

Largest General Weekly Newspaper Circulation in the Area

THE UNION PRESS-COURIER

Established in October, 1888

Published every Thursday by Thomas A. Owens and Frank P. Cammarata, Union Press-Courier Building, 22 Market Ave., Patton, Pa., and entered as second class matter May 7, 1904, at the postoffice at Patton, Pa., under the act of March 3, 1879.

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

Subscription: \$5.00 Yearly in Cambria County, \$5.50 Outside County

Advertising Rates Furnished Upon Application

MEMBER OF PENNSYLVANIA NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

The endorser 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 circulation district covers all of Northern Cambria County and part of Southern Cambria County. Published in Northern Cambria and Conspert-Irons Editions.

"As I See It"

By . . . STATE SENATOR JOHN J. HALUSKA

Last week we referred to the tremendous victory achieved by the Democrats at the polls in the recent election. Now we would like to turn back a few pages and closely check as to what happened here in Cambria County.

This analysis is being made just to prove to the powers that be within ranks of both political parties that unless certain conditions are met being satisfactory to labor, apple carts can be upset regardless of the powers of "ward heelers" and "chest thumpers."

If you recall, last spring the Democratic Committee, men and women, met at the Courthouse and hand-picked candidates to represent them in the General Assembly, and it goes without saying that the candidates that were chosen at the Ebensburg meetings were outstanding and men of character.

However, the United Mine Workers of the county were very much peeved over the fact that one of its own members, Rep. Louis Rovaneck, had not received the blessings of the Democratic organization for reelection, and disregarding the wishes of the powerful Democratic machine in Cambria County, this group decided to oppose the Democratic leaders and go all-out and nominate Mr. Rovaneck as their choice for this particular office.

While the UMWA realized that Mr. Rovaneck's replacement, Sam Hershberger, a man who has been an old-line Democrat for many years and highly respected, would be hard to defeat, they just went about their duties like old-timers, and the results were phenomenal.

Now up until a few years ago, any candidate who received the UMWA endorsement was always proud to boast of this achievement; but really and truly, in most cases, it was just an endorsement, and unless a candidate was very popular himself and spent a great deal of money trying to be elected, this endorsement carried very little weight.

In the last year or two this picture has changed tremendously. We find that the new

NICKTOWN

By BARBARA LIES (Too late for last week)

Fete Mrs. Emma Stiles At Birthday Dinner

A birthday dinner was held recently at the home of Mrs. Emma Stiles in honor of Mrs. Emma Stiles. Attending were the following:

Mrs. Amelia Kirsch, Mrs. Mary Solson, Mrs. N. A. Miller, Mrs. Ivan Hoppel, Mrs. Louis Ragley, Mrs. Bill McNulty, Mrs. Joseph McKeown, Mrs. Reade Erown and Mrs. Emma Stiles.

A/I C. Wait Lieb Jr., and A/I Harold Romans of Sampson Air Force Base, Geneva, N. Y., and Dorothy Harkness of Rochester, N. Y., spent the week end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wait Lieb Sr.

Sister Mary Consuela of Portage and Sister Mary Protase of Altoona were week end visitors here with relatives.

Philip Kirsch, Altoona, formerly of this place, died Saturday, Nov. 29, at the home of his son, Robert, in Pittsburgh. He is a brother of Lewis Kirsch Sr., deceased. He was buried Wednesday morning in Altoona.

Mrs. John Fresh was hostess for her bridge club Thursday evening. Prizes went to Mrs. G. R. Lovette, Mrs. G. L. Krumenacker and Mrs. Darrell Krug.

Pvt. Fred Lieb, who has completed basic training at Ft. Knox, Ky., after spending a 14-day leave here, will be stationed at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Mrs. G. L. Krumenacker, Mrs. Geo. Krumenacker and Mrs. Fred Pfister and Mrs. G. R. Lovette visited in Johnstown Wednesday.

J. O. Daves of Pine Flats was a recent business caller here.

Pvt. Ted Kirsch of Ft. Belvoir, Va., spent the week end here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Kirsch.

Sister Mary Ricardo, RSM, of Altoona visited here Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Ragley and daughters spent Saturday in Johnstown.

Mrs. Leo Ruman of Ebensburg spent Sunday with Mrs. Amelia Kirsch.

