

Largest General Weekly Newspaper Circulation in the Area

THE UNION PRESS-COURIER

Established in October, 1893

Published every Thursday by Thos. A. Owens and Frank P. Cammarata, at the Courier Building, 542 State Avenue, Patton, Pa., and entered as second class matter May 7, 1934, at the postoffice at Patton, Pa., under No. 48 of March 3, 1975.

Thomas A. Owens, Editor
 Frank P. Cammarata, Business Manager
 Fred J. Owens, Jr., Managing Editor
 Fred J. Owens, Jr., Circulation Manager

Subscription: \$3.00 Yearly in Cambria County
 \$3.50 Outside County

Advertising Rates Published Upon Application

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

MEMBER OF PENNSYLVANIA NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION

The Courier Building, 542 State Avenue, Patton, Pa. 15864

Will Write Historical Notes

Mahlon J. Baumgardner, of Ebensburg, who during the past few years has written a number of interesting Cambria County Historical stories for the Union Press-Courier, shortly will begin a series of articles on Cambria County, that will run throughout the entire year.

Mr. Baumgardner, whose chief hobby is local history, has a storehouse of information on the one hundred and fifty years of Cambria County's existence. Because this is the Sesqui-Centennial anniversary of the founding of the county, he feels it is an appropriate time for publication of its history.

We feel quite sure that our readers will welcome these informative articles from the pen of a man who has made much research over the years. Mr. Baumgardner has taught history in the county schools. He is actively engaged in the activities of the Cambria County Historical Society, who are sponsoring a general observance of the Sesqui-Centennial. Likewise, Mr. Henry M. Gooderham, of East Carroll Township, President of the Historical Society, will have a number of interesting features on local history for publication during the year. We are positive many of our readers will find all of these articles interesting.

Early last year, the writer started writing a series of articles on the earlier days of Carrolltown, the oldest settlement in the north of the county. At the time, it was not our intention of preparing more than a half dozen or so. However, they proved so popular with Carrolltown residents and with readers generally over the north of the county, that we still are engaged in research for more stories. In all likelihood, they will be continued into the Spring months—and that will about wind-up what we dig up. For the benefit of some of our readers who want to preserve these articles, it is our intention to publish them in book form, to be given as presents to the Carrolltown and vicinity folks who are interested.

Newspaper readers are queer people. Some of them save innumerable clippings on various subjects. It might be interesting to note that there are quite a few of our readers who have been clipping and saving the "Personality" biographies that we've been publishing for the past several years. And the folks who have been doing that, have at their finger-tips much information, even on local history, that they'll continue to enjoy.

The Years Have Made You Healthier

Parents, one and all, might well take note of the report recently made, to the effect that congenital heart disease is a frequent finding at the various Rheumatic Fever Clinics operated throughout the Commonwealth by the State Department of Health. We are almost certain that parents as a whole do not realize the frequency with which heart disease is found among children. The aforementioned point might well drive home the fact.

Heart disease is usually thought of as an ailment of older people. It is true that it seems more predominant in older people but the fact remains that children can be afflicted with it too. We noted that after the heart condition was found in the children, remedial measures were charted. Some children were referred to special medical centers for study. Of 53 children found to have a defective heart, 27 were operated upon.

Reasons for not operating were varied. We were particularly concerned to note that "in some cases parents' fears made them refuse operations." What kind of fear can this be? Surely laymen do not pretend to know more about medicine than the doctors—men who have trained for years and years? But, if such is the case, then concern certainly must be felt for the parents as well as the children.

Medicine and surgery have come a long way since the writer was a youth. In those days, diphtheria, smallpox, pneumonia and many other diseases were considered very serious, and in many instances proved fatal. Diphtheria, smallpox and pneumonia now have been nearly completely conquered. Tuberculosis was quite general, and once a person contracted "consumption," there wasn't much to be done about it. Now, however, what a different story there is to tell.

Many children died in infancy a half century ago. Many more lost their lives in childhood. A contagious disease would sometimes wipe out entire families, certainly most all the children in a family. There were no immediate hospital facilities. The country doctor was a busy man, and he did his best with the knowledge at his command. Today cancer and heart disease are the great killers. A day will come when medical science will have a better understanding of both these menaces. Mankind progresses.

