THE PATTON COURIER

Published Every Thursday.

THOS. A. OWENS, Editor & Proprietor

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IN THE DEPTHS.

The other day a well known farmer of the vicinity of Patton dropped into the Courier office on business and during a conversation with him, the following tale was gleaned:

The said farmer came to town Wednesday of last week, principally to visit a local physician, and secure medicine for a sick daughter at home. This he did. The medicine was bulky, and required a large bottle to contain it. After securing it, he placed it in his wagon and went on another errand in town, after which he drove home. Upon his arrival he discovered the medicine was missing and he was required to drive back to town for more. Investigation disclosed that the bottle was taken by by parties who presumed that the botle contained something "good to drink." Perhaps it did, for the sick girl, but inasmuch as it had nothing of alcoholic content in it, it might have acted as poison to the bunch of direlicts that confiscated it Had it been wood alcohol it would have proved better. Such is the depths men reach.

IN DEATH STRUGGLE.

Die-hards are ever with us. The current species is as tough and hardy as any the nation has had to experiment in the last seventy-five years. It is the corrupt political boss or ward healer, fighting, in his death struggle, to have us repeal the direct primary.

With a presidential year looming ahead in 1928, there are reasons enough why it would be advantageous to many of the old bosses to return to the convention system, in county, in state, in nation. Of course, this is too much for them to hops for, still it is a fact that a most determined effort to that end is this year being made. Voters everywhere should be warned of the subtle and indirect methods that are being used to take from their hands the right to name their respective party candidates.

The attack on the direct primary is being pressed by those forces that prefer a government by money—to one by popular opinion. The scandals within the past year have put a new determination into the foes of the primary. Bosses have learned that money, used too lavishly in a primary, defeats its own ends. Under the convention system, money can be handled easily, effectively—and attracts no attention.

Right now there are some seemingly very learned discussions being featured by the political-boss directed press which attempt to palm off the old corrupt convention system of nomination as the "indirect convention system."

In a nutshell, it is a joke for advocates of the convention system to talk about the cost of the direct primary and compare it with the old convention system. Just remember this.

Every real progressive in congress today comes from direct primary strongholds—and virtually every one is a poor man. Also, investigate and you will find that the drive against the direct primary is headed by public utility officials, old school politicians and corporation lawyers.

BILL BOARD DISGRACE.

There are times when the United States can sincerely regret that she is a young nation. When one is young one many times does many things unthinkingly. So with the nation—and the day we permitted the start in besmearing our beautiful landscapes along our national highways, with huge, lurid bill boards and signs, is one of those things, like the follies of youth, which we wish we could undo.

An attempt to disfigure English landscapes with billboards and signs, a la American, is meeting with stiff opposition. Our sympathy is with the challengers and against this vandalism. It is our hope the protest will save the rural landscapes of England from such defacement.

A few successful protests by other nations may some day awake America and the public sentiment force the removal of all wayside billboards which deface and destroy onr nation's natural beauty.

EDITORIAL QUIPS.

Some women who think they are shining socially find later that it was only their nose.

Looks like Volstead also changed our standard measure scale. A quart of gin now means a peck of trouble.