Mr. and Mrs. Wait Lieb were recent callers in Nanty Glo.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Westrick and family, Patton, were Sunday visitors with Mrs. Genevieve Huber.

Mrs. Urban Kirsch visited in Johnstown recently.

Miss Hazel and Judy Long of Hangtown were Saturday visitors at the home of Miss Lena Schlereth.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Fleming of Indiana visited here Friday evening at the A. P. Kirsch residence.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Kirsch visited at the Ted Campbell residence in Johnstown Sunday.

Gary Lambour and Fred Lambour were visitors in Colver recently.

Mrs. Paul Juner of Indiana was a Wednesday visitor at the home of Mrs. Lena Schlereth.

Tom Tobin of Ebensburg was a Saturday visitor here.

Mr. and Mrs. Walt Lieb were Friday callers in Johnstown.

Veterans to Collect Dividend On Insurance

World War I and II veterans next year will collect 200 million dollars in dividends on their government life insurance.

The Veterans Administration announced last week that it will start in January to pay 200 million dollars to holders of about five million World War II national service life insurance policies.

The VA said another 25 million dollars would be distributed among holders of some 300,000 World War I U. S. government life insurance policies.

Want to buy something. Use the classifieds.

Watch Your Daughter

This likely isn't just the kind of tale that you're expecting to read if you have noticed the title. Prefacing the story is a man who endeavors to drive his automobile at nothing over the maximum speed as decreed by Pennsylvania regulations. That's fifty miles an hour. And, suddenly, looming up behind him on the highway is another car—but it's not behind for long. It passes the fifty-mile-an-hour speed of the safety conscious driver at about the same speed that the pay car passes the bum. There are a couple of rather young people in the car—a boy and a girl of high school age. Both are huddled closely about the steering-wheel, and it is to be presumed that the boy is driving. The passed-by car driver recognizes the youthful pair. They live right here in Patton.

Now this boy and this girl are well-liked folks. They both have the respect of the community. They simply are regarded as "nice", considerate and just the kind of young people parents, and even the neighbors, are proud of. The girl's parents certainly have no objection of her dating this young man, whom she's known since they were practically infants. But, maybe he does present an angle that they never think about—a deadly, heart-rending angle. He's a dare-devil when he's at the wheel of his dad's car. He's endangering his own life, and the life of others. He's a poor car date for any girl.

There's a "smart" age to some young men. And strangely enough, there are also some young ladies who actually admire that "smartness" when it comes to adeptly handling an automobile at an excessive speed. Foolish girls! But not all the girls expect such treatment. Out in Columbus, Ohio, we read, there's a group of teenage girls who have announced the boycott of reckless drivers. Boy friends who speed will get no more dates. Young people should get together on motorizing customs. Many are killed because some youngsters like to show off, thinking they will make a hit if the speedometer reaches 50. Most high school students are intelligent and sensible. When a boy loses his popularity by speeding, reckless driving at least may stop in the younger set.

Every girl has the right to demand careful driving from her date. And parents of the girl have every right to inquire and, if possible determine, just what the "speeding" proclivities of their daughter's date are. Strangely, parents who have every reason to trust their offspring in all other ways, possibly never think of the "speeding-driver" date. And, after all, a boycott on such drivers by all girls, would soon bring an end to the speeding—at least when there's a girl friend along.

Items From The Notebook

Soon the Christmas season will be at hand. In less than a month's time, the long anticipated—ever thus—holiday will be here. Our communities all are lighting, decorating and preparing for it. Shows are stocked with items for gift-giving. We are all conscious of the season. Our advertising columns are replete with the message of the community merchants of Northern Cambria and Southern Cambria Counties. They are your neighbors—and your friends. They back the merchandise they sell. They sell JUST AS CHEAP, and sometimes even more reasonably, than you'll find the case in city stores where overhead costs are greater. Your community merchant has his own civic interests at heart—because they are also his interests. Patronize him.

Ever since the Democratic landslide of Nov. 3, Republicans of all shapes and sizes in Pennsylvania have been calling for reorganization of their party as a prelude to a come-back. But nobody of any importance has had the courage to go into the "how" of the matter in anything except the broadest of generalities. Of course, after Nov. 3, there wasn't too much prestige left to say Pennsylvania Republican leaders on the statewide level. Gov. John Pine was the most honest of them all in his statement that there was plenty of discredit for everybody. There seems to be a lot of thought for reorganization—so long as each particular individual still is retained in the so-called "leadership." All of which makes the Democrats happy.

