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WEEKLY PRESS-POST

Bituminous Mine Job Survey to Be Conducted in Central Pennsylvania

Operators, PSES Join Forces for Big Job

Central Pennsylvania Coal Producers Association and Johnstown office of Pennsylvania State Employment Service will cooperate in a new project involving bituminous mining in the district.

Both agencies will join forces in conducting a job survey and preparing a summary of existing jobs and potential new jobs.

B. W. Deringer, labor commissioner for the operators' association, and George E. Pegg, occupational analyst for the PSES, will be in charge of the project. A Feb. 3 deadline has been set for the field work. The study will begin on Thursday of next week.

Pegg explained that a similar survey was conducted in West Virginia where 71 mining jobs were defined. These definitions will be compared with the data to be compiled at the member mines of the Central Pennsylvania organization.

The program is designed to point out the answers to five questions:

- 1-What the worker does on the particular job.
- 2-The skills, knowledge and ability needed to perform the operation.
- 3-The matter of whether prior training or experience is necessary for the job.
- 4-Physical activities required of workers to do the job.
- 5-Conditions under which the work is performed.

Pegg said the district investigator will seek verification of the accuracy and completeness of the West Virginia job specifications. In addition, they will work to determine variations which may occur in Pennsylvania.

According to employment office records, there are more than 300 separate and distinct jobs in the soft coal mining industry.

Similar surveys will be conducted in the bituminous regions near Pittsburgh and Greensburg.

Red Cross Gives Area Disaster Aid

Emergency Assistance Given Over Holiday

While free from the type of fiery disaster that struck Hyndman, a small community in Bedford County, last week end, the Cambria County area is again in several accidents that occurred during that time.

Emergency help, including food and clothing, was given the victims of a two-family fire in Susquehanna Township and a one-family blaze in Lilly. Workers from the chapter's Home Service Department Tuesday visited victims to inquire if additional help was needed.

Executive Director Arthur U. Nuss explained that in cases of single-family disasters, Red Cross assistance is given only when the victims indicate their need.

"When it is found that Red Cross services are wanted, the first step is to supply emergency needs. More help is given depending upon the resources of the family involved."

Johnstown Regional Blood Center was called upon to deliver blood to three hospitals—one in Johnstown, another in New Kensington and a third in Clearfield.

A number of emergency communications also were handled by the Home Service Department.

Patton Clay Local Buys Wheelchair

Union Installs Officers At Recent Meeting

Patton Local 431, United Brick & Clay Workers of America, has voted to purchase an invalid's chair for use of members who may have need of it.

The chair will be located at the Miners' Hospital, and during periods when it is not needed by Local 431 members will be available for use by patients at the hospital.

Local union officers were installed recently at a meeting in the F.O.E. Hall. They were: Joseph Lannon, president; John Watkins, vice president; Max Gill, recording secretary; Leroy Luther, treasurer; Joseph Cammarata, financial secretary, and Robert Fox, doorkeeper.

John Kava, Cloyd Selfridge and Albert Blake were installed as committeemen. Joseph Cammarata is a member of the policy committee and August McNulty, alternate.

St. Benedict Kids Feted At UMW Christmas Party

A total of 275 children were feted at a Christmas party sponsored by St. Benedict Local 2008, United Mine Workers, on Wednesday last week, in the Union Hall at St. Benedict. Treats were given each child. Singing of Christmas carols featured the entertainment.

Legion to Meet With Architects

Members of Walter McCoy Post 614, American Legion

Patton, have scheduled a meeting with the firm of Hunter and Caldwell, architects of Altoona, for 8 p. m. Wednesday of next week in the newly-purchased Prindle Mansion on Mellon Ave.

Plans will be drawn for the renovation of the building and the construction of a new section to be used as a ballroom.

Announcement of the conference was made at a meeting on Tuesday evening in the post's Magee Ave. home. It also was announced that Walter Noonan has been named chairman of the post's toy collection committee.

The group plans to collect toys from district residents and forward them to Europe for underprivileged children there.

November's Mine Toll 63 Men, Says U. S. Mine Bureau

West Virginia Area Responsible for 41%

Injuries at coal mines in the nation during November caused the death of 63 men, according to the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

Production of coal during the month was estimated at 48,463,000 tons, making the fatality rate 1.30 per million tons. The comparable rate for Nov. 1948, was 1.35 per million tons.

In bituminous coal mines, a total of 51 fatalities were reported in the mining of 43,755,000 tons of coal. The fatality rate was 1.17 per million tons as compared to 1.24 for November of 1948.

Falls of roof and race accounted for 64.7 percent of all bituminous fatalities; haulage underground was responsible for 23.5 percent and other machinery for 5.9 percent.