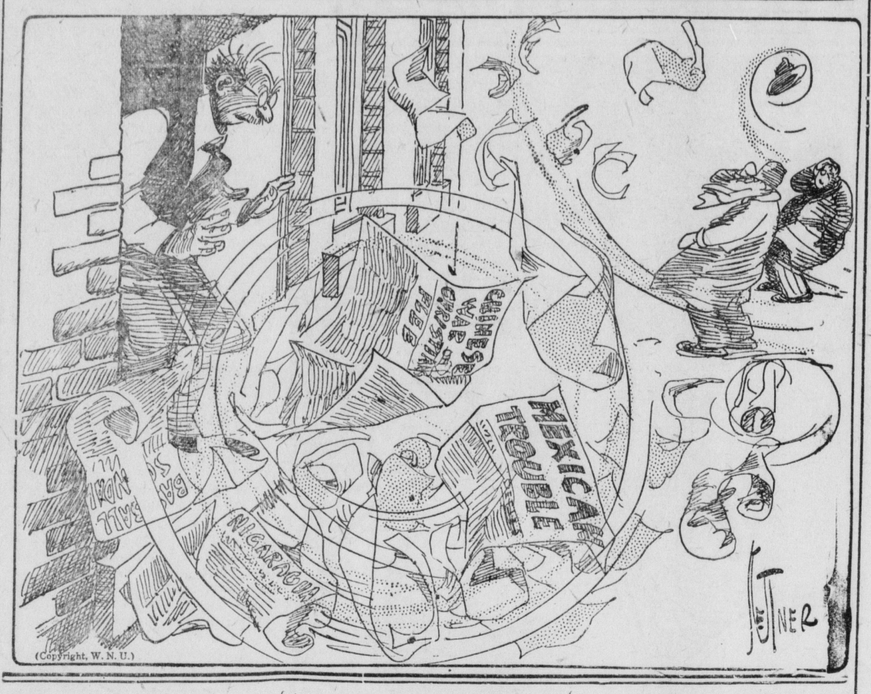
The poor fish who holds a soul mate in his arms and thinks he has found happiness is only hugging a delusion.

If women's skirts keep on getting shorter we for one are going to quit worrying about this ever being a petticoat government.

Edison says every man should marry, and marry young. He is correct. This will increase our field of inventors. You know—inventors of alibis.

A London scientist says "in twenty years we will have television, no drudgery in the home, sex predetermined and children fed on concentrated food through tubes." Here is a tip for ambitious 1927 school and college graduates to get into the tube business.

Whirl of the March Wind



This Week

BY ARTHUR BRISBANE

President Faces West.
The Dinosaur Party.
Studying Mummies.
Men Will Dig.

President Coolidge will spend his vacation in the West, in response to many invitations. He should drive in a big automobile from Kansas City to Seattle down to San Diego, fishing here and there. He would see millions of Americans that like him.

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The biggest wars are soon forgotten. Over a direct cable from the United States to Germany, opened last week, President Coolidge wired President Hindenburg his hope that this additional means of communication will promote mutual understanding and good will between the two countries. And President Hindenburg replied most politely. Germany, rid of an expensive fleet, expensive standing army and extremely expensive Kaiser, attends to business and goes ahead more rapidly than any other country in Europe.

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Mrs. Henry Fairfield Osborn entertained friends at the Museum of Natural History, in honor of the tyrannosaurus, in Dinosaur Hall.

That monster is 47 feet long from his beak to the end of his tail, 18 feet high at the hips, 21 feet around the waist, with bones that weigh more than two tons.

He was a powerful animal, but couldn't last because he didn't have a brain big in proportion to the size of his body.

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Civilization has developed a more powerful creature, which is the two-legged billionaire, able to control and command the work of 200,000,000 men for one day.

That billionaire will soon be numerous and the interesting question concerning him will be, "What about his brain?" Will it be big enough to keep him safe?

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The learned Dr. Sack of Heidelburg university, studying thousands of Egyptian mummies, finds that high living killed off rich Egyptians as it kills off rich Americans now.

Folish eating, lack of exercise, especially lack of deep breathing, have through the centuries been skimming the scum off the boiling pot of civilization.

Mummies of the fifty dynasty show signs of tuberculosis, fafecting the spine, and gout, swelling the joints.

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The Supreme Court decides unanimously that Texas' laws forbidding negroes to vote at Democratic primaries is unconstitutional. It is a most important decision and not to the South only, since it may mean federal control over local primaries.