Medicine and surgery surely has kept up an even race with the many other advancements since the turn of the century. The horse-and-buggy days, the dirt roads, muddy at many seasons of the year, all are gone. The day of the outdoor "commuter station" is about a dead issue. Yet back 50 years ago, there was a small town which had most every home, school and business were small. The town's business gave their children in Spring and Fall just to keep the youngsters "healthy." Herb medicines, mostly home-made, were common; in most every household, Patent medicines claimed to cure most every ailment, and failed in all of them. Bumblebees have put an end to that "hollyhock" that fooled a lot of people away from the doctors who could have diagnosed many later fatal ailments.

Declining Farm Workers

Of considerable concern to farmers throughout the state was the fact that at harvest time in the Fall it was clearly shown that the number of workers in Pennsylvania farms is consistently decreasing. With the important role agriculture plays in Pennsylvania's vast economy, this could very well be serious. It has been noted, for example, that 25 years ago one out of every four farm workers in this state was on a farm. In contrast, today, the average is one out of every seven.

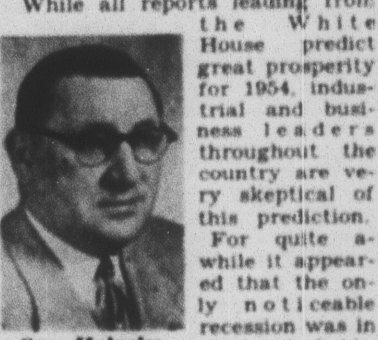
Wages paid to farm workers have constantly increased, but not enough to match some higher paying industries. Then, too there has been a gradual trend away from the farm for youths. Both of these are indeed regrettable. Agriculture forms the backbone of our nation's economy. It is, indeed, a sound and most worthy vocation for anyone to follow. Mechanization of farms has helped overcome a part of the problem of labor shortage. It is not now and never will be the complete answer.

But even with machines a word of warning has been sounded. It is more important than ever before that proper labor safety devices and practices be carried out each and every day. The number of accidents on farms is astounding. It is only fitting and proper that we remind farmers that sensible labor and safety practices on the farm go hand in hand with reducing to a minimum the effects of the farm labor shortage.

"As I See It"

By STATE SENATOR JOHN J. HALUSKA

Now that the holiday season is over, American industry and business are gearing themselves for the coming days ahead.



Sen. Haluska

While all reports leading from the White House predict great prosperity for 1954, industrial and business leaders are very skeptical of this prediction. For quite a while it appeared that the only noticeable recession was in the coal fields. While this condition was more or less general in this locality, no one was much alarmed.

But, now when we learn that the railroads are laying off thousands upon thousands of men and steel mills are furloughing like amounts, the automotive industry has reduced its production at least 25 percent, furniture factories along with farm implement manufacturers are furloughing their employees, certainly it becomes alarming to any sensible person.

While none of us are hoping for a depression, it appears that it certainly has set in throughout most of the country. Since we first mentioned in our column of the condition that we thought was ahead of us, we have had any amount of people contact us asking for our opinion as to whether or not we personally thought the country was headed into another Hoover depression.

In fact, a number of our close friends have been so alarmed that they are closing shop and taking an exit from the business world.

Coal Mining Now Has New Safety Task Force Named

State Mines Secretary W. J. Clements has established a special safety task force to look into 1953's toll of roof-fall accidents in Pennsylvania's coal mines.

W. R. Cunningham, Johnstown, was named to head the unit, which will include all thirty of the state's bituminous inspectors. Another man will be named to direct the program among 25 anthracite inspectors.

Clements took, what he termed "drastic action" to alert operators that the roof-fall accident is the No. 1 killer in mining.

Seventy-nine miners, 41 in the soft coal and 38 in anthracite mines, lost their lives last year because of roof fall mishaps. That is 70 percent of the total fatality toll inside mines in the state.

"To permit this needless loss of life to continue would be to the discredit of the coal industry and to those who are responsible for the safety of mine workers," Clements wrote in a circular to mine inspectors, mine officials and the mine workers.