West Virginia accounted for slightly more than 41 percent of the soft coal deaths. Kentucky and Illinois each had a mark of almost 16 percent. Virginia's was 12 percent while Pennsylvania was the scene of less than 4 percent of the total.

The anthracite mines of Pennsylvania reported a total of 12 fatalities in the mining and preparation of 4,708,000 tons of coal.

Bureau officials announced the fatality record for the first 11 months of the current year discloses continued improvement over that in the same period in 1948. Thus far in 1949 there have been 534 fatalities recorded as against 922 through November of last year.

In addition, it was pointed out, there have been no major disasters—an accident in which five or more men lose their lives. However, during the same period in 1948, there were six major disasters, with a total loss of 49 lives.

Just One Year Ago Spangler Boy Took First Steps Unaided

It was just one year ago last Thursday that Tony Cantolope of Spangler, then 8 years old, took his first steps unaided.

Since that day Tony has been making slow but steady improvement in his walk through life.

Last September he had started school. He attends Spangler Grade School two days each week and receives private instruction the other three school days.

It was the festive day of Mother Cabrini—the nun who was the first United States citizen to be elevated to sainthood by the Roman Catholic Church—that Tony took his first faltering steps without help.

Mr. and Mrs. Gennaro Cantolope consider their son's ability to walk a miracle—the answer to two years of prayer to Mother Cabrini.

Tony was injured at birth. Doctors could do nothing to help. The boy's parents turned to prayers, which they feel have been answered.

Andrew Morgan Dies At Girard, O.

Andrew Morgan, aged sixty-eight years, for many years a resident of the Patton community, died last Friday at Girard, Ohio, where he has resided for several years. He was well known to many of the older residents of this area.

The deceased was born Dec. 3, 1881, a son of Edward and Margaret (Garner) Morgan. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Mary (Nresick) Morgan, and the following children: Thomas, John Andrew, Jr., Albert, Kenneth, W. G. Lorraine, Margaret and Mrs. Albert Goodman all of Girard and Daniel and Gardner, both of Pittsburgh. One sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Wilkie, and three brothers, Richard, of Coler, Daniel, of Hooversville, and Edward, of Lewistown, also survive.

The body was brought to the Buck Funeral Home in Patton on Saturday evening, and funeral services were held there on Sunday afternoon, by the Rev. Thomas A. McQuillen. Interment was made in Fairview cemetery.

AWARDED MINK SCARF

Albert E. Zokowsky of Box 370 Patton R. D. is the recipient of the mink scarf given away by the Miners' Hospital Building Fund Committee.

State's Coal Industry Fast Becoming Ailing Black Giant

Bituminous Output Lowest Since 1939

The Pennsylvania coal industry, weakened by strikes and threatened by the inroads of other fuels in its primary markets, became an ailing giant in 1949.

Latest figures show that production of anthracite will be the lowest since 1902 and that year was the worst for bituminous output since 1938.

Strikes and reduced work weeks were blamed for much of the precipitous drop in production of both hard and soft coal. And these two factors were, in addition to a general economic cause—the more lasting and serious of the three—loss of markets.

For many years the industry has battled the recurring threat offered by oil heating installations in many homes, within their primary markets. Now another heating industry—gas—poses a similar problem.

The anthracite institute cites a survey made by the American Gas Association of gas utility companies.

The survey showed that gas heating installations in the anthracite industry's primary marketing areas have risen from 27,968 homes in 1940 to 627,968 by the middle of 1949, an increase of 118 percent.

Just how serious has been the drop in production in both hard and soft coal areas is evident from a comparison with 1948 figures. Although last year was not an outstanding period for anthracite or bituminous production, it was far superior to 1949.

Bituminous mines brought out a total of 117,986,000 tons of fuel in 1948. This year that tonnage dropped to 78,854,800 tons for a similar 11-month period.

3 Veteran Fire Co. Officers Renamed

Patton Unit Expects New Pumper Jan. 15

William P. Leary, well-known Patton fireman named to his fourth straight term as president of Patton Volunteer Fire Co., No. 1, at the annual reorganization meeting of the 50-year-old unit in the Patton Fire Hall Tuesday evening.

At the same time, James Blake, veteran fireman, was reelected as chief for his 26th straight term. Harvey Mulligan, chief engineer, was elected to his 16th consecutive term in that office.

Also reelected was Theodore M. Ott as secretary. Mr. Ott was named to a full term Tuesday after being named to fill a vacancy which occurred last summer.