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Where money is, men will dig. It was proved in Italy before architects had learned to make great domes like that on St. Peter's hold themselves up as they rose in the air. One dome was bilt and filled with earth to support it as it rose, until the sides met at the top. Putting in the earth would be much less expensive than taking it out. So they mixed the earth beneath the dome with small coins of a total value much less than removing the earth. When the dome was completed the population was told it could bear away the coin-bearing dirt. The great dome stood empty.

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This country last year imported more than $80,000,000 worth of precious stones, $5,000,000 more than the year before. And those purchases were all made without the assistance of the extinct race of bartenders, to each of which a large diamond was as necessary as a white apron.

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M. Millet, French scientist, would tear down the honey bee's reputation, built up by Maeterlinck, Lubbock and many others back to Aristotle.

The bee is a dull, mechanical creature, says Millet; it does not know that it polenizes plants, flowers and blossoms, does not even know which flowers have honey, thinks only of getting sugar.

You can say the same of our human honey bees of industry. They build up civilization, make wealth, leasure and culture possible, but they don't know it, or don't care. They also are only "looking for sugar."

But like the bee they are doing the work for which the Lord created them and that's sufficient.

WHY PAY RENT?

OWN YOUR HOME

WE CAN ASSIST YOU TO BUY OR BUILD A HOME. CONVENIENT MONTHLY PAYMENTS. COME IN AND TALK IT OVER.

PATTON BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

ALTOONA AMUSEMENT BULLETIN

ALL NEXT WEEK

THEATRES

ALL WEEK STARTING MARCH 28, 1927

STRAND—"Love of Sunya" with Gloria Swanson. Comedy, "Broncho Express." And "Felix Collars the Button. Strand Ten Piece Orchestra.

MISHLER—Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Feature Picture, "The Big Parade." Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Usual High Class Vaudeville.

STATE—(Starts Sat., Mar. 26) "Blind Alleys," with Thomas Meighan.

ORPHEUM—Last week of Red Mack's Musical Show Company.

CAPITOL—"The Auctioneer" with George Sidney. and "The Kid Brother," Harold Lloyd.

OLYMPIC—Zane Gray's "The Mysterious Rider," with Jack Holt.

THIS FEATURE IS FURNISHED THE COURIER each week by

BOOSTER ASSOCIATION ALTOONA PA

Executors' Notice.

In the estate of C. L. Forsberg, late of the Borough of Patton, County of Cambria, and State of Pennsylvania, deceased.

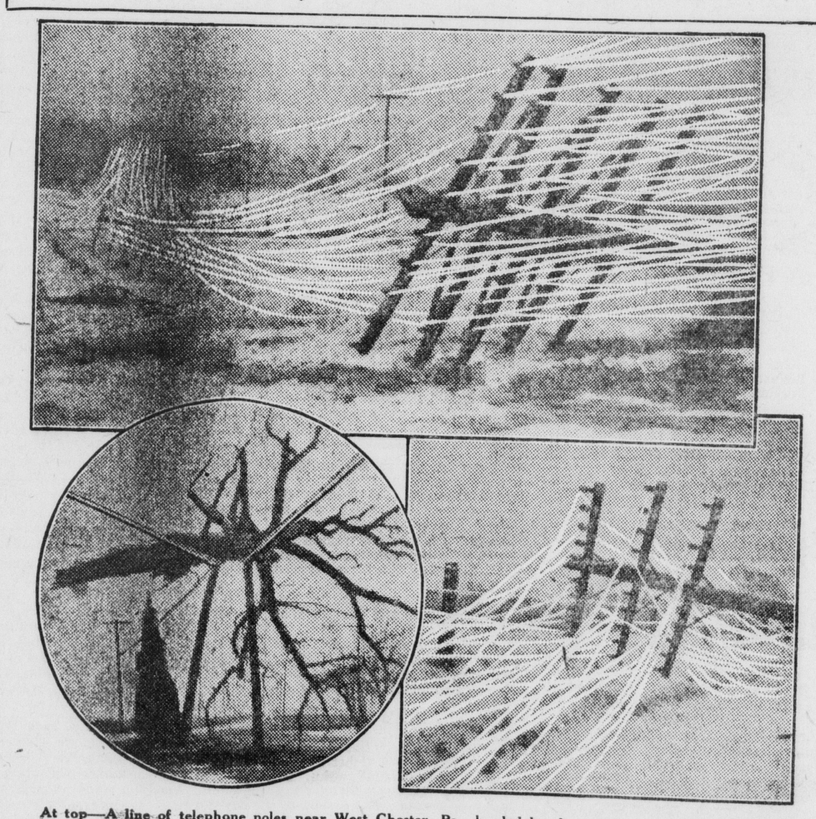
Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary in the estate of said decedent have been granted to the undersigned. All persons indebted to the said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims or demands against said estate will make them known without delay to the undersigned.

