

The Indianapolis Times

TELEPHONE—MAIN 2500

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And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. Isaiah 65:24.

Rough Riding

Do you remember, back in childhood when you played with a hoop, how the hoop bent into an egg-shape when you leaned your weight on it?

The same thing happens to wheels—including those on autos—despite the air cushion in the tires.

Common or garden variety of wheels are not round, as is generally supposed, according to engineers' recent discoveries. Wheels may start out round, but they increasingly develop slightly elliptical shape, faintly resembling an egg viewed lengthwise.

You have noticed this on street cars cursed with flat wheels in their old age.

More vividly you have noticed it when riding in an old auto that bumps-bumps in defiance of tires and shock absorbers.

As the auto wheel carries you along, slightly flattened by the weight it supports, it naturally strikes "hammer blows" on the pavement as it revolves.

But it is tougher on the pavement.

The effect is about the same as if an army of men were pounding the roadbed constantly with sledgehammers.

This, along with heavy trucks, is usually why our pavements go to pieces so rapidly.

The obvious solution, or at least mediation, is getting pavement with sufficient elasticity. Sand under the concrete bed works that way. So does asphalt on top.

British engineers are experimenting with a rubber pavement. That, however, probably would be too expensive. And there is not enough rubber.

The greatest American waste is in road making. The waste used to be mostly in the form of graft. Now it's largely in paving unscientifically.

Taxpayers put up fabulous fortunes for pavements that often begin going to pieces as soon as they are laid.

The problem of good roads is not so much mileage of pavement as quality of pavement. It's a tremendous field for engineers and inventors. Young man, this may be your big opportunity.

Pop, Goes the Foreign Trade!

AMERICAN imports fell off \$1,046,841,236 for the year ending July 1, 1922, as compared to the year preceding. Exports fell off \$2,736,289,062, according to official Department of Commerce figures.

And still they talk tariff in the Senate. The Finance Committee is forcing through the highest tariff wall in American history, just one more handicap to American foreign trade.

To what depth will foreign commerce fall in another twelve months?

Nobody Home

A BRUTAL crime frequently attracts your attention in the newspapers. It is an atrocious murder or a fiendish assault. This sort of crime, you find it hard to understand, for it is the work of a fiend. You conclude that a madman did it.

Later the criminal is arrested. You read that he is a moron. A moron is a person whose intellectual development proceeds normally up to about the eighth year of age, and then stops and never exceeds that of a child of about 12 years.

Check back over the past and you realize that you have met many morons—grown-ups with a child's mentality—who have been going along placidly through life without committing crimes.

William J. Robinson, celebrated iconoclast-doctor, writes in his Medical Critic and Guide:

"A man may be a great painter, sculptor, actor or even a great poet, and in all other domains of human thought be a moron, having the mentality of a twelve-year-old child."

This rather striking thought probably has occurred to you as you have sat back in the shadows of night, analyzed your fellow-men and tried to figure out what it is all about.

There is an old saying that every man is a fool outside his own business.

You meet a great success. He is a genius, a super-intellect, in his line. Talk to him about important outside matters which are not connected with his vocation, and you find that he is an ignoramus. In other words, he is a genius on one thing, a moron on others. This is natural, for we live in an age of specialization. A man has time to master only one thing. To become successful, a man usually has to become a monomaniac on one subject.

You see the reverse of this in the case of the man who is a jack-of-all-trades and master of none. He is not a moron in any particular branch of mentality. He knows a smattering of everything. But neither is he conspicuously intelligent in any one line.

Frequently we become so hypnotized by a man's success in his work that we imagine he would be a miracle man in anything he turned his hand to.

Occasionally, that might be true.

But, as a general rule, the individual has only one song—and can play it only on one instrument. Maybe this is why business men of pronounced ability have not gone extensively into politics. Maybe, realizing their limitations, they are afraid they might be like the carpenter who tried to tune a harp with a hammer.

ANSWERS

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times, Washington, D. C., enclosing a postage stamp. Medical, legal and love and marriage advice will not be given. Unsolicited letters will not be answered, but all letters are considered and receive personal replies.—Editor.

Q.—How far back has the history of Nippur, Babylon, been traced as a result of explorations and excavations?

A.—According to Prof. H. V. Hitprecht, who was connected with the explorations of the University of Pennsylvania, the history has been traced to a date as early as 4,500 B. C.

Q.—How did the word "Bachelor" originate in connection with Bachelor degrees?

A.—The word was, in medieval days, applied to knights who were in the probationary stage of knighthood, and to monks who had not taken the full vows of monasticism. In the medieval colleges this name bachelor was given

RETAIL DEALERS OBJECT TO RULES LIMITING PROFIT

German Merchants Contend They Are at Mercy of Police Officials.

PLAN 'SELLING BOYCOTT'

Storekeepers in Bavaria and Saxony Rise to Defense of Selves.

BERLIN, July 24.—A decided stand is now being taken by retailers' organizations throughout Germany against the "usury regulations" recently devised by various German states, the Bavarian, the Saxon, and the Württemberg governments. These regulations prohibit merchants from selling any merchandise at a higher profit than 20 per cent.

The gist of these regulations is that police officers are allowed to enter retail shops, sample the merchandise put up for sale, demand original invoices, and see that regulations are rigidly observed.

While the rules were originally meant to stop profiteering in foodstuffs, they have been extended to other merchandise.

Trade Is Smothered

The unprecedented rise in the prices of all merchandise, so the retailers say, will not allow them to purchase the quantity they could have obtained three months ago for their present sales price, plus a 20 per cent addition, and they claim they can not recognize the justification of this "profiteering regulations."

A number of law courts have recently decided in opposition to the government regulations, and have acquitted retailers of the charge of profiteering made by the police courts in various cities.

A meeting has recently been called of retailers of Bavaria and Saxony, and it was moved that the incorporated retailers enter into a "selling boycott," which it is considered may be a likely weapon against the police rules and may make the population side with them.

UNUSUAL FOLK

By NEA Service

MILWAUKEE, Wis., July 24.—"Ballad King," with hundreds of songs to his credit, is let into the secret of a forthcoming night raid. Discarding their horses, twenty Pennsylvania troopers—relentless men who look hard and haggard from a week of sleepless nights—gathered in the dark under command of Sergt. J. A. Goselin. Motor cars carried them. All were armed.

They kept off the main roads, racing recklessly over rutty mountain trails in the darkness, close to the West Virginia line.

Miners Forced to Fight. A trooper said to me: "Three-fourths of them didn't want to go. Extremists with guns drove them to it. Many sneaked away in the dark."

The police were out—as they are night—to "mop up," to seize the ringleaders of the raiding party of 500 strikers who marauded over the line of Cliftonville.

July 17 and staged the bloody battle of Cliftonville.

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