Largest General Weekly Newspaper Circulation in the Area

THE UNION PRESS-COURIER

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

The endeavor of the Union Press-Courier is to sincerely represent Organized Labor in all efforts to obtain economic freedom. Material for publication must be signed by the writer as an evidence of good faith.
The Union Press-Courier gives its advertisers the advantage of combined circulations of two largely-circulated weeklies and has a reader coverage that blankets Patton and all major mining towns in Northern Cambria County.

Curfew's Benefits Weigh Most

Much has been said pro and con on the issue of the curfew in Patton Borough. We are of the opinion, as a newspaper, that the benefits of a 9:30 p. m. curfew for children under 16 far outweigh the disadvantages. To our mind, if a youth of fifteen or fourteen, or younger, is out after 9:30 his or her parents have a right to know just where he is. And we refuse to believe that a policeman will haul them on the carpet for engaging in legitimate activities.

True, adults are not always up to par either, but two wrongs don't make a right. If the parents can't keep children of 15 or 14 or younger from loitering on the streets after 9:30, then it is up to the law to do so. Curfews have been in force in Patton before and no one seems the worse for it. They work well in other nearby towns, and are respected even by the smaller children who put up no argument about "going to bed when the whistle blows." And there is no doubt that there are now very few younger children loitering on the street at night—as had been the case despite opinion to the contrary.

Patton schools are being liberal with the application of the curfew ordinance at that. Upon looking it up, we find it was passed June 30, 1910, when George Prindible was president of council and Jerry Ford was burgess. It calls for "persons under 18 years" instead of the 16 limit, and is effective at 9:00 p. m.—not 9:30. We welcome letters to the editor on the subject, but ask that they be kept brief and that personalities be omitted. Letters also must be signed.

—TOM OWENS JR.

Unobserved Menaces

The other day James Blake, for many years chief of the Patton Volunteer Fire Company, called our attention to a number of unused wells that are spotted here and there over the community, and also advised us that quite a few land owners where such wells are located have recently either covered them securely or filled them. The unused well, with a rotten wooden covering, or no covering, is a constant menace to children in particular.

Unquestionably there are a number of the hazardous type of wells located in the area in which this newspaper circulates. The fact that a land owner may feel that trespassing children have no business on his premises hardly would justify his conscience if some small tot were to lose his life because of his carelessness. The unused well, without proper covering, is a distinct menace to the public. Constantly over the nation lives are being lost because of them.

Security And Rehabilitation

No one will question the statement that there are scores of Northern Cambria citizens today who are enjoying their later years of life in a manner that just a few years back was never dreamed of. We are speaking of those men who have spent a lifetime of toil in the underground pits of the mines, not only in our own section but in all the areas where the United Mine Workers of America hold forth. We have pensioners here in Patton. They also are in Barnesboro, Carrolltown, Hastings, Blandburg, Spangler—everywhere about us.

But the achievements of the UMWA Bituminous Welfare and Retirement Fund in restoring disabled mine workers to useful lives is another feature of the progress made by this strong union, and they have been recognized in a "distinguished service" citation awarded by the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. In announcing the award, Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntyre (retired), chairman of the committee, praised the fund as having done "an outstanding job in a very difficult field—the most outstanding of any labor unit." Text of the citation follows:

"The United Mine Workers' Welfare and Retirement Fund has performed an outstanding service to the employment welfare of the physically handicapped by their demonstration that seriously injured and disabled people believed to be without hope of recovery can be restored to economic and social usefulness. They can be lifted from beds of despair, dependency, pain and helplessness when the "know-how" of physical and vocational rehabilitation is provided for them."

"The first patient to receive rehabilitation services, under authority of the UMW Welfare and Retirement Fund started his rehabilitation program in October, 1947. From a helpless, bed-ridden, chronic cripple, in three and a half years of devoted work by doctors, physical and occupational therapists, and vocational counselors, he has become a self-sustaining tax-paying citizen. Up to January 1, 1951, 638 other seriously injured and disabled miners have been started on rehabilitation programs to restore them to useful lives.