Mine inspectors must not only warn operators of incipient roof-fall hazards, he said, but the workmen themselves also must be told.

He explained that Cunningham will review in detail roof-fall accidents of 1953 with a view of setting up a program for 1954.

"The coal operators are not doing as good a job as they should on roof fall protection," he said. "We hope this new program will wake them up sharply."

Under the new plan, the mines secretary added, all roof fall accidents involving death or injury must be reported to Cunningham and it will be up to him to join with the mine inspector in looking over the scene of the mishap and make a report direct to Harrisburg.

Cunningham, after an interview with Clements, said that a review of statistics in recent years shows that more than 80 percent of roof-fall figures occur within 25 feet of the working face in a mine.

The face of the mine is the location of actual cutting operations. Cunningham said his preliminary survey shows that sufficient timbering and lack of a thorough inspection of overhead earth formation is the principal cause.

While we appreciate the interest shown in our column by our many friends, we do not wish to create a condition where our friends will become hysterical. WE DO BELIEVE that the present administration is going backwards rather than forward.

WE DO BELIEVE that small business will find it very difficult to survive in the months ahead. WE DO BELIEVE that our country will go back into another Hoover depression just as long as Roosevelt's NEW DEAL legislation remains upon our statute books.

Despite the fact that Republican orators have denounced the NEW DEAL, throughout the length and width of our country, none of them have ever dared to abolish or even introduce legislation wiping the NEW DEAL off our statute books.

Therefore, just as long as social security, unemployment compensation, bank deposits, stock control, old age assistance, widow and blind pensions are a part of our American system way of life, we could not possibly go into a prolonged depression such as the one that was manufactured by the Hoover regime in the early thirties.

So while conditions may go up and down, there should be no fear in the hearts of the American people that we shall be thrown back to the dark days of 1930.

There is another bright star shining over the horizon. That is, that President Eisenhower realizes that his Republican Congress is not too much interested in being a party of the people, but are mostly interested in passing legislation that will help re-elect or bring them back to Congress. Already Mr. Eisenhower has signified his intention, that he will call in Democratic leaders and lay before them the problems of the Union, hoping that sufficient help will come from the Democratic party to save the administration from a fiasco.

Coal Industry Had Poor Year, But Is Pinning Hopes On Comeback

The coal industry had a poor year in 1953 but its leaders and officials of the United Mine Workers say it is not a dying industry, that it will come back.

There are more than 70 million tons of coal above ground. That's enough to keep the nation running for at least 11 weeks. Ordinarily a 30-day supply is considered normal.

Scores of mines, most of them small operations, have closed in the past 12 months. Sources close to the industry say it has become too expensive to mine coal in small diggings, that mining is becoming a highly mechanized operation so costs can be reduced as much as possible.

Mines which have channeled most of their production to the domestic market have been working anywhere from one to three days a week in most cases.

400 Million Tons Mined in 1953

Industry sources estimated bituminous (soft) coal production in 1953 at 460 million tons, compared with 465 million in 1952 and 630 million in the peak year of 1947.

While employment has been skidding in the soft coal industry the same thing has been happening in Pennsylvania's anthracite (hard coal) regions. Production of anthracite, used generally for domestic purposes, was 25,867,791 tons up to October 31. That compares with 33,506,000 tons in the same period of 1952.

In 1953, Pennsylvania state officials estimated 47,328 persons were employed in the hard coal fields. In 1952 the figures was 59,741.

There are about 321,600 soft coal miners in 31 states throughout the nation, compared with 704,739 20 years ago. In 1923 there were 9,331 soft coal mines. Today there are about 8,000.

Thirty years ago the average production per man, per day, was 147 tons in the soft coal fields. Today that average is 7.35 tons, due to mechanization of the deep mines and the rapid growth of "strip mining" in which huge machines scoop up the coal near the earth's surface.

Many of the strip mine operators are non-union. Harry Moses, president of the Bituminous Coal Operators Association, said in a speech a few months ago that these non-union operators are cutting into markets of producers who have contracts with the UMW.

