

## PATTON COURIER

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### A MISGUIDED CONGRESSMAN

House of Representatives, U. S.  
Washington, D. C., May 8, 1916.  
To the Editor of The Army and Navy Journal:

Referring to yours of May 2, in which you question the accuracy of a statement made by me in a public address regarding desertion from the Army, permit me to say that my statements were based on figures given by Charles Johnson Post in Harper's Weekly in a series of articles early in 1914.

The facts and figures given by Mr. Post, as far as my observation has gone, have remained practically unchallenged until now. According to Mr. Post in the year 1911 the proportion of men who deserted compared to the number of men enlisted was seven per cent; for the year 1912 it was nine per cent; for the year 1913 it was 17 per cent. The desertions from the 3d Infantry during the year 1913 were 8.16 per cent; 6th Infantry 9.09 per cent; 9th Infantry 10 per cent; 4th Field Artillery, 15.50 per cent; 21st Infantry, 16.87 per cent; 12th Cavalry, 10 per cent; 28th Infantry, 10 per cent; 5th Field Artillery, 11.33 per cent; 24 Cavalry 16.25 per cent; 20th Infantry, 18.72 per cent.

Of course, my statement was rather broader than the actual fact. I employed a round figure so as better to present the case. I would

have been fairly well within the mark had I said one-sixth rather than one-fifth, unless Mr. Post's figures are without basis. It seems to me that his figures would have been challenged long ago had they been substantially incorrect. My understanding is that Mr. Post conducted a very careful examination at the War Department until his purpose was discovered, when he was denied further access to the records. I do not state this as a matter of knowledge, but merely of information for the correctness of which I do not pretend to vouch, except that I believe Mr. Post is a reputable journalist and one who has had experience in the military service of the United States. It seems to me probable that your estimate of four and one-half per cent of desertions from all branches of the Service may indicate that desertions are less numerous in certain branches than in the particular branches with which Mr. Post was dealing in the articles on which I based my statements.

Assuring you that I have no purpose of casting unmerited reflections upon the military branch of our Government, but at the same time freely expressing my belief that standing armies are incompatible with our democratic institutions, I remain,

Warren Worth Bailey.

We may be permitted to suggest to Mr. Bailey the fact, of which he should have been informed as a member of Congress, that there is much better authority for statements as to the number of desertions in our Army than that found in his post-mortem reference to Harper's Weekly. Mr. Bailey does not question the accuracy of the report of his speech at Mount Vernon, which credited him with saying that one-fifth of all the men of the United States Army were deserters. Further reference to the last annual report of the Adjutant General, that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915, shows that Mr. Bailey was even more incorrect in the statement than was charged in our paragraph of last week. The Adjutant General says that from the total reported desertions during the year ending June 30, 1915, there should be deducted 795 cases improperly classed as desertions, most of these cases being absence without leave. The Adjutant General very properly bases his calculations of percentages not upon the strength

of the Army at any given period, but on the "whole number of enlistment contracts in force during the year." This shows a percentage of 2.65 of actual desertions. The desertions among colored troops were less than one-half of one per cent. Mr. Bailey now seeks to escape the force of our criticism by declaring that the proportion of desertions was based not upon the strength of the Army, but on the number of men enlisted. As The Adjutant General informs us, the number of enlistments for the year numbered 31,929, so that the percentage of the desertions to enlistments for the year was only 11.7. Compare this with the figures given by Mr. Bailey. What is to be thought of a member of Congress legislating for the Army who goes for his facts to the happily defunct Harper's Weekly instead of to the official data furnished to Congress? As to the figures of Mr. Post they have been discredited on more than one occasion as they are again in this statement. The assertion that it required extraordinary research to ascertain the facts is simply absurd. This article was taken from the Army and Navy Journal.

### Giddap!

He took in two bad dollars,  
And now he's having fits.  
But, pardon me, I mean that he  
Is having counterfits.  
—B. T. Longfellow

### Hey, Have a Heart!

Dear Luke—As the club physician I nominate Dr. I. Mayberry of Scotttown, O.—Scottown.

### Huh!

"If you'd avoid a busting head,"  
One day I heard a wise man say,  
"Beware the wine when it is red,  
Beware the rum when it is bay."

### Oh, Joy!

Dear Luke—Schwieterman & Hune-fake, the druggists of New Bremen, O., are on their way to dispense sweets and honey in the club.—H. S. M.

### Beotch!

Dear Luke—Can May K. Ripplin, a beautiful corn fed of this city, use the swimming pool in the club?—E. M. L. Louisville, Ky.

### Sure!

Dear Luke—Can Stone Ware of Donaldson, La., be foreman of the club's pottery department?—H. P.

### Gone!

Dear Luke—What has become of the old fashioned boy who used to say, "Tee streee bob tall boss fly?"—C. E. P.

When any of you young men come in and say:

"I'm Interested in Good Clothes"

and most of you will sooner or later--- then we'll say

"Do you want patch pockets or plain? One, two or three buttons? Do you like the link button idea? What sort of fabric and color and pattern would you care for?"

### WE HAVE STYLES

For every taste and we price them for every purse. Or maybe it's just a

### HAT

that you need. If so, we would appreciate the privilege of showing you what we consider the most complete line

### OF UP-TO-DATE STYLES

to be found in the county. New Spring styles of Stetson Hats for \$3.00, \$3.50 and \$4.00. Other Hats at \$2.00 and \$2.50.

New Shirts New Neckwear New Collars

EVERYTHING NEW AT  
**W. L. THOMPSON'S**  
PATTON, PA.

