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 SUSTAINING MEMBER

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 as an evidence of good faith. The Union Press-Courier gives its advertisers the advantage of combined circulations of two largely-circulated weeklies and has a broader coverage than Blankets Patton and the Northern Cambria County.

Below the Belt

Eddie McDonald of Spangler was a life-long Democrat, had been a member of the state legislature, had been a jury commissioner at the time of his death some weeks ago, and had received the Democratic nomination, which is tantamount to election. His nomination was given him by Democrats' great majority, and because he was ill he was unable to meet the thousands who knew him personally or at least knew about him.

A new low in political writing has appeared in Johnstown newspapers' editorial columns. Editors make an inference because certain leaders "knew he was going die." Party leaders and his many friends correctly analyze the "line of strategy that stoops to the gutter" in an effort to cause dissension in the Democratic ranks.

Reward In Achievement

The second annual Pennsylvania Week celebration in Patton is a matter of history. In many communities of the state the period was one of outstanding or perhaps casual observance, but in the majority of towns there probably was little or no attention paid at all. Patton again, as last year, can be classed in the outstanding group, as it was last season. Anyway, no other community in this county even approached our town in displays and appropriate activities. Patton's only reward is the remuneration in satisfaction that attends jobs well done. The success of our movement is good for us who live here, and the impression it left surely must be good for others "that Patton is a good town to live in."

Last week it was the privilege of the writer to have been a guest for a time on the Pennsylvania Week Special train during part of its itinerary in the western part of the state. It was fine to ride with the celebrities and high officials, but it struck me along the route that if every community visited would have had the same actual accomplishments to show that we had in Patton, then Pennsylvania Week really would have been something long to remember.

Where the Fault Lies

One of the stock items for sale by printers are trespass notices, and this year our office has been dispensing with them very frequently and in large quantities. The reason for heavy purchases at this time of year is the fact that the annual small game hunting season in Pennsylvania opens next Tuesday, Nov. 1. Realizing that the hunter dislikes "posted" land, we have from time to time queried some of our patrons on the reasons they advance for so doing.

The greater portion of the land owners, of course, are farmers. In practically all cases they have presented some very justifiable reasons for their stand. Most depressing to the hunter is the fact that the acreage of posted land grows larger with each year. The average farmer is not opposed to hunting on his premises so long as the hunters observe some decent remembrances that they are not on public lands, but on private property. Most sportsmen are really what the name implies—good sports, and they do recognize the property rights of others. However, it is the small minority that creates the issues that make it bad for all.

Over the years we have heard most every conceivable complaint from landowners, from shooting near buildings to destroying fences. Chickens and other domestic fowl have been "bagged" by the nimrod, and pigs have been reported shot simply because the hunter shoots first and looks afterward. Small tree seedlings have been trampled down with impunity and various other deprivations to incense property owners have been committed.

Naturally our local sportsmen's organizations oppose any move on the part of their members that tends in any way to put them in bad graces with property owners, and have used every avenue at their command to educate members and other hunters on the privileges the landowner grants them. Perhaps 98 out of 100 hunters really do endeavor to observe the code rigidly. Maybe two percent of all the groups in the field are responsible for much of the bad being posted. Anyway it is reasonable to assume that a very small percentage of the people in the field lack the common honesty and decency and have appreciation of the farmer who permits hunting on his domains.

Not Time for License

A couple of weeks ago we published in our columns an admonition that Halloween is not a time for public vandalism any more than is any other time of the year. Likely for the past century this time of year has been one that property owners have reason to fear. The fact that in recent years younger elements have stretched the "licensed" days over weeks instead of days is all the more unfortunate. Patton is not the only community where this thought has taken root. It is growing in most all of the smaller communities.

No one wants to deny young America its fun. However, there's a great difference between mischievous fun and costly vandalism. It is no joke to let the air out of tires, to ruin paint on buildings and automobiles with wax and other substances, to smash porches or to steal removable property. In all these instances the conscience of the perpetrator to a great extent guides his actions. What he or she determines is right or wrong is imbued long before any Halloween time. That training comes from their home life.

Election In the Offing

As the days roll along, most of our readers are becoming conscious that an election is in the offing. Every election is an important one and this year interest likely will be greater than in usually the case. From all indications in this section, a record vote will be cast. This assumption is made because of the proposed State Bonus Bill—and it will bring out the voters rather than the equally-important county and municipal referendums. All will be on one ballot.

