

Indiana Daily Times

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DETROIT'S council has been asked to amend the automobile traffic ordinance so as to make one-hand driving by two-handed men illegal, this move having been started, no doubt, by some married person.

EVEN a burglar, bold and bad, ought to have some code by which he works, and it seems a bit beyond the pale for the crook at North Chicago to have robbed the chief of police there of \$221 by prying open a drawer of his desk in the police station. Not only did the loss of the \$221 hurt, but the chief's professional pride was fairly spanked.

PROF. FREDERICK STARR, in the Atlantic Monthly, estimates that many more Mexicans have been killed on this side of the border, and without provocation, than have Americans in Mexico. It's a wonder he doesn't suggest that Mexico intervene in this country in behalf of the lives and property of her citizens.

'Another Boy Drowned'

Since May 1 drownings have averaged one each week in White river, Fall creek or Eagle creek.

Boys have been the victims and most of them have meet death in holes where gravel concerns have dredged the streams.

The coroner insists that he has demanded of officials that they order signs placed along streams warning bathers of dangerous holes.

Either the coroner's demands have had no weight with city and county officials or there is no particular desire on the part of officials to safeguard to this extent the lives of Marion county youngsters, for such warnings have not been posted.

If the boys are to be permitted to swim in the polluted streams of Marion county they should at least be given warning of dangerous holes. The failure to post such warnings must be classed as nothing less than criminal negligence.

Remember Those Old Films?

The days are practically past when a veteran railroader could, by gripping both arms of his chair and gritting his teeth, learn in a motion picture theater things that he otherwise would not have dreamed possible in connection with a well-behaved train.

Such incongruities are no longer seen in the films turned out by the good producers and seldom seen at all, but Charles Frederick Carter, in the Baltimore & Ohio Employees' Magazine calls attention to some that he has witnessed on the screen.

He speaks of a villain who, with felonious intent as to the well-being of another passenger, sneaked out of the window of the car, which was humping along at somewhere near a sixty-seven-mile clip; made his way from window to window, on the outside of the coach, instead of walking in the aisle like a gentleman; opened the window behind which his victim numbered—the fastenings being placed conveniently on the outside; attacked his victim, and then returned to his seat by the same route, the difference being left that by using the window route he avoided making himself too conspicuous.

It would seem possible that such acrobatics, even on a street car, might attract attention.

He tells also of a hero who, with his trusty steed—so trusty and speedy in fact as to be termed a racehorse—traveled on the same train; the horse car, by the way, being moored about the tail lights.

The villain, who, it seems had a grudge against the horse, got up from the seat in his coach; meandered to the vestibule; swung himself outside the vestibule of the train, which was traveling a terrific speed; then to the hurricane deck, along which he sped to the next to the last car, and, undeterred by the vestibule, pulled the pin on the horse car.

Of course the mere detail of air brakes was not considered and the train, all but the horse car, gaily and swiftly ambled on.

But the human friend of the horse was right on the spot, having trailed the train in an automobile.

He produced a stock gangway, for unloading on the ground, which ordinarily weighs several hundred pounds, leaned this up against the horse car door and led to the ground his faithful steed.

Witnessing these exploits, railroaders, traveling salesmen and others in positions of familiarity with trains and such, used to weep and rave. Criticisms were given scant attention in the old days, particularly when of trivial nature, as these were classed.

But the old days have passed. The films no longer flicker and glaring errors are rarely found in them. In the productions of the higher class there is sufficient realism and fidelity to detail to please the most exacting. Before long those critics may be going after the movies for having too much of that which they once lacked.

The Democratic Platform

The democratic platform as submitted today to the convention at San Francisco stands in bold contrast to the straddling of the republicans at Chicago.

Emphatically and unequivocally the league of nations covenant is indorsed, with a demand for prompt ratification without nullifying reservations. There is no dodging of the issue. The statement of willingness to accept reservations clarifying the covenant or making it more specific with respect to American obligations leaves no room for misunderstanding. President Wilson's position is fully supported, and in strong words the republican senate is condemned for its refusal to ratify the treaty merely because it was the product of democratic statesmanship, "thus interposing partisan envy and personal hatred in the way of the peace and renewed prosperity of the world."

On the Armenian question the full committee eliminated a provision for acceptance of a mandate, recommended by the subcommittee. This action resulted from a feeling that the country does not favor an Armenian mandate or any interference in the affairs of foreign nations. On the same ground the committee refused to make the Irish plank anything stronger than a reaffirmation of previous expressions of sympathy. As to Mexico, the platform points out that the administration policy with respect to that country is being vindicated through restoration of order and says that when Mexico has fully demonstrated its ability to govern itself and meets its obligations, full recognition and sympathetic assistance should be given. In the language of the platform, "Mexico must realize the propriety of a policy that asserts the rights of the United States to demand full protection for its citizens."

Strong planks on labor, agriculture, the interests of women and women's suffrage are features of the platform. The labor plank contains a promise for working out a fair and comprehensive method of voluntary arbitration of industrial disputes.

A pledge to strict governmental economy and the enactment and enforcement of anti-profiteering legislation is made as the most effective means of dealing with the high cost of living problem. The platform calls attention to the fact that under democratic leadership the American people successfully financed their stupendous part in the greatest war of all times and that the treasury wisely expended during the war upon meeting an adequate portion of the war expenditure from current taxes and the bulk of the balance from popular loans, and, during the first full fiscal year after fighting stopped, upon meeting current expenditures from current receipts, notwithstanding the new and unnecessary burdens thrown upon the treasury by the delay, obstruction and extravagance of a republican congress.