# KUSNER'S

Sale on  
Ladies' Suits,  
Coats and Waists  
Continues

**Barney Kusner Store**  
Patton, Pennsylvania

## NEWS OF TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO

Taken From The Patton Courier  
Thursday, May 16, 1895

### Base Ball Club Organized

The second base ball club of Patton has been organized with the following named players: J. Farrell, pitcher and captain; Reddy McMahon, catcher; J. M. Rounsley, first base; Wm. Tremble, second base; G. Hunter, third base; Ed. Hunter, short stop; Paddy Kelley, right field; Michael Castallo, center field; Paddy Meehan, left field. Some lively games are expected soon between the above named nine and the third nine.

### Miners of This District May Strike

As a result of the Operators refusing the five-cent increase.

Mr. T. A. Bradley, of Lilly president of District No. 2, of the United Mine Workers, which includes Cambria county was in Altoona Sunday night and talked with a newspaper reporter on the mining situation.

He said that the operators had flatly refused to grant the five-cent increase recently demanded by the miners of this district, but he was not prepared to say what the outcome of the refusal would be, the matter now being in the hands of the several local unions. It is likely a convention will be called for the latter part of the month. Mr. Bradley said, when the matter will be settled definitely, as at this convention it will be determined whether or not a strike would be the proper thing.

"All the operators are not opposed to the increase," the district president continued. "We have some of the best operators to be found anywhere, right in this district, while we have some not so good. The Berwind White people are the largest operators, and they virtually set the prices paid miners."

### Dentist in Patton

Dr. C. Kenney, the dentist of Hastings, will be at the office of Dr. I. J. Weida, Good building, Patton, every Thursday from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M., prepared to perform all operations pertaining to dentistry in the most careful manner. Dr. Kenney is especially skillful in the painless extraction of teeth, and in making artificial plates. He assures satisfaction in all operations.

Baptist Services  
Today (Thursday) recognition ser-

vices will be held in Good's building by the Baptist congregation. Preaching at 3 P. M. and 7 P. M. All are cordially invited to these services.

### Attention Firemen

All Patton Firemen are earnestly requested to attend a meeting in the Firemen's hall to-night (Thursday) to assist in making arrangements for the concert May 23.

### Personals

Patton was visited by a snow storm Tuesday, May 15th.  
Miss Louise, daughter of Prof. B. C. Youngman, of Clearfield, is visiting Miss Louise McPherson this week.  
Miss Lena Grove, of Brookville, who has been the guest of her sister, Mrs. O. Winslow, this week.

### OPEN LAMP CAUSE

#### OF GAS EXPLOSION

That is Verdict of Jury at Indiana into the Robindale Mine Disaster. Indiana, May 10.—The jury at the inquest into the Robindale mine disaster returned a verdict yesterday finding that "open lamps in the hands of employees ignited gas and caused the death of eight men in the Robindale mine of the Conemaugh Smokeless Coal Company near Seward."

The inquest was in charge of Coroner T. B. Butterbaugh of Indiana. A number of mine inspectors in this vicinity, including Nicholas Evans and Thomas D. Williams of Johnstown were examined.

The recommendations of the jury were as follows:

First, that a competent fireboss be engaged to perform his duties as required by law.

Second, that lock safety or electric lamps be used in all parts of the mine.

Third, that suitable explosive recommended by proper authorities be used, the shots to be tamped with clay or other non-combustible material and the shot to be ignited by competent employees with an electric battery.

Fourth, that due care be exercised in the use of electric lines in the said mines.

Advertise in The Courier.

### FIRST-AID CAR AT NANTY-GLO

Teams From Six Mines Taking Instructions From State's Experts

Teams of five men from each of the six mines in the Nanty-Glo region are taking first-aid work from the corps of state experts in charge of the rescue car that has been at Nanty-Glo since last Sunday. These 30 men are to be made experts in rescue work before the car leaves Nanty-Glo May 27. They will be given certificates of proficiency when their course is ended.

The car in question is sent out by the state bureau of mining. Great attention is paid to the use of the oxygen breathing apparatus. In the crew with the car there are two experienced miners, a mining engineer and a mine surgeon. All the life-saving devices are the latest devised. At a moment's notice the car may be started toward the scene of a mine disaster; and if one occurs in Pennsylvania while it is at Nanty-Glo the course of lectures and demonstrations will be cut short.

Prominent citizens of Nanty-Glo are talking of a contest in first-aid work for the six teams, sometime after the men get their efficiency certificates. If the contest is held Nanty-Glo merchants and professional men will offer prizes.

### TWO ARRESTED AS

#### RESULT OF FIGHT

(From Barnesboro Star)

Late last Saturday night, a fight occurred near the Globe Hotel. Had it not been for the prompt and quick action of Polo Azzaro and Officer Coop, might have terminated in a tragedy, when Tony Corneely and Sam Frank had a discussion, which started in the barroom of the above hotel. They became so noisy and were ordered to leave, and retired to the rear of the hotel and there, surrounded by a large crowd of citizens, were trying to get at each other. Threats to kill each other were made and Frank pulled while Corneely produced a .38 calibre, from his pocket a .38 calibre long.

About this time Officer Coop managed to get hold of Corneely and his gun and just as Frank was about to aim, Mr. Azzaro grabbed his weapon and the two offenders of the law were soon behind the bars. A trial was given them by the squire, but were held and on Tuesday afternoon, were taken to Ebensburg for further trial.