President Eisenhower isn't pleased with the Pennsylvania situation. Some of these days he hopes to make his home at Gettysburg. Apparently he has selected U. S. Senator Jim Duff to "take charge." He's had conferences with the Senator, and it is presumed that the G. O. P. debacle in Pennsylvania had some part in the logic discussed. But it is unlikely that Jim Duff, or Ed Martin, or Steven O'Leary, or any of the factional leaders of the present will have sufficient power to harmonize all elements. The recent election has shown that the bitterness will demand an absolute elimination of all the old faces. They are worn out. Maybe, like the Democrats, when the Republicans reorganize that younger blood, and younger and more modern ideas are in order, they can start to rebuild. But these "old fellows" who subscribe to that "thought if it puts them out of the picture."

Last week the County Commissioners sat on a board of appeals on tax assessments. There weren't too many appeals when the slip of the county and the number of families are taken into consideration. Most of the appeals were on real estate valuations. The picture generally is one of inequality, and sometimes even of confusion. A couple of years ago Patton went through a plan that attempted to place our assessments on a more equitable basis, and, whether all our readers like the statement or not, a pretty good job was accomplished, even though there may have been some minor mistakes. Anyway, Patton today is far the ahead of any of the other Northern Cambria communities in the matter of tax equalization, and we should be proud of it. The condition of some of the taxing units in our neighborhoods in confusion, error and simple, and through and through and other officials have plenty of reason to have headaches. Any one of these districts would gladly welcome Patton's condition as a model.

A couple of weeks ago the Patton Fire Company solicited their "envelope contributions" over the community, and we understand that the response was very satisfactory, conditions considered. The Patton firemen throughout the entire history of our borough have held the confidence of the people. It has been given them because they have fully merited that confidence. While the number of active members never has been unduly large, nevertheless the unity and interest of the membership has been superb. No other company of volunteers in the county likely can boast of a continuous organization without a break since the early 1890's. Today's volunteers are just as "interested" as were the band of men who obtained the charter more than sixty years ago.

Budgets to the residents of Patton. Both business and professional folks as well as the residents generally, constantly are on the move to make things better for their community, in just every way they can. It may range from community civic ventures, to seeking outside industrial developments. And it can also, as has been proven, conduct a civil defense program that gets the rest of their neighbors to stand. Despite the dangers that could happen, there are too many of us who fail to sense it. Civil defense to a lot of folks in this county, and in our own area, is something that we feel is all right for the other area, but not for us. And if something disastrous should happen, we just wouldn't know what to do.

president of UMW District 2, John Chizzoni, has taken a real interest in Cambria County politics, and, while he is surrounded by outstanding labor leaders and organizers, we find that several of these men are, in addition to being labor leaders, and organizers, really seasoned politicians.

For instance, take Michael De-gretto and Lewis Evans, both of Ebensburg, who know more people in Cambria County than any other two men I can think of right now. While both of them are Democrats, you will find that they are very liberal and on a number of occasions have crossed over the line and supported Republican candidates. We need just to go back to the recent election and peruse a vote that was given Congressman Saylor in all the mine communities, and therein you will see the handwork of De-gretto and Evans.

It was they who bucked the Democratic organization in the primaries and made it possible for Mr. Rovaneck's victory, and it will be they in the future who will have a great deal to say as to who returns to the Courthouse next year. All of this is being made possible because of the deep interest these men have in labor's cause.

Any person who has a record that is unblemished can feel quite certain that he can look forward to receiving help from this group regardless of party affiliation, but, be he Democrat or Republican, if he ever crosses over the wishes of labor, you may rest assured that he will be a "dead duck" insofar as Cambria County is concerned.

So we cannot help but pay our respects to these men of labor who are determined to place men in public office who will be friendly to their cause.

Next week we expect to give our readers the low-down on one of the most important pieces of legislation that will come before the General Assembly early in 1959. This bill I expect to sponsor and it will have the blessing of our new Governor. It will affect the lives of thousands of people in our commonwealth, and I have fought for this legislation for almost 20 years; it now appears to be a reality and that my dreams are coming true.