Other Patton Fire Co. officials named Tuesday included Edward Woerner, vice president; John J. Bender, treasurer; Don Forsythe, foreman; George W. Galtz, assistant foreman; William Whiteford Sr. was named as trustee and Edward Burkey was named janitor.

Announcement also was made that the modern, new pumper on order by the company will arrive in Patton about Jan. 15.

Plenty of Events Slated for Huge State Farm Show

A total of 120 events in which the commonwealth's farmers may take part, have been listed in the official program of the Pennsylvania State Farm Show which opens in Harrisburg on Jan. 9.

Governor James H. Duff will formally open the 34th annual show at ceremonies in the large arena in the evening. He also will speak at the annual banquet of the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association on Jan. 11.

The farm show commission expects up to 10,000 farmers and their families to attend 58 sessions scheduled by breeders of dairy and beef cattle, horses, sheep and swine; poultrymen, the growers of Christmas trees, general farm crops, nuts, potatoes and vegetables; farm women, 4-H clubs, Future Farmers and Future Homemakers of America.

Opening day is the big day for judging 10,000 or more farm products exhibits. Placement of ribbons and prize awards starts in the morning and continues through Thursday. Judging of baby beavers is set for Thursday, with the showmanship contest Friday morning.

The program also lists hours and places for meetings of 32 farm organizations and rural youth groups. Farm groups meet on the opening day include the Society of Farm Women, the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers' Association and the Christmas Tree Growers.

Starting Monday morning and running through Wednesday afternoon there will be one-act plays to demonstrate farm and home instruction in vocational agricultural schools and in home economics departments of the state's high schools.

HAS TELEVISION SET

George Leslie of Cresson is the recipient of the television set given away recently by the Patton Independent Football team.

All-Out Crackdown Prepared On Sale Of Liquor to Minors

Lancaster Newspapers 'Baits' Tavernkeepers

An all-out crackdown on sales of liquor to minors was being prepared this week by the commonwealth.

"I will have this whole situation immediately investigated not only by the Liquor Control Board but by other agencies of the commonwealth," said Gov. James H. Duff.

Joining with Duff was Frederick T. Gelder, chairman of the State Liquor Control Board, who said liquor store personnel are subject to suspension if found selling to persons under 21 years of age.

A survey by a Lancaster newspaper showed that all of that city's bars, cafes, taprooms, hotels and three state stores had sold whiskey to a minor.

The paper said it sent a 19-year-old employee and one of legal age on the test trip. They reported that the youth was able to purchase whiskey at all the places without telling lies or disguising himself.

"It's a surprise to me that all the licensees down there were apparently violating the law," said Gelder. "Whenever we find out anything like that, we cite."

Enforcement officers constantly are checking into the sales to minors problem, Gelder said, adding:

"It's a tough thing because if we ourselves attempt to send minors to buy liquor, we could be considered contributing to juvenile delinquency. We are forever cautioning store personnel about selling to minors. I know in Lancaster they did not do it intentionally."

He added that, although not an excuse, store employees are rushed during the Christmas season and may sell liquor without a thorough check of the buyer's age.

Bacha's Hardware Lists Winning Ticket Numbers

Bacha's Hardware, Barnesboro, announces the following numbers as winners in their pre-Christmas drawing contest: Holder of ticket number 4088 will receive a Premier sweeper, and holders of tickets 407 and 3592 will receive other valuable free gifts.

Tickets must be turned in at the store by Thursday of next week, Jan. 5, or a new free gift drawing will be made to select other winners.

Ashville Fire Co. Speeding Efforts To Gain Members

Name By-Laws Group; Discuss Buying Truck

The newly-organized Ashville Volunteer Fire Co., No. 1, isn't wasting any time in its efforts to become an efficient fire-fighting force.

The group last week appointed a by-laws committee, named contact men for the areas it expects to serve, and discussed plans for purchasing a fire truck.

The new group of volunteers will have its headquarters in Ashville Borough and will serve parts of four townships. Included are Deane, Gallitzin, Allegheny and Clearfield Twp's.

Residents of the Ambsry, Dyarsart and Coupon and other communities are joining in the movement to provide fire protection. Officers of the Patton Fire Co. are helping the new unit get a start.

Ted Ott, a teacher in the Ashville School and treasurer of the Patton Fire Co., is especially active in the organization efforts. The group's charter probably will be closed at the Feb. 1 meeting and it also is expected that permanent officers will be elected at that time. Temporary officers have been serving since the fire company was formed.

Membership in the Ashville Fire Co. last Thursday was announced as 35. Officers stated at the meeting that it is hoped to increase the membership greatly in the next few weeks.

