Charlotte, motored to the Elizabeth Children's Hospital on Wednesday, where Miss Hollen received a check-up following an operation which she underwent there some time ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hollen, Mrs. Ethel Conley, Carl Conley and John Hollen attended church services in Bellwood on Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Simmers visited at the home of their son in Huntingdon last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Nelson of Flintown were callers at the Carl Hollen home here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Conley and family visited relatives in Punxsutawney on Sunday.

Jimmy Dale Rnard is spending this week with his grandparents in Tyrone. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Rickard were callers in that community this week.

Beaver Valley

Miss Wanda Price Bride Of Kenneth Bollinger

Miss Wanda Price, daughter of Mrs. Minnie Price of Utahville, became the bride of Kenneth Bollinger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bollinger of Beaver Valley. The ceremony took place at Orangeburg, South Carolina on Mar. 17.

After touring through the southern states the newlyweds are residing in Utahville.

Mr. and Mrs. Cloyd Shope and daughter, Dianp, visited on Sunday at the home of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rice of Ashville.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rettinger of Phillipsburg were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Nedimyer.

Mr. and Mrs. John Williams of Altoona visited last Saturday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Barnett.

Harry Harpster visited recently at the home of father, Mr. Frank Harpster of Glasgow.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kutruff and daughter, Nelene, of Flintown were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Kutruff.

Mrs. Wm. Flemming visited on Monday with her father, William Davis and also, Mr. and Mrs. John Swain and family, all of Berwindale.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert O'Shall and son, Bobbie, visited on Thursday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ammon O'Shall of Flintown.

Mr. and Mrs. Camille Dazaiffe of Beccaria were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bollinger.

Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Burchill were: Mr. and Mrs. Boone and family; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burchill all of Coalport; Frank Burchill of Pittsburgh and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Heverly and children of Blandburg.

George Gates was a recent business caller in Cresson.

Mrs. Clara Forey of Phillipsburg visited on Sunday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Nedimyer.

Mrs. James Hamlin and son, Paul, were recent visitors among friends in Blandburg.

Mrs. Philip Kutruff and daughter, Verla, were Saturday visitors in Altoona.

Gene Strayer of Johnstown spent the week end at the home of her mother, Mrs. Mary Strayer.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Gates and family of Johnstown visited on Sunday among relatives in town.

Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lemoine Hensky were: Mr. and Mrs. Mervyl Gates of Glasgow; Emma Gates of Altoona, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kingsley and children and Mrs. Harold Kutruff and son, of this place.

Mrs. Jerry Pennington was a recent visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Yeagle.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Niebauer announce the birth of a son, born on Monday, Mar. 21.

Mr. and Mrs. Clair Ferguson and son, Kent, of Phillipsburg, spent Sunday at the home of Mrs. Mary Strayer.

Mrs. Ralph Gates visited on Sunday at the home of her mother, Mrs. Ermina Sneath of Flintown.

Bud Gates of Coalport spent Sunday at the home of Mrs. Gertrude McKee.

Ammon O'Shall of Flintown was a Sunday visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. O'Shall.

Mr. and Mrs. Junior Sneath and son, Donnie, visited last Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Sneath.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bollinger of Utahville visited on Sunday at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bollinger.

Cecil Black was a recent visitor at the home of his brother, Mr. Dick Black.

Mrs. Mary Gates and son, George, visited on Sunday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hobbs and Mrs. Walter Foster, in Altoona.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ebley and daughter, Jenny Rose, of Granton spent the week end visiting with Mrs. Jenny Pennington.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Troxell and children, of Mountaintide visited on Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Gates.

Mrs. Gertrude McKee visited last week with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Freese of Altoona.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Downs and family were Saturday visitors in Ebensburg.

Mrs. Richard Black has been confined to her home due to illness. Her many friends wish her a speedy and complete recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Neagle and children of this place visited on Saturday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Litzinger in Patton.

Mr. and Mrs. George McMaster and son, Barry Lee, of Franklin, Pa., spent the week end visiting at the Lloyd Gates home.

Everett McKee of Cleveland, Ohio, spent the week end at the Gertrude McKee home.

Mrs. Ben Shope and family were recent visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Good of Flintown.

Mr. and Mrs. Buss O'Donald of Niagara Falls, N.Y., have returned home after spending some time here at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Evans.

Mrs. Lydia Green spent last Friday with Mrs. George Dixon.

Angles Lester visited on Sunday afternoon at the Marlin Shope home.

DYSART

Mrs. Sarah Reigliard and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Reigliard of Altoona were visitors at the home of Mrs. Rose Naylor last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Gionfredo and children spent a few days last week visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gionfredo, Mr. Gionfredo of Patton, Pa., spent the week end at the Gertrude McKee home.

Mr. and Mrs. George Mansfield Jr., announce the birth of a son, born in the Miners' Hospital in Spangler.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Springer last Sunday had their new daughter christened, Mrs. Springer is the former Thelma Perino, of this place.

Mrs. Wm. Naylor and Mrs. Jim Cuomo were visitors in Altoona on Wednesday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Gionfredo of Patton were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gionfredo here last Sunday.

Carmen Gionfredo of Altoona spent Sunday at his home here.

Mr. and Mrs. James Lecher and children of Blandburg spent Sunday visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Mansfield.

Flora Gregg of Indiana State Teachers College and friends, Betty Harper of E. Liverpool, Ohio; Doris Gardner of Easton, Pa.; and Bether Lewis of Philadelphia, spent the past week end at the Frank Gregg home, here.

Mr. and Mrs. Dishong and family of Johnstown spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Passonetto Jr.

Wm. Lewis of Washington, D. C., spent the past week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Lewis, of this place.

The Dean Township School Board met with Dr. Arthur Stull, on Monday evening to discuss the plans for the construction of a new school in Dysart.

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