Please watch for this article in next week's issue.

SEN. JOHN J. HALUSKA

FOURTH OF A SERIES OF SIX ARTICLES

Trained Help Needed to Re-Assess Cambria Co. Under New State Law

3 Steps to Be Taken to Effect Most Efficient Way to Approach New Equalization Program

(Editor's note: In the third article of this series we discussed the Real Estate Assessment Law itself and how by a standardized system of record keeping equalization of assessments was brought about. In this article some methods used in installing the new system for assessments are discussed.)

In installing the new system under the new Real Estate Assessment Law of Pennsylvania, the County Commissioners should first determine whether or not to erect the system with their own help or by contract, the Pennsylvania Local Government Conference says.

Some counties have seen fit to use an appraisal consultant to advise them and to contract for the mapping. Other counties have utilized their own forces in the installation. This of course becomes a matter of decision for the Board of County Commissioners of each County.

"No matter how they approach the problem, one must always keep in mind the objectives of the new system; accounting for all the property and to see that it is on the tax duplicate; and effecting equalization in assessments throughout the county," the Conference explains.

Results to date emphasize the following steps as the most efficient way to approach the re-

assessment and equalization program, whether the work is let to a contractor or done with the county's own facilities:

1. Train the help under the methods prescribed in the new law.
2. Gather the facts of the improvements on land.
3. Establish a sound program of public relations, so that through local media, taxpayers will be fully informed about the aims and methods of the program.

In all cases facts on which to base evaluation must be available. It was found that the most efficient way is to establish construction costs for any particular area. Valuations for this purpose can be based on a square foot price for residential buildings; the cubic foot price for heavy and certain types of industrial buildings, and the square foot for commercial buildings. An example of procedures used by some County Commissioners is:

"Before assigned individuals are sent into communities to gather information and facts they should be thoroughly instructed as to what to look for; the improvements should be measured on the outside to get the overall dimensions by teams of two; when they have measured two or more properties, then each individual can go into one property and gather the necessary information that is required on the inside. These teams of two are responsible to a Supervisor who, on the average, has from six to 10 teams under his direct supervision. Cards that are finished each day are given to the supervisor who reviews them and then turns them into the office for pricing. This procedure gives the Chief County Assessor, through his supervisors, control over each day's production of fact finding."

"Once the cards reach the Assessor's office the prices get busy and apply the facts to the tables of construction costs, making adjustments, either up or down, as the facts on the card indicate, and the result becomes the approximate reproduction value of the improvement."

To this is added the value of the land, based on the per foot value for that district, or the acre value if it happens to be a rural district. The sum of these two figures becomes the approximate real value of the property. These figures should all be noted on the card so that, at any time in the future, anyone can determine what factors were used to arrive at the result. This, then, is the valuation to which is applied the percentage that the Board of County Commissioners have adopted, and the result is the assessed valuation."

(The fifth article will discuss how to proceed with the county-wide mapping.)

USE OF VALANCES

Valances are sometimes used for decoration or to reduce the effect of high ceilings and windows. But the main purpose of a valance is to conceal draperies across the window. Doris L. Conklin, Penn State extension home management specialist, says.

Does Your Home Need Repairs or Painting?

3 yrs. to pay

1st Natl. Carrolltown

You needn't go prospecting to find a treasure in party-line service



To be a good party-line neighbor, remember to release the line reasonably soon when someone else is waiting to use it. . . and hang up gently when you find the line in use. Your party-line neighbors will return the courtesy. Result: better telephone service for all on the line!

The Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania



POWER UP WITH POWER-X

Power-Primed with ROCKET FUEL

The New Super Fuel

SINCLAIR POWER-X

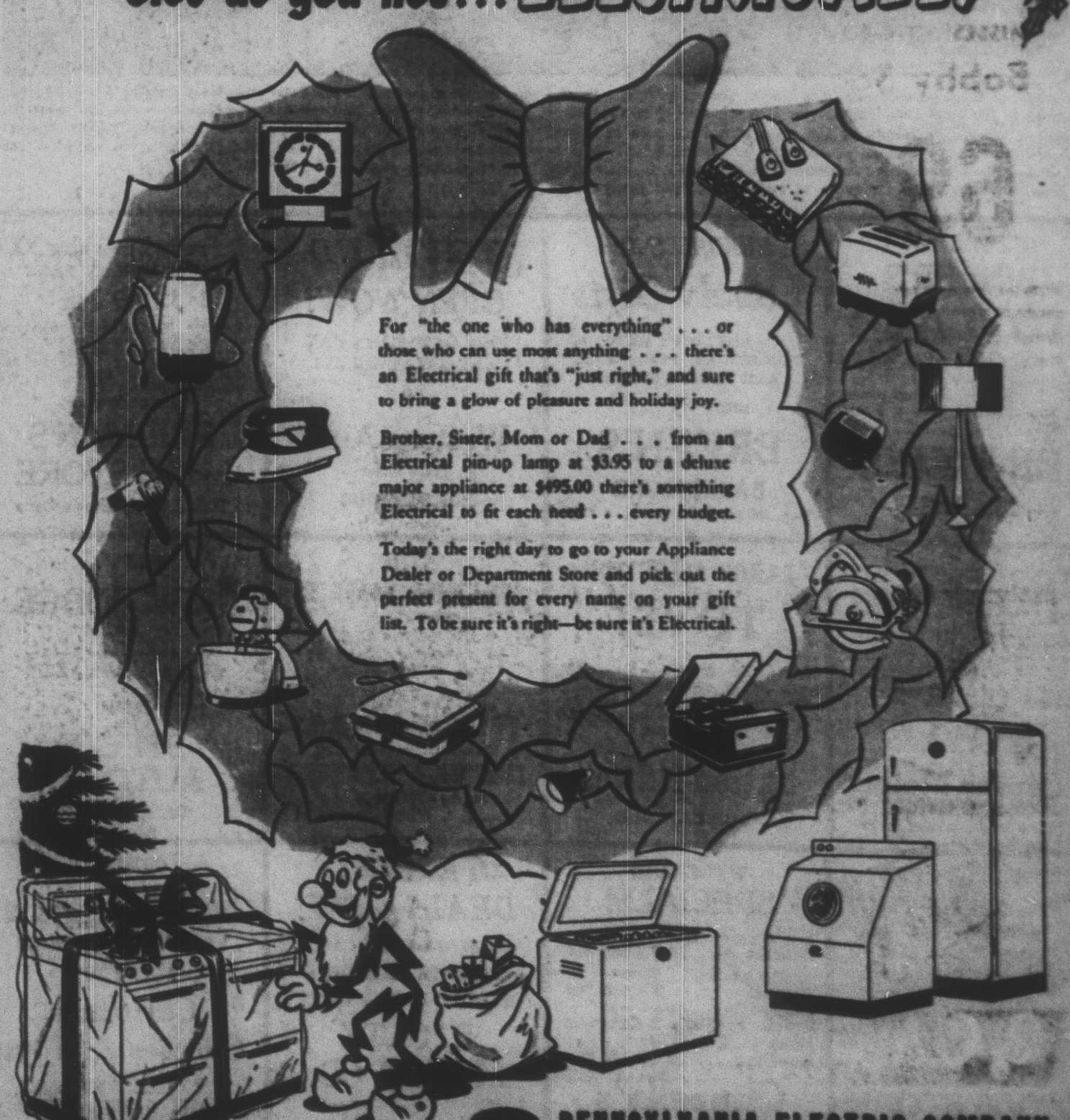
FRED J. HOGAN

"Your Supplier of SINCLAIR Products"

Phone 80-J Spangler, Pa.

LISTEN TO "YOUR SINCLAIR SPORTS REPORTER" MONDAY THRU FRIDAY AT 4:45 P. M. OVER WNCN

for the Merriest Christmas ever... Give as you live... ELECTRICALLY



For "the one who has everything" . . . or those who can use most anything . . . there's an Electrical gift that's "just right," and sure to bring a glow of pleasure and holiday joy.

Brother, Sister, Mom or Dad . . . from an Electrical pin-up lamp at \$3.95 to a deluxe major appliance at \$495.00 there's something Electrical to fit each need . . . every budget.

Today's the right day to go to your Appliance Dealer or Department Store and pick out the perfect present for every name on your gift list. To be sure it's right—be sure it's Electrical.

PENNSYLVANIA ELECTRIC COMPANY