"Many of these miners are returning to the mining industry. Some are entering competitive employment in other industrial fields. A great many are being trained, prepared and installed in self-employment. The fund has performed an outstanding service in demonstrating without question the feasibility of restoring to relatively normal lives persons with the severest of injuries or disabilities. For this foresight and determination expressed in the program, the Fund is entitled to the highest commendation."

Register Now to Vote

October 1 is the last day that you can register to vote at the general election in November if you haven't voted in the past two years at any primary or general election, or if you are not registered at all. Without doubt there are many folks in our circulation coverage that are not qualified to mark a ballot. Yet, it certainly is the duty of every last citizen, male or female, over 21 years of age, to exercise this privilege—one that so many people in many countries on the face of this earth do not enjoy.

By a glance at the newspapers you will note that there are registration dates set for your particular borough, committee on certain days of each week. This is done by the Board of elections in order that you may take advantage of having registered without a journey to the county seat to accomplish it. The time you'll lose in registering is but a minute. The qualifications are simple. The rights are those upon which the founding fathers of the United States provided for all our citizens when we became a free nation.

Yet there are always so many people who neglect going to the polls. While the officials who govern them are supposedly the ones selected by a majority of the people, seldom is this the actual case. When you are not registered, or when you fail to cast your ballot, if you are qualified, you are simply taking no part at all in the matters that directly affect you. This talk to register is not aimed at telling you how you should register in regards particularity, or how you should vote. That's your own business. But make it your business to be able to vote.

Random Paragraphs

The work of the construction of the new wing of the Miners' Hospital of Northern Cambria, at Spangler, is progressing nicely and the hospital board, we understand, hopes for a dedication of the new part of the institution around the first of the year. It goes without saying that the facilities offered by this institution will be of benefit to all the people of this area, not only for present generations but for many, many more to follow.

A tremendous surge in this country's potential of atomic weapons apparently has been taking place in the past year and a half. Security officials are silent to measure progress, but recent statistics and pronouncements including that of President Truman, point out new weapons that could wipe out civilization. Huge sums are being poured into the hydrogen bomb plant on the Savannah River, and this means, too, that the planners under their course in developing a weapon that some say may prove 1,000 times more powerful than the A-bomb that blasted Hiroshima. And all this has to be because a small group of rulers of "Iron Curtain" countries threaten the world.

The House has passed a bill which is now pending before the U. S. Senate that would seek to impose a 10 percent gambling tax on all wagers taken by professionals. It would apply to horse races, prize fights, ball games and a lot of other things—even election betting. But poker, roulette, dice and bingo would be exempted, as well as charity bazaar fortune wheels and slot machines, on which an occupational tax is already being paid. However, the writer's experience with gambling is that he always loses his wagers anyway, and could hardly be expected to fork over 10 percent of that.

Over the past several weeks there have been communications in the daily newspapers regarding the big investment in construction of Lake Rowena at Ebensburg. We've noticed that a high breastwork has been built but that the spillway is many feet lower, so that the water impounded is only a fraction of what the breastwork would indicate. Somewhere along the line the designers muffed the ball. We've been told that if the water line would be to the top of the construction work, the William Penn Highway at the upper end of the dam would be under water.

Remember back when there was more baking powder sold than face powder? That was in the days of long underwear and bustles, overalls and cowhide boots. Back when men worked for small wages and saved money, and women bent over a hot cook stove all day to provide substantial meals for the family. Canned biscuits hadn't been invented then, home-made bread was the hit of the house, and fried mush didn't take a back seat either. They called gasoline "benzine" in those days, and you bought it at a drug store to be used in cleaning clothing. Most folks above 50 years of age who lived in this section remember.

The "Record" of Lynn, Kansas, tells us the proofreader caught an error recently before it got into the paper. In a wedding write-up, mentioning the bride and groom, the typesetting machine operator set it "the bird and goon." At that, it wasn't as bad as the one that got away and was printed in a neighboring paper thusly: "The bride and groom exchanged wows."