Periodically, the UMW endeavors to organize the strip miners. Presently, there is violence. Moses estimates about 20 percent of the nation's soft coal is produced by independent union or non-union operations.

Lewis Eyes Future of Mining

John L. Lewis, the veteran UMW president, took a look at conditions of the coal industry and 1953 operations and declared:

"Now, as always, the coal industry is promoting greater productivity through technological advances and mechanization. Such a policy, as distinguished from that of all other coal-producing countries, permits the American mine worker to participate constantly in the fruits of his increased productivity and his outstanding aptitudes, all of which have contributed so much to the progress of this vital industry."

Lewis said the industry is "in a period of transition," adding:

"We have every confidence that in the immediate future there will be a substantial upturn in volume production and in broader uses of coal."

Moses Says It Was Tough Year

Moses summed up industry's attitude by saying:

"We've just come through a very tough year in the coal business. We've been battling against a bad market with too much coal at too small a price. I don't see any reason for any change materially in the picture one way or another in the coming year."

"We could really give other fuels a battle if we could cut our

labor costs by getting new processes that would enable us to get several times more production per man hour."

The "other fuels" to which Mr. Moses referred include natural gas and oil. Waste residual oil, much of it imported, is dealing a severe blow to the coal industry. Many people have converted their coal furnaces to oil and gas. In Pittsburgh, the capital of the coal industry, smoke control laws have resulted in many persons switching.

The big answer to the coal industry's problems seems to be virtually complete modernization and mechanization. Research programs calling for new ways to utilize coal are being pushed.

Hastings Resident Hurt In Highway Accident

Joseph Zagato, 31, of Hastings, Pa., was admitted to the Mifflin Hospital, Spangler, last Friday, Jan. 1, suffering from a possible fracture of the right knee and chest injuries. He is reported in a satisfactory condition.

The accident, in which Mr. Zagato was injured, occurred on Route 35 Friday morning between Hastings and Westover. Police said the Zagato car and one operated by John Lann, Hastings, collided head-on. Lann was not injured.

MAKING MARGARINE

Fifty million pounds of soybean oil was used in the manufacture of margarine, during the first six months of last year, according to the Pennsylvania Farmer, and it is estimated 900 million pounds of soybean oil will be used for this purpose by 1955.

What a RELIEF

to be an EX-PIN-UP GIRL

She Has a CLOTHES DRYER from I. J. BEARER Appliances

Maytag, Kelvinator and Laundry Equipment Specialists for Over 25 Years

Carrolltown, Pa. Phone Fireside 4-8171

YOUR CAR PAYMENTS Will Be Less-Financed By

1st Nat., Carrolltown

Announcing for '54 NEW FORD TRUCKS

with TRIPLE ECONOMY!

115-H.P. COST CLIPPER SIX

130-H.P. POWER KING V-8

136-H.P. POWER KING V-8

152-H.P. CARGO KING V-8

170-H.P. CARGO KING V-8

NOW! 5 Ford engines offer the mightiest concentration of power per cubic inch ever in any truck line! V-8 and SIX!

For the power they develop, the engines in the 1954 Ford Truck line have less cubic inch displacement than engines in other-make lines. For example, Ford's 239 cu. in. Power King V-8 develops its 130 h.p. on as much as 43 cu. in. less displacement. Smaller-displacement engines normally need less gas! That's one big reason why Ford concentrated power offers greater economy!

Ford takes the lead in ALL 3 vital factors that make for lower-cost trucking!

- Now, only in Ford Trucks—gas-saving, LOW-FRICTION, high-compression, overhead-valve, deep-block engines in all truck models! 115- to 170-h.p.!
- New Driverized Cabs, Master-Guide Power Steering, Power Brakes, Fordomatic Drive for faster control!
- New greater capacity! New Factory-Built "6-wheelers," gross up to 48% more!

See them TODAY!

FORD TRIPLE ECONOMY TRUCKS

MORE TRUCK FOR YOUR MONEY!

STOLTZ MOTOR COMPANY

Orange 5-2161 Ford Sales and Service Fith & Lang, PATTON, PA.