Paper registration figures in Cambria County give the Democrats a majority of close to 9,500 votes over the Republicans. Both sides, however, are waging aggressive campaigns for past history has proved that Cambria County voters are an independent lot. Particularly on the Republican side are their workers making superhuman efforts to trade one of their candidates against another in an effort to obtain Democratic votes. Some of our most prominent Democrats have been approached. Whispering stories are on the loose. So far, nothing has come to the surface. But it may.

We have no fault to find with the integrity of any of the candidates of either party. However, to Democrats we want to point out that the Democratic candidates are just that. There is no reason to believe that any Republican candidate is anything but a Republican in thought—and in practice—if elected. Democrats like liberal laws, a liberal thought. For the past 20 years the bench of Cambria County, which in a common pleas court is controlled by three judges, has had a Democratic majority, and if Judge McKenrick is not reelected that control will go over to the Republicans. Democrats, particularly in the mining towns, hardly want that.

News items of which you have thought but little in recent weeks have disclosed that in most every county that bounds Cambria there have been extra deputy sheriffs and state police on the job in recent coal mining and delivery controversies. In all these instances you may have noticed that the sheriff has been a Republican. Cambria County called for no outside help, swore in no deputy sheriffs. Cambria County has a Democratic Sheriff. It may have been bearing witness on any future policy of the county Sheriff's Office, regardless of who wins, but that's something for voters to think about.

John Conway, former mayor of Johnstown, is the Democratic nominee for sheriff, duly nominated. Cyrus W. Davis, Republican County Commissioner who still has more than two years to serve in the Commissioners' Office, is the Republican candidate. Of course, if Mr. Davis is defeated, he will still be an elected official for two more years. If he is elected, he will resign. John Conway holds no public office.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR . . .
Borough Officials Compare Millage With Other Towns

Report On Ball Field Presented This Week

Another message of importance to Citizens of Patton:

Dear Sir:
 In last week's issue of the Union Press-Courier, the Burgess and President of Council took it upon themselves, as responsible officials of the Borough, to enlighten the Citizens of Patton on financial matters and on the physical condition of the Borough. This is being done in the interests of the taxpayers of Patton Borough, due to the fact that certain individuals are spreading falsehoods in regard to the condition of the community in which we live.

We wish first of all, to correct certain figures that were published in last week's issue of this paper. Total expenditures for the Water Fund for 1948 were shown as \$37,593.37. This is corrected to read \$32,597.37. Amount received from the Benefit on Magee Avenue during the Firemen Convention, \$913.30; Total, \$9,404.85. Expenses were as follows:
 Labor \$65; fuel and drivers, \$1,256.00; gasoline, \$518.98; equipment, \$10,994.00; seed, \$383.50; engineering expense, \$51.30; miscellaneous, \$33.10, for a total of \$13,840.53.

Amount owed Snyder Bros. on the ball field and total amount owed, \$4,455.78. As each present date the amount owed Snyder Bros. is \$6,417. Other outstanding bills are: Hoppel for post posts, etc., \$154.30; Union Press-Courier \$27.50, or a total of \$6,598.80. By

Strayer Blasts C. R. Hughes For Trying to Buy Dam Site

Cites Need for Outdoor 'Play Spot' in District

Editor, Union Press-Courier
 Dear Sir:
 So some sportsman say they don't want to be a "squealer," yet 95% of all good sportsmen are. This I will prove, but it is up to you, the "squealer," to be a "squealer" he is going to be.

Right now when the spirit of sporting or hunting is highest, we all hear the most squealing. Some squeal about the game, some others about "woodcock hunters" killing illegal quarry. Yet with all this racket not a thing is done to help the situation except to "disappear."

Since everyone does squeal about his disapprovals, why not do it where it gets results? The past few days when game was plenty and hunters scarce it would have been a breach of the hunter's ethics to report a violation he may have noted, but with the increase of the hunter and a decrease in game, every sportsman reporting violations is only helping protect his own interests. Use of those other . . .

Thomas McQuillen Queries Several Items In Boro Letter

Cites Sewer, Parking Meter Questions Here

To the two responsible borough officials, Messrs. Ott and Forstner:
 Gentlemen:
 Your letter in the Oct. 20th issue of the Union Press-Courier certainly demands clarification. Figures are always included especially around election time, providing they are both official and accurate.

