

Miner, 83, Doubts Aid Of Proposed Pension Plan

'Sounds Nice, but I Don't Have Hope It Will Do Me Good,' He Tells Writer

By FRED W. PERKINS, Scripps-Howard Staff Writer
VALE SUMMIT, Md., Mar. 26—Two old men a-sittin' in the sun—thankful for the benign warmth that comes over these western Maryland mountains even this early in the spring.

Two old coal miners they were, out in front of Bill's Place, which is a beer joint. They illustrate pretty well one of the problems in the pensions-for-miners scheme which has the coal mines closed down in an almost nationwide strike.

"Yes," said one of the miners, "I worked in the coal mines around here 39 years. Started in when I was 13. But I haven't been working for 10 years now. That pension thing sounds nice, but I don't have any hope it will do me any good."

Mr. Perkins said Bill, the owner of Bill's Place, "Won't do any harm and it might do some good."

"My name," said the miner, "is James Fatkins, and I am 89."

"My name is Michael Fryle," said the other. "I'll be 83 next month. I served more than 24

years in the mines, but I've been out of them for 40 years."

If the pension plan backed by John L. Lewis should be adopted, both these old men would get \$100 a month for the rest of their lives. Actuaries say it would not be possible to support payments to all former coal miners, nor even to those of recent service, on the basis of what the coal operators are being forced to pay into the United Mine Workers welfare and retirement fund.

The actuaries say that either beneficiaries should be limited or revenues of the fund must be raised, which means a larger tax on coal production.



BOOSTS IKE—Torrey

Stearns, of New York, still wants Gen. Eisenhower for President and is spearheading a campaign to swamp the Republican National Convention with written demands that Ike be the GOP nominee.

John A. Delaney, financial secretary of Local 3871 of the United Mine Workers, was interviewed at his community store. He made it emphatic that the miners decided to strike "entirely of their own volition" and not on orders from union headquarters in Washington.

Expect High Court To Test T-H Law

Government, CIO Want Speedy Decision

WASHINGTON, Mar. 26 (UP)—The Supreme Court is expected to announce Monday that it will accept its first test case on the Taft-Hartley Act. The case involves the act's ban on political expenditures by labor unions.

The Justice Department appealed the issue to the court yesterday, asking it to reverse a lower court ruling that the ban is unconstitutional.

The case stemmed from the CIO's endorsement of a political candidate in a congressional election in Maryland last summer. CIO President Philip Murray deliberately invited prosecution by signing an editorial in the "CIO News" favorable to Edward Garmatz, the successful contestant.

Both the government and the CIO sought a speedy decision from the Supreme Court to clear up the legality of political expenditures by unions before this year's election.

Ask Mrs. Manners—

'Doctor's Son Admits He Doesn't Know It All'

I WOULDN'T LISTEN to my father, a physician, who could have helped me be a doctor—I thought I knew it all.

I went into a poor business "to make money" and married a girl, pretty as a picture, coming from a family tending toward insanity. The girl "pooh-poohed" all fears and so did I, at 18—I was smart! Now I've a son "mentally unstable"—and so is my wife.

I'm 34, without prospects of happiness because I was so darned smart. If I live with my family I'm sick at heart and can't work and if I don't live with them I'm a brute. I'm not in love with another woman.

While in France I saw a lot of homes where parents had fixed marriages for their children—where the background, prospects and future happiness were considered.

I think the result was much happier than our "hit-or-miss" system where teen-agers marry for fun—on a dare—or because they're in love—at 18. Look at the marriages in your column—mostly messes and many just silly, preventable messes if the couples had listened to their parents.

Did you stop being kind when you stopped loving your wife? It's your duty to help her, you know. She didn't know you were going to grow up.

Urgo your wife to consult a psychiatrist and offset your unhappiness with hobbies and recreation. You'd find comfort in some sort of religion.

Camera Shutter Speed Explained

TELL ME what shutter speed and diaphragm opening mean on cameras, as mentioned in The Times Amateur Photo Contest.

Shutter speed indicates the duration of time that the shutter blades are open permitting light to pass through the lens. Most box cameras have a fixed speed.

The diaphragm opening indicates the relative amount of light which will pass through the lens.

Married to Man Thrice Wed

SOMETIMES MY HUSBAND acts as if I'm only his sister. I'm 16 and he is 12 years older. We've been married six months and I've tried to make a "go" of it but sometimes I think I'll go crazy. He has been married twice before.

My mother-in-law causes a lot of trouble between us. She's always talking about his first wife. I loved him when we first got married but he and his mother are turning me against them. W. C.

Don't worry until he acts ALL the time like you're his sister. You don't have any real serious complaint, now do you? I'm afraid that you're missing being carefree—but you would get married. You couldn't recapture that freedom if you were divorced—you'd be different, somehow, than other teen-agers.

Marriage isn't constant love-making. Part of its virtues are comfort, respect and peace of mind. You'll have to mature fast to understand a man 12 years older than you and three times married.

Don't act interested when your mother-in-law talks about the other wife.

M. C. B. Consoles H. D.

DEAR H. D. Writing about your husband's drinking and discourtesy—You undoubtedly are very discouraged and certainly have gone through a great deal. Your daughter may be rebellious because she doesn't have nice things she used to have and takes her revenge on you instead of her father who foolishly tries to drown his complexes with drink.

Take these crosses to our Divine Savior who suffered so much for all of us. You might get help for your husband and maybe some consolation for yourself.

Thank you, M. C. B. I do think people are troubled or ill or they wouldn't be unkind.

Will someone help "B. L." who wants to contact an evangelist by the name of Ethel R. Willetts or Ethel Willis? We'd be grateful for her last known home or church address. I was referred to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and to Michigan religious authorities, but didn't locate her.

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