THOMAS A. OWENS SR.

"As I See It"

By . . . STATE SENATOR JOHN J. HALUSKA

Last week we mentioned in our column the inauguration of a curfew that has been imposed upon the school children of our community of Patton. It is quite apparent that our remarks are not well taken by some of the people and, in fact, we received today a letter from a "spineless citizen" who condemned us, severely, for our story.

We always welcome criticism from our readers, be it constructive or destructive. We feel that the readers of this paper have the same right to express their opinions regarding local affairs as we have. While we often times disagree with the opinions of our readers, we will fight to the very end to give them the right to express them—that is the Democratic way of life. But, any person who sends us a letter, condemning our action, and does not have the courage to sign his name to same, is regarded as a "spineless citizen"—a person lacking the courage of his convictions and not worthy of mention anytime in the future.

We state, again, that the imposition of a curfew depriving the school children under 16 years of age from walking the streets of Patton after 9:30 is not the proper way to approach any problem. We are, more or less, led to believe in the remark made by the late Father Flannagan when he stated that, in his opinion, "there are no bad boys."

Officers Have Ample Latitude

If the children of our community are so disorderly and are public nuisances upon our streets, they can be treated by the Law Officers, accordingly. Our statute of the Commonwealth gives the law enforcing officers ample latitude to deal with such children.

Tell me, if you will, where any Borough Council or police officer can find within the statute any powers given them to take away the American rights from our upcoming generation. You cannot, by any stretch of the imagination, keep a child from walking the streets in any community in the United States regardless of the hour of the night, if that child is behaving himself and minding his own business.

Furthermore, if we have children in Patton who are supposed to be bad, it can, possibly, be traced back to the parents. If the parents would insist that their children (regardless of their faith) would attend Sunday School instructions and with the teaching received in our schools, plus an understanding between the children and parents, we would need no laws to keep them out of mischief. But, it is quite apparent that some of the parents have lost all love for their children and expect the Law to put them to bed at 9:30 so that they, themselves, can carouse around until the wee hours of the morning—coming home inebriated and paying little attention whether or not the children are properly in bed.

Law Makes Children No Better

Well, you may pass a law to make people go to church but you cannot pass a law to make them pray, and, in the same sense, you may ask the Borough Officials to pass an ordinance creating a 9:30 curfew but, that, in no way, makes your children any better or law-abiding by such action.

The trouble with most parents today is that rather than getting acquainted with their children and learning to understand them, they would much rather have outside forces take care of the parental problems. We state again, that under the laws of the Commonwealth, or the United States, such a resolution as passed by the Patton Borough Council is definitely illegal and ill advised and any parent who is called upon to pay a fine for his child being on the streets after 9:30 need not pay it.

Furthermore, history proves that the greatest danger of a child going wrong is between the ages of 16 and 21. History also proves that the outcome of a child's future in life, with regards to morals and conduct, starts right at home. Every parent has a moral obligation of instructing his children against wrong-doing in life. Then too, a parent should make certain to, once again, inaugurate the old system of life, as we were taught in our early days, never to miss church services on Sunday. But, naturally, if the parents themselves do not live up to the Golden Rule, what can they expect of their children?

Then, maybe the "Mr. Citizen" who sent me the letter is right—maybe the Law is compelled to step in and help bring up the children, properly, because the parents themselves have just lost all sight of God and His teachings.

SEN. JOHN J. HALUSKA

The "D.A." Comments

By Samuel R. DiFrancesco
District Attorney, Cambria County

PREPARATION AND TRIAL OF CASES

A prompt, thorough and scientific investigation must be made if criminal cases are to successfully prosecuted and criminals brought to justice.

Prior to his election in 1947, your District Attorney had gained considerable experience during 17 years of active practice before the criminal courts of Pennsylvania. This experience taught your District Attorney that criminals escape justice principally because the cases are not investigated promptly and properly. It is obvious that delay may cause the loss and concealment of important evidence. It is equally obvious that improper methods and inefficient tools of investigation may fail to develop or reveal the vital facts without out which a conviction cannot be obtained.