For instance, you cite the operating capital in the water fund as \$40,734.71, and then deduct expenses amounting to \$37,593.37, and report a cash balance of \$3,141.34. I take exception to this report, inasmuch as the expenses which you reported amount to \$32,597.37. Simple arithmetic shows me that this is an error of \$8,000. Perhaps it might be well for these two officials to explain what happened to the \$5,000. If this is an official record, why was the error carried over to the next year's balance?

I also note that you have provided sewers where they have never been before. That is correct. But I would like to ask why sewers were constructed in the newest annexation to the borough when the taxpayers who have paid water rent for years on Donnelly, Lincoln, Beech and Third Avenues have been unable to procure a proper sewer system?

Why was a sewer constructed to take care of four families, when approximately 40 or more families are still clamoring for the same service?

I note also that a sewer which was laid on Beech Ave. for the benefit of the shirt factory was not properly graded and covered, because the borough sewer is too high. Now the officials are confronted with building a new sewer for the factory.

I also understand that the improved lighting system of poles, wiring and fixtures were installed without cost to the borough. I believe also, that when the present administration went into office, the borough millage was nine mills. At the present it is 12 mills. Simple arithmetic shows me that this is an increase of three

Donahue States Stand On Sheriff Gives Wholesale Support to Conway

To Whom It May Concern:

In order to dispel any rumors as to where I stand in the forthcoming general election, Nov. 8, 1949, I wish all my friends and followers to know I am wholeheartedly supporting John A. Conway, Democratic nominee for Sheriff of Cambria County.

Mr. Conway was nominated by the Democratic Party in which primary I also was a candidate. Mr. Conway and I are personal friends, and I know that if he had not secured the nomination and I had been victorious, he would have rallied to my support, just as I will give him my support and influence. There has been no promise of any position or patronage made me, either by Mr. Conway or any one.

I respectfully solicit the support of all my friends for John A. Conway for Sheriff at the General Election on Nov. 8, 1949.

Sincerely,
 EDWARD T. DONAHUE
 Patton, Pa.

22 Men Killed in Mine Accidents in September

The Bureau of Mines in Washington, D. C., said on Monday that injuries in coal mines caused the death of 22 men in the month of September.

Nineteen of the fatalities were recorded in soft coal mines in these states: Illinois 3, Kentucky 3, Ohio 2, Pennsylvania 2, Tennessee 1, Utah 1, and West Virginia 4. There were three fatalities in Pennsylvania hard coal mines.

Speaking about ailments, too many people go around doing just that.

Do we want such in Pennsylvania? I don't think so, yet if we don't back our game commission and avow that we will be responsible. The average citizen is glad to be of aid in solving murders, robberies and other crimes, and would like to see every man to protect their own health and safety.

The longer we let greedy individuals satisfy their own desires, the longer we will be deprived of our rightful pleasure.

Supports County Sportsmen

The present case of C. R. Hughes vs. every citizen and sportsman about bringing every man his feet in the spirit of good sporting and outdoor life. The Co. Federation of Sportsmen offered to buy from the county for \$1 the "Gates Dam Site" in White Twp. and spend thousands of dollars to create an area for the use of the general public for fishing, boating, picnics, etc.

Yet one individual for his own selfish interest opposes the sale by the commissioners, who were quick to see the need of such an outdoors area in Northern Cambria County.

The county has held this property for 11 years, no taxes of course being realized in all that time. Yet when the sportsmen offered to put it back in use and under taxation, Mr. Hughes says it's vitally important to him. If it was and is, why didn't he buy it 11 years ago when no one wanted it? Do you suppose he was saving 11 years' taxes?

Mr. Hughes interests own hundreds of acres of coal in this section and now this "Gates Dam" area is so vital that they offer the county \$125 for a \$5,000 property. Wouldn't you? Which would you prefer—a 118-acre recreation area or a rock dump?

We already have plenty of coal mines for work. Now it's time for some areas for recreation and pleasure.

Sincerely yours,
 CHESTER L. STRAYER
 Flinton, Pa.

JOINS HONORARY GROUP

Miss Eileen Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Harris of Bakerton, has been admitted to the Phi Delta Pi, national honorary physical education fraternity for women, at State Teachers College, Slippery Rock. Miss Harris is a junior at the school.

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SINGLE SHOT SHOTGUNS \$21.95

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Sunday, October 30
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