

# SUSQUEHANNA

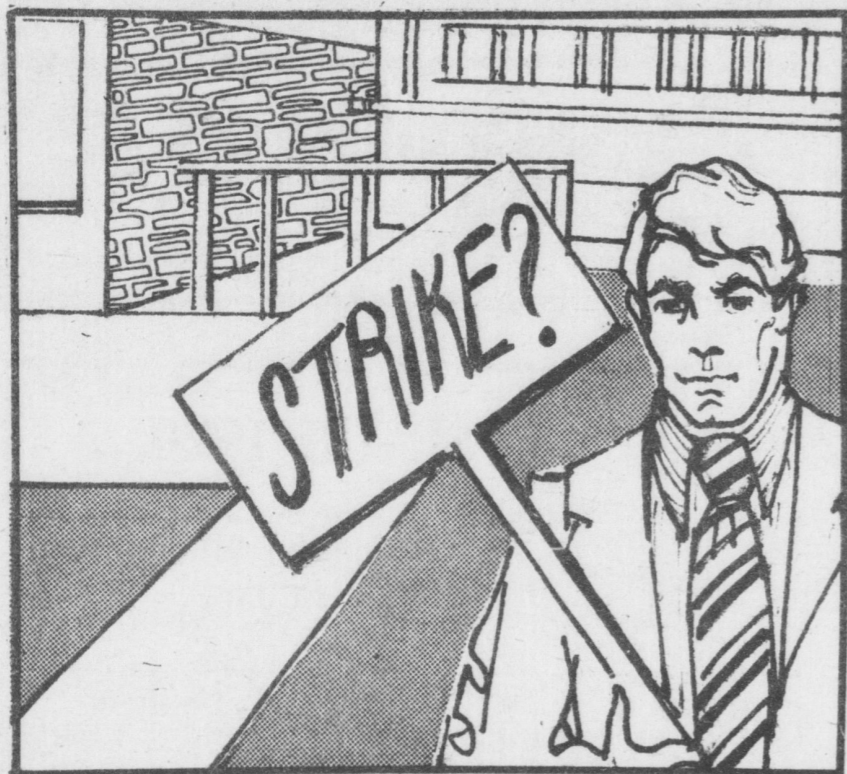
Ralph M. Snyder 431  
R. D. 2  
Mount Joy, PA 17552

# ES

Susquehanna Times & The Mount Joy Bulletin  
MARIETTA & MOUNT JOY, PA.

Vol. 76 No. 40 October 6, 1976

FIFTEEN CENTS



## Board will present contract offer Thursday

By next Monday, the suspense will probably be over.

Either Donegal School District teachers will be out on strike, or the chances of a settlement between the DEA and the school board will have increased substantially.

At a meeting scheduled for this Thursday, the board will present a two-year contract offer to the DEA (teachers' union).

The school board thinks its offer is "reasonable." If the teachers agree, talks will continue.

If teachers think the offer

is "unreasonable," they will go on strike, either on Friday or on Monday.

The teachers have already rejected the board's final one-year contract offer.

Starting last Monday, the union began a publicity

campaign to win community support for their demands. "Koffee Klatches" in private homes have been arranged.

Teachers are also knocking on doors in Marietta and Mount Joy to discuss their point of view with local people.

## School board says it plans 'reasonable' offer

The Donegal School Board has issued the following statement.

"There has been a nego-

tiating committee session of the board to evaluate the DEA's latest proposal. There will be a meeting

this week between the DEA and the School Board negotiating committee, at which time we will respond

to their proposal in what we feel is a reasonable manner. We hope they will agree."

## Donegal teacher's union says Board is responsible for current crisis

The Donegal Education Association [teachers' union] has issued the following statement:

"DONEGAL SCHOOLS ARE IN TROUBLE, bad trouble. Donegal teachers have laid the problem out on the table, but after nearly nine months, settlement has not been reached. WE ARE NOW AT THE POINT OF CRISIS: HERE'S WHY!

"Donegal teachers earn one of the lowest salaries in the country. Donegal administrators have earned some of the highest salaries in the county since the late 1960's.

"Donegal teachers have a salary schedule, which makes for fairness and provides credit for experience. The school board wanted to wipe it out.

"We think that teachers should not be suddenly transferred from one building to another without reason. We want teachers to sit down to a conference with the principal to discuss transfers. The board wants the right to transfer arbitrarily, without notice or explanation.

"The school board claims that decreased enrollment has necessitated a reduction in the teaching staff. The facts: 40 more students are enrolled this year over last year; the teaching staff has been reduced by 5½ positions. This has resulted in the largest classes our elementary schools have ever experienced.

"The school board has

hired an outsider to advise it. Jay Musser gets \$2,250 of tax money for his advice on negotiations. It is reported that the same negotiator that has pushed Harrisburg into its current strike, Tom Lane, is working behind the scene in Donegal and is slated to be hired as the board's negotiator for this next contract.

"The administration is causing two different grades to be taught in the same room. Teachers believe this is an educationally intolerable practice.

"Some board members and administrators are circumventing the teacher's organization, making private comments to individual teachers to try to destroy the teachers' determination to push for a high quality of education in Donegal.

"Teachers don't necessarily want the highest salaries in the area. We would consider ourselves successful if we could be brought up to the average salary level in Lancaster County. We rank in the lower fourth in Lancaster County teacher salaries. No other school hires beginning teachers as cheaply as board does.

"We are appalled by the following statement by the board. 'Even if you pay double the premiums yourselves, we won't agree to dental or vision care programs.'

"The school board is trying to convince you that it spends thousands of

dollars on fringe benefits for teachers. What they don't say is that they are counting Social Security, state retirement, Workmen's Compensation...etc., which must be paid by all employers as required by law.

"The board believe in and is working for financial penalties for career teachers. We think career teachers should be rewarded, not punished.

"We feel that it is very unprofessional for administrators to criticize teachers

in the presence of students and other teachers. We ask that this be discontinued and so state in our agreement. The board has disagreed.

"After Nine Months Of Negotiations we have still achieved no progress be-

cause the board has insisted on stripping our contract of the small benefits we now have— benefits most Lancaster County teacher enjoy.

(continue on page 10)

## Landis says union statements inaccurate

School Board president Dr. William Landis got a copy of the union's new statement Monday evening. He issued an immediate reply in time for our late deadline.

Because Dr. Landis did not have time to consult other board members, his reply represents his own views rather than those of the whole board.

Salaries- On the subject of teachers' salaries, Dr. Landis says, "Some of our salaries are low and some of them are high by county standards. This is built into the salary schedule that the

DEA helped to set in previous negotiations.

"We have reduced administration from 11 to 7 positions. Each administrator does 2 jobs. They are

(continue on page 10)

## If you're over 60, you're invited to a party



Photo shows, from left to right, Bob Schroll, Harvey Raffensberger and Caleb Miller socializing at the senior center.

Everyone over 60 is invited to the open house celebration at the senior center at Schock Presbyterian Home in Mount Joy. The center, which is run by the Lancaster Co. Office of Aging, is celebrating the first

anniversary of its existence. Free refreshments will be served and free transportation to the center can be arranged. See story on page 2.