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12 Notes on Daily Local News articles from June 1932

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Notes on Daily Local News articles from June 1932

compiled by Jim Metzger

Disclaimer: These notes on articles from the West Chester, Pennsylvania *Daily Local News* were collected for specific research projects related to industrialization and the Depression of the 1930s. They do not include all of the articles in any issue, nor do they contain all of the information in any particular article. While every reasonable effort was made to insure its accuracy, information on this website is presented AS IS without warranty, either expressed or implied, as to its accuracy, timeliness, or completeness. It is intended as a resource for historians, and nothing more.

1932/06/01

"Stock Market Shows Upturn" in *Daily Local News* (June 1, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article reports gains of 1 to 3 points in response to the US Senate's budget balancing efforts. In the first half hour of trading, more than 400,000 shares were traded. The usual trading volume for a single day was 4,000,000 shares.

1932/06/01

"Ex-Buck Private Is Key Figure in All National Legislation Affecting 4,000,000 War Vets" in *Daily Local News* (June 1, 1932), 3, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article is about Congressman John E. Rankin (D- Mississippi) who chairs the House committee on World War veterans-related legislation. He is noted as being disciplined. He never missed a roll call while in the military service and has not missed one roll call in the House of Representatives for over 10

years. He is a supporter of Governor (Franklin Delano) Roosevelt for President. He is related to Davy Crockett (Davy Crockett and his great-grandmother were brother and sister). "...and I'm a disciple ... of old Davy's doctrine of first making sure you're right and then going ahead." During a committee meeting, he threw an ink bottle at an accused mishandler (sic) of veterans' funds.

1932/06/02

"Veterans Embark on Bonus March" in *Daily Local News* (June 2, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article contained 3 stories of bonus marchers. Four hundred World War vets from Camden, New Jersey left for Washington, DC, demanding payment of the bonus certificate in automobiles and motor trucks. More than 400 Chicago, Illinois World War veterans left Pittsburgh in empty box cars on a freight train. Four hundred Cleveland, Ohio veterans are scheduled to leave for Washington on Saturday.

1932/06/02

"Drys Warn Of "Moist" Planks" in *Daily Local News* (June 2, 1932), 3, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article reports on a statement by the National Prohibition Board of Strategy. They warn of candidates supporting "subterfuges" tending to weaken the prohibition law. The board in its role is checking the trend in both parties to adopt "wet planks" at their National Conventions.

1932/06/02

Charles P Stewart, "Senator Morrow's Successor Sides With Administration Except on Dry Law Problem" in *Daily Local News* (June 2, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article describes how Senator W. Warren Barbour (R-New Jersey) introduced a bill to increase the Reconstruction Finance Corporation's resources to \$1.5 billion. He is siding with the current administration expect in areas related to Prohibition. Since the passage of Prohibition, statistics show an increase in alcohol-related crimes (federal convicts increased from 32 to 48 per 100,000 in population from 1910 to 1928), divorces (increase of 133% where intoxication as sole cause of divorce against 11% increase in general

population from 1922 to 1929) and deaths (an increase from 1.4% to 3.4% per 100,000 people from 1919 to 1929).

1932/06/02

"'Depression' Baby's Name" in *Daily Local News* (June 2, 1932), 5, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The short news note concerning the curious naming of a newborn child in Chickamauga, Georgia. "A son born to Charlie Walker, 60 year old Negro and his wife has been named Hoover Depression Walker."

1932/06/04

"New Directory Gives Figures on County" in *Daily Local News* (June 4, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article details some statistics from the "7th Industrial Directory of Pennsylvania" in particular about Chester County industry. County population grew from 95,695 in 1900 to 126,629 (present, 1932). Sales of manufactured goods amounted to \$65,849,200. Crops from the county's 4,559 farms yielded \$7,459,900. The article gives more data on motor vehicles and banks, as well as public and school properties. Also listed in the article are the key industries and products of the county.

1932/06/06

"200 Men Leave on Bonus March" in *Daily Local News* (June 6, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article describes the departure of 200 World War veterans from Philadelphia bound for Washington, DC. They were watched by "scores of policemen" as they left to join thousands of other World War veterans. The article quotes Leon Older of the Workers' Ex-Service League as saying that "they would devise means of transportation ... after they got out on the highway."

1932/06/06

"To Stop Feeding Bonus Drifters" in *Daily Local News* (June 6, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article describes how Washington, DC police are not assuming responsibility for care and feeding of either the bonus marchers who are already in the city or the ones who are expected to be arriving over the coming days.