Mr. DiFrancesco

Armed with the experience of those 17 years of active trial practice, your District Attorney set out to bolster the system, method and means of criminal investigation, in Cambria County.

First of all, it was necessary to gain the confidence and cooperation of the law enforcement agencies of Cambria County. The local police, the State Police and the other law enforcement bodies were requested to immediately notify the District Attorney's office when the commission of a serious crime had been discovered. Upon receipt of such notification, your District Attorney or one of his assistants and a County Detective would promptly participate in the investigation of the case. By the same token, if the District Attorney's office received information concerning a crime, it invariably notified the local police as well as the State Police in order that a joint investigation could be immediately launched. **It is because of such reciprocity that the high degree of cooperation which now exists between the District Attorney's office and the law enforcement officers and agencies of the County has never before been equalled in the history of Cambria County.**

Your District Attorney, however, also realized that reciprocity and cooperation were not enough. In Cambria County there was still a great need to modernize the methods and the means of criminal investigation. **It was not only necessary to obtain evidence promptly, but it was also imperative that such evidence be preserved until the trial could be reached.**

There are two types of important evidence: the physical evidence consisting of the scene of the crime and the testimony of the eye witnesses to and the participants in the crime.

The scene of a crime could be best presented by photographs. In the past it was necessary to call a professional photographer to the scene. This was not always practicable nor feasible. As little time as possible should elapse from the time a crime is committed or discovered and the time that a photograph is taken. The reason is obvious: delay may provide the opportunity to tamper with the physical set up of the scene. Furthermore, a clever defense may use any delay to raise frictions of doubt in the minds of the jury. Thus, your District Attorney requested that photographic equipment be furnished to his office. This equipment is operated by one of the detectives who is available and subject to call at all times. As a photographer, he appears to the scene immediately. As a witness he is fortified by his familiarity with all of the other details of the case. **This innovation has saved the county hundreds of dollars annually in photographic and witness fees.**

Witnesses can naturally relate events while these are fresh in their minds. When a trial is reached months after a crime has been committed, it is difficult for witnesses to recall such events with the desired vividness and exactness of detail. There is also the possibility that the witnesses have been reached so that their stories have now radically changed from those originally told to the investigation officers.

Participants in crimes often in the heat of their deeds and the repentance of the moment are more apt to admit or confess their crimes. They too are apt to change their minds and their stories before entering a plea or standing trial.

It is thus imperative that the stories of the witnesses and the participants be preserved.

In the past it was necessary to call stenographers to the scene or to the district attorney's office. Since notice of crimes was often received late at night or in the early morning, stenographers could not always be readily obtainable. Any delay might cause the witness or the participant to change his mind. Delay also gave them a chance to reflect and modify their stories so that the serious and important implications would be later omitted. Often, even after statements of witnesses and participants were transcribed, the witnesses and participants would accuse the stenographers of not havinig correctly or fully taken down the testimony.

Your District Attorney, therefore, requested that a portable wire recorder be furnished his office. This wire recorder is taken to the scene of each crime. Immediately and on the spot the statements of witnesses and participants are recorded in their own voice. Later, this statement is also given to and taken by the stenographer. The Commonwealth is thus fortified with dual records of the statements. If at the trial, the age old defense is used, that the stenographer did not correctly and fully transcribe the statement, the witness is then confronted with his own story, in his own voice, through the wire recorder.

Your District Attorney has also installed a finger printing system in his office. Each detective in the staff is trained to pick up finger prints and develop them while they are still fresh. It was previously necessary to resort to other agencies, such as the State Police and the FBI for such service.

All of the above innovations have been made available at the request of your District Attorney since his election in 1947. **In addition, your District Attorney personally or one of his assistants has always been dispatched to the scene of a serious crime. This is one of the few counties in the State of Pennsylvania where the District Attorney or one of his assistants is always present with the enforcement officers to aid and assist in the investigation of major crimes.**

In order to illustrate the efficiency created by these innovations in the investigation of crimes in Cambria County, we wish to point out a case which happened two years ago. It was reported that a man shot another. The crime occurred at about 4:00 a. m. The District Attorney, State Police and detectives were on the scene at 7:00 a. m. By 10 a. m., all photographs were taken and the statements of 13 witnesses were recorded. As a result, the defendant later entered a plea of guilty and thus saved the County the expense of a trial.