Named to serve on the committee to draw up by-laws are Warren Noel, Ashville; Elmer Crossman, Dean Twp.; Albert McMullen, Gallitzin Twp.; Joseph Lippie, Spindley City; Clem Melhorn, Allegheny Twp.; William Meyers, Gallitzin Twp., and Joseph Conrad, Ashville.

Nine men were named to serve as contact men in their districts. Mr. Burgoon was born in White Twp. Oct. 12, 1883, a son of William and Julia (Adams) Burgoon, pioneer residents of the area. His wife died a number of years ago. Surviving are a brother, Larry, Dyarsart R. D., and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 9 a. m. Wednesday in St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church at Frugality by Rev. Father Henry G. Sanders, pastor. Burial was in St. Augustine's Cemetery.

PATTON MAN CRUSHES FOOT

Ralph Roman broke a bone in his left foot while at work at Mertens Bakery last Thursday morning when 100 pounds of ice accidentally fell on his foot. He was treated at the Miners' Hospital in Spangler.

1950 Living Costs to Remain About Same Says Business

New Year's Outlook Said Extremely Good

Most of the nation's businessmen have revised their previous gloomy predictions and now have the belief that 1950 will be a good business year. Fortune magazine survey reported this week.

A "glow of optimism" was reported among the 28,000 top U. S. executives whose opinions were sampled in the magazine's semi-annual executive forecast.

Most of the executives, the survey showed, were less gloomy about the unemployment prospect than six months ago, were "mildly bullish" about the stock market and considered the 1950 profit outlook good.

But a majority also thought the cost of living will remain the same, or increase, during the coming year.

The current survey, taken in November, found 56 percent predicting that 1950 business will be as good or better than it is now. Only 41 percent expected a drop.

This compared with the pessimistic outlook in the last survey six months ago, the magazine said. In May, 50 percent of the executives polled believed general business would drop moderately or even sharply.

The survey included business leaders in manufacturing, trade, transport, utilities, mining and finance.

Most optimistic were business men in the northeastern part of the country, outside of Greater New York, the survey reported. Most pessimists were those in the South and West.

But optimism on general business trends was coupled with an abrupt about-face on cost-of-living predictions. Six months ago, 86 percent expected a living-cost rise to fall; today, only 36 percent believe they will drop. Fifty-one percent think they will stay the same and 13 percent feel they will go up.

Only 39 percent now predict that unemployment will reach a mark between 4 and 5 million, while 48 percent held that opinion six months ago. The current survey found that 35 percent now put the figure at 3 million or 4 million.

Six months ago, 31 percent of the executives said they expected to cut their labor force. Now only 14 percent foresee a reduction, and 12 percent think they will hire more persons.

The sharp change of mind in six months was best illustrated by the executives' opinion on profit-outlook for 1950. Sixty-two percent said they anticipate the same or better profits next year. Six months ago, exactly 62 percent expected their profits to fall.

"Six months ago," the magazine said, "62 percent of the executives expected to raise prices; now only 18 percent expect to do so while 79 percent either foresee no change or expect to raise prices."

On the question of pensions for workers, 83 percent of the executives said they were in favor of the idea, or at least believe pensions are inevitable. The most recent minority feeling any pensions at all was among employers with fewer than 100 workers.

More than two out of every three executives feel the cost of pensions should be shared by the employer and employee, the magazine said.

Todhunter to Head North Co. Council Holmes Association

Peale Mines Nos. 9, 15 Get November Banner

Richard Todhunter, Jr., will succeed George Nicholson as president of North Cambria Council of the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association.

He was elected to the presidency for the ensuing year at the meeting of the council last Wednesday night, St. Thomas Parish House, Barnesboro.

Mr. Todhunter is burgess-elect of Barnesboro and general manager of Barnes & Tucker Company. George P. Resick, superintendent of Marsteller Mine of the Pennsylvania Coal & Coke Corporation, was named vice president.

Kenneth Richardson was retained for another term as secretary-treasurer.

Members deferred the election of five to the executive committee. However, eight were nominated for the posts—Joseph Paschick, Wayne Graver, Bernard Timms, Wendell Young, Barney Collins, Dennis J. Keenan, David K. Kreischer and Michael Mehal. President-elect Todhunter also will serve on the committee by virtue of his office.

Executive committeemen will be chosen at the next meeting of the council on Thursday, Jan. 18. Mines 9 and 15 of Peale Coal Company, St. Benedict, and Elm-8, were awarded the safety banner for November. The mines were accident free last month in the face of 24,964 manhours of exposure.

David K. Kreischer, federal mine inspector, reviewed two recent mine accidents. One resulted in a fatality. In the second, the miner involved escaped injury only because he was wearing safety-toe shoes.