1932/06/06

Charles P Stewart, "Unemployed Will Constitute Huge Single Class of Voters, Presenting Problem to Parties" in *Daily Local News* (June 6, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article describes how the unemployed make up a large percentage of the political parties' constituents. "They are organizing, beginning to supply their own needs in a fashion suggestive of Communistic principles, and, in short, creating a new social order within what hitherto has been the country's sole social order." An example given is the Seattle's (Washington) Unemployed Citizens' League.

1932/06/07

"The Bonus March" in *Daily Local News* (June 7, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

In this article, originally from the *Philadelphia Ledger*, it is reported that Senator Borah (R-Idaho) will not vote for the soldiers' bonus bill. His feelings are that the marchers are "amounting to force, to compel Congress... nor will I vote a dollar for them... while they remain...." The article also notes that the "vast majority of American citizens oppose" the bonus being paid.

1932/06/07

Charles P Stewart, "Five-Billion-Dollar Program for Relief of the Unemployed May Pass Over Expected Veto" in *Daily Local News* (June 7, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article talks about how the Congress may be able to pass \$5 billion in unemployment aid, even though the President says that he will veto it. Hoover terms the aid bill as "the most gigantic pork barrel."

1932/06/08

"Patent Granted to Sharples" in *Daily Local News* (June 8, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article announces that a patent has been granted to the Sharples Separator Company for an improved milk separating method.

1932/06/08

Charles P Stewart, "Uncle Sam May Be in the Red Even After Balancing Budget Owing to Business Shrinkage" in *Daily Local News* (June 8, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article concerns the Even with all the "planning" done by the Congress, failing to take into account the decline in businesses may result in a deficit.

1932/06/09

"Seven Employees Lose Positions in Court House" in *Daily Local News* (June 9, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article describes how seven county employees were cut from the payroll, at a savings of \$11,720 in salaries. Also six county appropriations were eliminated to other agencies: Historical Society, Recreation Department, Health Doctor, Agriculture Extension Service, Farm Products Show, and the SPCA. These eliminated appropriations amounted \$15,500.

1932/06/10

"More Than 500 Feast At Auto Club Banquet" in *Daily Local News* (June 10, 1932), 1 - 2, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article tells about the annual banquet of the American Automobile Association of Chester County. There were more than 500 car owners and operators in attendance. The keynote speaker, Reverend Seidel spoke of the "Beatitudes of a Motorist", the "humanitarian angle of this motor business." Statistics in the article stated that there were 25,506 registered motorists in county, but only 859 (3%) are members of the organization.

1932/06/10

"Indiana Supports Repeal Platform" in *Daily Local News* (June 10, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article tells how the Indiana Republican Party is in support of its repeal of the Prohibition Amendment. It goes on to say that the state party "abandoned its traditional role of champion of prohibition and adopted... (and support a) plank providing a referendum by States on prohibition...."

1932/06/10

"Changes at Station" in *Daily Local News* (June 10, 1932), 2, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article announces changes to the Market Street Pennsylvania Railroad station. It says that the use of two of the buildings rearranged. These changes were made to improve service and add to general efficiency.

1932/06/11

"County Men Will Join Bonus Army" in *Daily Local News* (June 11, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article announces that there will be a mass meeting at the Courthouse this evening (6/11/1932) to organize to join the Bonus Army already in Washington, DC. Meredith Longaker and Colon Dunn are providing leadership for the group and have selected Francis "Mush" Brown of West Chester to be the commander of the contingent. They are hoping to secure several trucks to carry the group to Washington, DC.

1932/06/11

"Burgess Backs Ex-Service Men" in *Daily Local News* (June 11, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

As in insert to an article on bonus marchers from Chester County, West Chester Borough Burgess George J Brinton is quoted as saying that he "will do everything consistent with my office in giving them support."

1932/06/13

"Halt Railroad Service" in *Daily Local News* (June 13, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article states that the Pickering Valley Railroad has curtailed 3-day-a-week mail service by rail that had been in existence since 1871. The mail will now be delivered by auto.

1932/06/13

"Ex-Service Men To Go To Washington" in *Daily Local News* (June 13, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article describes how the Chester County unit of the "Bonus Expeditionary Forces" will leave for Washington, DC tomorrow evening(6/14/1932). They are currently assembling at the Armory on North High Street. Francis Brown, formerly named as the unit's commander, cannot do as such with the unit since he is employed. In order to participate in the Bonus March, veterans must be unemployed, honorably discharged, and not drawing a government pension. Thirty men have joined the unit so far with one truck for supplies and one for transportation of the group.