Condemning the failure of the present congress to respond to the oft-repeated demand of the president and the secretary of the treasury to revise the existing tax laws, which the republicans denounced before the last election but were afraid to revise, the platform demands prompt action by the next congress for a complete survey of existing taxes and their modification and simplification with a view to securing greater equity and justice in the tax burden and improvement in administration.

The booze question is a dead issue, the prohibition amendment now being a law of the land, affirmed by the supreme court, and therefore there is no reference to it in the platform.

Busy Cupid

It appears that the particular Cupid who piles his trade, or profession, in Marion county decided that a bow and arrow were a bit too archaic for present days and has adopted a shot gun as of greater scattering power. The marriage licenses issued in this county during the June just past have broken any previous month's record.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How can paste for papering a room be made? This department of The Times tells you. If you have a question to ask, mail it, enclosing a 2-cent stamp, to The Indiana Daily Times' Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C., and the answer will be mailed direct to you. This offer applies to information—facts rather than advice. Questions and answers of general interest are published in The Times, with names of questioners omitted.

PASTE FOR PAPERING.

Q. How can paste for papering a room be made? M. O. G.
A. A paste should be made by mixing four with cold water to the consistency of cream; add a tablespoonful each of alum, salt and glue to the pound of flour. Pour boiling water into the mixture, stirring the while until a paste is formed a bit too stiff to pour.

GRAND REVIEW.

Q. In the grand review of the army in Washington after the end of the revolution, the troops followed the world war was made as nearly like this former one as it was possible.
J. Q. G.

PORTO RICANS' WEALTH.

Q. How does Porto Rico's per capita wealth compare with that of the states? M. C. S.
A. For comparative purposes, figures sufficiently trustworthy show the average American state has ten times the per capita wealth of Porto Rico. Some states show a ratio of 25 to 1, while our poorest state has four times as much wealth per inhabitant as this island.

ARMY SERVICE TIME.

Q. Will the war service with Germany be computed as double time in putting in thirty years? W. H. R.
A. This service will not be counted as double time. The only service at present which is computed in service in the Philippine Islands.

TENDER YOUNG BEEF.

Q. How can one tell whether beef will be tender or tough? M.
A. The grade as well as the cut determines the quality of the beef. After deciding on the cut of beef observe the meat itself. Choice grade beef has the characteristic of good grade beef to be pronounced degree. Good grade beef has lean meat of light to medium red color, of firm, even texture and a fairly regular distribution of fat through the lean, giving the meat a slightly marbled or mottled appearance. The fat is firm and usually a creamy white. The outer covering of fat is smooth and firm and should be distributed evenly over the lean and well. Medium grade beef has meat of coarse texture and dark color, which is inclined to be flabby and watery. The fat is flabby and usually yellowish in color and is unevenly distributed, there being almost no inside fat and scanty and irregular outer covering. Common grade beef accentuates the characteristics of the medium grade.

"BOOK OF GOOD COUNSEL."

Q. What is the "Book of Good Counsel"? L. E. N.
A. This is the subtitle off the "Hippodamia," a collection of stories, tales, of fables, most of which have passed into the literatures of all civilized countries.

INDEX NUMBERS.

Q. How are "index numbers" as used in compilations of statistics, decided on? P. F. D.
A. The "index number" is a well established device commonly used for measuring changes in wholesale and retail prices, and rates of wages, over long periods of time. It is constructed by obtaining each month the prices of a list of a uniform list, at certain specified places, and striking an average. Such numbers usually are reduced to percentages. The lowest price known is sometimes taken as a base, or as in case of investment stocks, 100 is used.

CHINESE BUTTONS.

Q. Can the rank of Chinese officials be told by their hats? E. H.
A. A button is worn in the headgear of Chinese officials, both civil and military, as a badge of rank. There are nine ranks, the first or highest being distinguished by a transparent red (coral) button; the second by transparent blue (sapphire); the third by transparent blue (sapphire); the fourth by opaque blue (lapis lazuli); the fifth by transparent white (crystal); the sixth by opaque white; the seventh by plain gold; the eighth by worked gold and the ninth by plain gold with a certain character engraved upon it.

SIGNS LIKE MASON.

Q. Is there a totally disconnected order which has some passwords and signs like those of the Free Masons? K. M.
A. The Begtashi, a secret religious order in Turkey, is said to resemble the order of Free Masons, and to employ passwords and signs of recognition similar to, and in some cases, identical with those of Free Masonry.

FLUORSPAR USE.

Q. What is fluor spar used for? E. S. A.
A. Fluor spar is a very important product, since it is used in the manufacture of glass and of enameled ware, in the electrolytic refining of antimony and lead, in the production of aluminum, in the manufacture of hydrofluoric acid, and in the iron and steel industries.

DAMMING THE NILE.

Q. Why isn't it possible to dam the Nile so that water may be available for irrigation the year round? H. A. M.
A. This has been done. A reservoir and dam was completed at Assuan in December, 1902, and within the last few years the storage capacity has been increased. This storing of the waters of the Nile has resulted in enormous increase in productivity and value of the land and in revenue to the government.

SALVATIONISTS OVERSEAS.

Q. How many Salvationists were used in war work activities overseas? I. D. C.
A. According to a statement issued by the Salvation Army they maintained in Europe 410 outposts and restrooms, 1,200 trained and uniformed war relief workers, of whom 85 per cent were women, and the rest were men, disqualified physically for military service; also forty-four ambulances with Salvationists as drivers.

'HANDS OFF,' WORD TO FOREIGNERS

Warning on U. S. Merchant Marine Issued by Government.

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"The United States," said Admiral Benson, "is in earnest in its efforts to place within the ownership by United States citizens the control of at least a part of its traffic in imports and exports. If it, by any possible means, should be held that the departments of the government lack such authority as will insure their being able to protect American interests in such control, additional authority will be asked for by the administration and undoubtedly will be granted by congress."

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