It is our sincere belief that one of the main reasons why fewer defendants now stand trial is because the cases are now more promptly and efficiently investigated. Such efficiency of investigation is due to the increased cooperation of the enforcement and prosecuting officers and the modernization of the methods and the means of criminal detection adopted by your District Attorney since his election in 1947.

NEWS ON THE HOMEMAKING FRONT

. . . by MRS. JUNE GRIFFITH
Home Economics Representative for Cambria County

Plan Family's Fall Wardrobe

A quick inventory will help you plan your family's fall and winter wardrobe. Write down for each member what is on hand and what will need to be added. Perhaps you can alter some garments to make them wearable again or maybe you can make them over for another member of the family. If you write things down it helps you to plan and include everything you intend to do.

Plan colors carefully. Select other garments and accessories to tie in with the color of a coat or suit. With careful buying the same accessories may be used with several different outfits.

Select colors that are becoming. Unbecoming colors are a poor investment. If you already have a garment in a color that is not your best, try wearing a color, scarf or flower in a harmonizing color that is becoming to you.

With thought to your planning, you can rotate your purchases so that all the most expensive items won't come in the same month or year. An inventory will help you to decide which articles are best to buy and which ones you can make at home.

An inventory must be flexible so you can change it from time to time. Gifts may make some purchases unnecessary and an unexpected sale may provide a garment that you had planned to make.

Do your planning and buying carefully.

Spur-of-the-moment buying does not always lead to attractive, coordinated wardrobes and well-dressed persons.

Kitchen Is Your Workshop

Your kitchen is your workshop. Every motion you take in it counts in helping to run your home smoothly.

Take time to study your job, then learn how to do it in the most efficient, easiest and quickest way. Work surfaces of the correct height are very important to your job. Check your range, sink, table; and other work areas to see if they are right for you. Arrange equipment in your work area so you take the fewest steps possible as you prepare a meal or do your baking. You can place the food preparation center, the serving center and the range close to each other yet allow room for working.

Three simple rules that will help you to make every motion count are: Store everything within easy reach; store everything where it is first used, and store articles where you can see them easily.

Near the range put tea, coffee with measuring spoons; cereals to be cooked, salt pepper and other seasoning with measuring spoons. Keep ready-to-eat cereals in the same cupboard with the serving bowls.

A business center in your kitchen is an invitation to planning meals and shopping lists and to taking care of the household business. A recipe file, a box for bills and receipts, home account book, memorandum pads and pencils at your fingertips are aids to smooth running households.

Children Have Feelings

Children are people—they have feelings; they're on their way to somewhere and children are to be treated with respect. Of course, parents see their children as people—but once in a while they're apt to forget they are people.

Because a child is a person, what he needs most is a human relationship. Respect for a child's individuality means acting with sincerity and honesty of feeling—it means taking into account what the other fellow is doing and saying. It means thinking well enough of the other person and assuming that he's able to fit into a picture where other persons also have rights and feelings.

Saving respect isn't always a serious business—respect means laughing with children, having jokes, seeing the fun in what they think is funny. It means accepting life at times on their level. We all know this is hard to do. One of the funniest things a three-year-old does is to fall on the floor with a bang. It takes a good parent who can honestly laugh with the child as he repeats this kind of humor time after time. However, most parents see that this kind of falling is funny to the child and try to avoid putting a damper on his fun.

As children grow older they enjoy things which adults can more easily appreciate and do with them. Ball games, visits to museums, collecting stamps, and many other activities can be fun for grownups and children. Excellent chances for mutual give and take include picnics, camping out, campfires or an evening around the fireplace.

—People who travel in circles are the ones who run around too much.

—It's very easy to make your welcome last much longer if you use it properly.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR . . .

VFW Reiterates Belief That Curfew For Good of Town

Editor, Union Press-Courier,
Patton, Pa.

Dear Sir:

At a recent meeting of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, John White Post 779, Patton, Pa., a resolution was adopted requesting Council to enforce the curfew in Patton.

Since that time there seems to be much confusion concerning this action, and perhaps some criticism. Let us point out that our organization is dedicated to the good and defense of our Nation, State, County and Community, and that the action taken was strictly from a good of the Community Standpoint.

We in no way are trying to set up policy for the Borough Council nor help ordain laws. It was the thought of the members present that enforcement of the old ordinance is good for any community. We still believe that.

We at this time wish to thank the Borough Council for its prompt action in this matter.

Sincerely,
JOHN WHITE POST 779
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Albert L. Haluska
Quartermaster

Mrs. Mallie Wetzel Buried On Tuesday

Mrs. Mallie (Bougher) Wetzel, 63, of Barnesboro, died at 1 a. m., last Saturday, Sept. 15, in Indiana.

Mrs. Wetzel was born Sept. 27, 1887, a daughter of David and Ann (Long) Bougher.

Prior to becoming ill five years ago, the deceased was active in Girl Scout work and the Barnesboro Methodist Church. She was an organizer of the American Legion Auxiliary, Barnesboro, of which she was the first president, serving for three years. Mrs. Wetzel was also past matron of the Barnesboro Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star.

Mrs. Wetzel is survived by her husband, William C. Wetzel, two sons, Harold, Canyon, Tex., and Ben, at home. She is also survived by two grandchildren and these brothers and sisters: Lellia, Lydia, Mrs. Madeline Mougle, Mrs. Mabel Simpson, Grant, Mrs. Hilda Merryweather, Mrs. Octa Brilhart, Vallie, David, Marlin, Marjorlie, Edgar and Ruth.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday afternoon at the Long Funeral Home, Barnesboro, by Rev. Orin Williams and interment was made in Greenwood Cemetery in Indiana.

—It always pays to do a little better than seems necessary.

Look 'em over—

and under!

See why
DODGE
"Job-Rated"
TRUCKS
ARE THE BEST BUY

More rugged chassis, more power
Every chassis unit front to rear is engineered for *extra* dependability—for long life and low maintenance on *your* job! Your "*Job-Rated*" engine delivers increased power—it gives you the *right* power with top economy and low upkeep in the toughest service!

More all-'round safety
You get the finest truck brakes in the industry! On many models you get new molded, tapered, Cyclebond brake linings for smoother, quieter, *safer* braking. And you'll ride in a welded all-steel cab with "Pilot-House" vision, including extra-big windshield area.

Easier handling, smoother riding
Back a Dodge "*Job-Rated*" truck into a tight spot—and see how sharply it turns, how easy it is to maneuver. Such features as wide front tread and shorter wheelbases make handling easier. *Oriflow shock absorbers* on ½-, ¾-, and 1-ton models give a smoother ride.

Longer life with FLUID DRIVE
Only Dodge offers giant Fluid Drive. Available on ½-, ¾-, and 1-ton models. You start with amazing smoothness . . . tiresome gearshifting is minimized . . . wear is reduced on vital parts to increase truck life. And Fluid Drive *protects your load!*

WHY A "Job-Rated" TRUCK IS YOUR BEST BUY

A Dodge "Job-Rated" truck is engineered at the factory to fit a specific job . . . save you money . . . last longer. Every unit from engine to rear axle is "Job-Rated"—factory-engineered to haul a specific load over the roads you travel and at the speeds you require.

Every unit that SUPPORTS the load—frame, axles, springs, wheels, tires, and others—is engineered right to provide the strength and capacity needed.

Every unit that MOVES the load—engine, clutch, transmission, propeller shaft, rear axle, and others—is engineered right to meet a particular operating condition.

See us today for a truck that fits your job...
A DODGE "Job-Rated" TRUCK

PATTON MOTOR SALES
PARK AVENUE PATTON, PENNA.