1932/06/13

"House May Give In To Veterans" in *Daily Local News* (June 13, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article describes action by the House of Representatives on the Bonus Bill. The \$2.2 billion cash bonus demanded by 17,000 World War veterans encamped in Washington, DC appeared to have certain approval on a test vote. If the bill is discharged from House Rules Committee, the (Congressman Wright) Patman Bonus bill could reach the floor tomorrow, with probable passage on to the Senate. Opponents of the bill remained confident that it would be either killed in the Senate, or, if passed, vetoed by President Hoover.

1932/06/13

Charles P Stewart, "Washington Worried Greatly By Stream of Bonus Marchers Steadily Pouring In On City" in *Daily Local News* (June 13, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article describes the current state of affairs at the Bonus Marcher Camp in Washington, DC. The opinion of the writer is that the longer the veterans stay, the more that will come. The estimate is that there are currently 15 to 20,000 "jobless, homeless hungry men." There are also rumors of more than 150,000 coming soon to Washington. The Bonus Marchers' leaders declare that the numbers will grow as long as the bill is not signed.

1932/06/14

"Bonus Veterans Leave Tonight for Washington" in *Daily Local News* (June 14, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

This article says that the Chester County's Bonus Marchers are scheduled to leave at 8 PM this evening (6/14/1932). Local persons have contributed gasoline and cash. The troop is said to number over 50, most coming from West Chester, with more expected to join. Longaker has taken command of the troop. The marchers are advised to bring "blanket, knife, fork, plate, and tin cup." They are expected to arrive around midnight at the camp in Washington, DC.

1932/06/15

"Medical Treatment Refused Veterans" in *Daily Local News* (June 15, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article talks about Washington DC and Federal authorities with regards to medical treatment for the encamped bonus marchers. While volunteer doctors and dentists are available, the authorities refuse use them the use of any facilities for clinics.

1932/06/15

"Bonus Men Reach Washington Camp After Long Trip" in *Daily Local News* (June 15, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article details the arrival of 22 bonus marchers from Chester County in Washington, DC. They arrived at the camp at 2AM today (06/15/1932) in "good shape" and expect to remain in Washington, DC for two weeks. Also, the article said that a "large group saw them off in West Chester."

1932/06/15

"May Discontinue Service to Frazer" in *Daily Local News* (June 15, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article states that the Pennsylvania Railroad has sought to "abandon train service" on the West Chester to Frazer line. Instead of rail service, they will substitute bus service from West Chester to Paoli.

1932/06/15

"Hospital Board Reduces Rates" in *Daily Local News* (June 15, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article describes CCH Board of Managers reduced rates of a number of rooms in hospital, including private and semi-private rooms; residents in "moderate circumstances may profit by the new measure." Hospital census for past months: 2607 hospital days with 46% full pay, 54% free; 35 births, 12 deaths, 100 operations.

1932/06/15

Charles P Stewart, "Effects of new Tax Measure Will Be Observed Before Long By Average Citizen" in *Daily Local News* (June 15, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article talks about recent tax law changes with respect to the rich and the rest of the population. It states that politicians disregard the "howls of the rich" since there are few multimillionaires. "It is the man of modest means or less who is free with his cash" rather than the rich. The article then goes into an illustrative discussion on how tax law affects normal purchases for such things as cigarettes and car fare.

1932/06/16

"Senate Hopes to Kill Bonus Today" in *Daily Local News* (June 16, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article details about how the Patman Plan (payment of the veterans bonus) passed the House by a vote of 209-176. The word is that the Senate still hopes to kill the bill, even though leaders of the Bonus Army say that they will stay in Washington, DC until the bonus is paid. The Senate leadership claimed they had 50 to 60 votes against the measure.

1932/06/16

"Diphtheria Cases Reported in Kennett Area" in *Daily Local News* (June 16, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article says that the County Health Department has identified a number of cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever in the Kennett Square, Longwood and vicinity. The County Health Department says that there is no cause for alarm. Because of this, Longwood Gardens will be closed for the weekend.

1932/06/16

Charles P Stewart, "Washington Dry Law Leaders Regard Rockefeller Letter As Severest Jolt to Cause" in *Daily Local News* (June 16, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article talks about John D. Rockefeller, Jr's letter regarding the repeal of the 18th Amendment and how it is regarded by the Dry Lobby and the prohibition leaders in Congress as the "severest jolt their cause has suffered yet."

1932/06/17

"Bonus Marchers Say All's Well At Washington" in *Daily Local News* (June 17, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article gives an update on the Chester County bonus marchers. With the exception of two persons "who would not work and have left their ranks," the Bonus Marchers from West Chester are doing well in Washington, DC where they have pitched tents and assumed roles within the Bonus Army. The information came from a letter to the *Daily Local News* detailing their first day from Longaker, the Commander of the West Chester Bonus Expeditionary Force.