C. WILLIAM FORSBERG,
IDA E. FORSBERG,
307 Magee Ave., Patton, Pa.
3t Executors.

FOR SALE—Six room house, with bath, heat and light. cellar, attic and garage on lot. Located on south side of Magee avenue. Inquire L. T. Botts, Patton ,Pa.

WE'RE NEVER SATISFIED — By A. B. CHAPIN

WORST SLEET STORM IN FIFTEEN YEARS DAMAGES TELEPHONE LINES ALONG MIDDLE ATLANTIC COAST



At top—A line of telephone poles near West Chester, Pa., leveled by the weight of the ice and the fury of the wind.

In circle—A freak of the storm outside Bridgeton, N. J. This big oak tree snapped off and hung suspended on the two cables—neither of which gave way under the strain.

Below—One of the 2000 poles felled by the heavy, ice-coated wires and high wind. The thickness of the ice on the wires can be seen.

"The worst sleet storm in fifteen years" is the way Bell telephone engineers classified the one which swept the middle Atlantic coast recently. Although it seemed no worse than usual to most persons, it was in reality one of severe damage to the telephone service.

Only about 8 percent of all the telephones in the storm area were affected, but it kept the forces of the telephone company "on the jump" for several days in an effort to re-establish the lines of communication that had been demolished by the fury of the ice and wind.

A total of 246,000 telephones were located in the path of the storm, and of this number about 20,000 were out of service at the peak of the storm trouble. Thus approximately one telephone in every 12 was affected. Telephone officials state that one reason more were not troubled was due to having a great number of the lines in cables which are practically "storm-proof." A total of over 2,000 poles were leveled by the storm.

Gangs of workmen from Central and Western Pennsylvania were imported to aid in the emergency work of stringing temporary wire and cable. Forty-four crews, in all, were borrowed from other territories and these, with about 46 crews from the area in which the storm trouble centered, carried on the work of establishing temporary communication and starting to rebuild the telephone plant disabled by the storm.

The figures showing the amounts of material mobilized to care for the storm damage gives a picture of what equipment was necessary to handle the job. Nearly 14,250,000 feet of insulated wire was used, along with over 15,000,000 feet of bare copper wire and nearly 70,000 feet of 24 wire emergency cable.

The amount of bare iron wire used was 4,030,000 feet, while 27,550 pounds of "tie-wire" were needed to make the wires fast to the insulators on the cross-arms of the poles. Sixty tons of miscellaneous material were used, and the weight of all the material hauled was 600 tons. Twenty-one trucks had to be hired for hauling purposes, and altogether there were 410 motor vehicles on the job.

On the Sunday morning after the storm broke, thirty-six telephone central offices were completely isolated, none of them being able to get in touch with other offices through their telephone lines. By the following evening, however, only four offices remained in an isolated condition, and connections with them were shortly afterward re-established.

The first work was concentrated on laying temporary wire on the ground so that the main arteries of communication between cities and towns could be used. Tangled wires and poles were cleared off the highways and left lying until the time when reconstruction could be carried on.