1932/06/17

Charles P Stewart, "Troublesome Dry Law Plank Prevents Republican Party From Having Quiet Meeting" in *Daily Local News* (June 17, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article includes details of the economic and prohibition related planks of the Republican Party. It also noted the Democrats were delaying their platform until the Republicans completed their platform.

1932/06/18

"Senate Smothers Bonus Bill Hope" in *Daily Local News* (June 18, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article details the Senate's rejection of the Patman Bill by a voter of 62 to 18 and the fatal blow that was dealt to the bill by tabling the motion to reconsider - "only one such motion can be made under the Senate's rules of procedure". The dissenting were cast by ten Democratic, seven Republican and one "Farmer-Labor" Senators.

1932/06/20

"Bonus Vets Ask Democratic Aid" in *Daily Local News* (June 20, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The bonus army threatens to turn their support to a third party or form a new party unless the Democrats "come out for immediate payment" of the bonus. A representative of the Bonus Marchers has been dispatched to the Democratic Convention to work for a bonus plank in the Democratic Party's platform.

1932/06/21

"Bonus Marchers Ranks Growing At Washington" in *Daily Local News* (June 21, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article states that fourteen new recruits from West Chester, increasing to the number of local bonus marchers to 34. Their ranks include one woman, the wife of an ex-serviceman. There are "no thoughts of disbanding" with Commander Longaker returning to West Chester to receive additional supplies and contributions. The article notes that donations can be left at Stroud and Rulon on North High Street.

1932/06/21

Charles P Stewart, "Washington Begins to Fear That Landslide of Jobless

Follow in the Wake of Vets" in *Daily Local News* (June 21, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article states that the expectation is that the Bonus Army will not be leaving Washington, DC anytime soon. Additionally, they may be followed by a wave of the unemployed joining their ranks.

1932/06/22

"Bonus Group Leader Return to Capital" in *Daily Local News* (June 22, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article details the return of Longaker and an aide (Robert Munger) to Washington, DC with supplies and funds for the unit. The article also stated that transportation was provided by Joseph Morris with "quite a large quantity of provisions and other contributions."

1932/06/24

"Regret Cutting Aid to Mothers" in *Daily Local News* (June 24, 1932), 3, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article states that the trustees of the Mothers' Assistance Fund is making grant reductions to county widows. It appears to be due to a reduction of funds from the Commonwealth since they hope that their former appropriation will be restored in a special session of the Legislature.

1932/06/24

Charles P Stewart, "Steady Jobs Are Suggested As Object of Trek to Capital Rather Than Bonus Payment" in *Daily Local News* (June 24, 1932), 4, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article reports on the death of Congressman Edward E. Eslick (D-Tennessee). He died on the floor of the house while delivering a "passionate appeal... in behalf of World War veterans." 15-20,000 members of the Bonus Expeditionary Force participated in the procession to Union Station. "Out of their virtual penniless they scraped up the price of a wreath for the occasion." While the Bonus Expeditionary Force is out to get the bonus payment, their real demand is for jobs. The bonus payment "would not last that long."

1932/06/24

"What They Say" in *Daily Local News* (June 24, 1932), 4, from microfilm.
[Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

Burgess George J Brinton said in an address to motorists: "We are not hunting fines in West Chester; we never have. We want to co-operate with you motorists. And whenever you think you are right, and we're wrong, we'll be ready to hear your side of the story."

1932/06/27

"Tax Delinquents May Lose Holdings" in *Daily Local News* (June 27, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article talks about the action being taken by the County Treasurer related to properties for which there are unpaid taxes for 1929 and 1930. They will be seized for sale if the taxes are not paid. The County Treasurer estimates the delinquent amount for the 2 years is approximately \$52,000.

1932/06/28

"Bonus Men Intend to Stay in Camp" in *Daily Local News* (June 28, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article gives a progress report from the Chester County Bonus Marchers. With an estimated 31000 men in the Bonus Camp, Commander Longaker said that while some rations are in short supply, they are in good spirits and that even several men who needed shoes have received them from the Salvation Army. The camp has started publishing a weekly newspaper and the group is planning a "great parade" for July 4th. At least 15,000 more bonus marchers are expected to be arriving in Washington, DC over the next several days. The article added that the troopers wanted to thank all those who have contributed.

1932/06/29

"Tries to Restore Harmony in Camps" in *Daily Local News* (June 29, 1932), 1, from microfilm. [Notes by Jim Metzger, 2006]

The article details the current events of the Bonus Expeditionary Force camp in Washington, DC. Robert W. Waters from Oregon was declared by acclamation as the commander-in-chief of the Bonus Expeditionary Force. He

is trying to restore harmony among the 15,000 "quarreling veterans." While some declared the voting action illegal, they agreed to abide by the vote.
