

The Indianapolis Times

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DEATH AT GRADE CROSSINGS

AN automobile. A grade crossing. A wreck. Five persons killed. Two others hurt. It occurred near Terre Haute the other day. There are innumerable crossings—railroad and interurban—in this immediate locality where such a disaster may occur today or tomorrow.

Fatal grade crossing accidents are increasing in alarming proportions. Educational campaigns, safety weeks, placards emphasizing the perils of carelessness and recklessness apparently are having but limited effect. Almost every day in some section of Indiana the death toll is increased.

In its report for June the Pennsylvania Railroad System shows an increase of 60 per cent in grade crossing accidents this year over June, 1922, and an increase of 115 per cent over June, 1921.

The primary causes are given as—
High speed.
Reckless driving.
Defective brakes.

Disregard of crossing watchman's signals.
Stalling on tracks.

The report may be taken as an average for other railroads of the United States.

The admonition of the grade crossing sign—STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! must be complied with before there can be any decrease in the number of crossing accidents.

The Indianapolis Times has discussed this question before and will continue doing so, hoping by reiterating the necessity of carelessness that some good will come of it. Sanity in motor driving is increasing to some extent, but not as it should be.

NOT FOREVER, MR. DAUGHERTY

THE law, says Attorney General Daugherty, is now settled forever. He refers to the order of Federal Judge Wilkerson at Chicago making permanent the injunction against the striking railroad shopmen. (This strike, by the way, was amicably settled in the case of the more reasonable railroads nearly ten months ago, when they conceded the justice of the shopmen's demands.)

Daugherty's action in asking for the injunction startled a great part of the country, including many of his own friends. It was regarded as unwarranted interference on behalf of the railroads in a dispute wherein, to say the least, the protest of the workers was founded on simple justice.

But, says Daugherty, the law is now settled forever.

The present attorney general is mistaken as to that, of course. It may be that the law is settled so long as the present forces control the appointment of Federal judges in America. That means the dominant forces in society.

The history of the Federal courts, including the Supreme Court, reflects accurately from generation to generation the element in society that has the most power. Just now the courts are largely filled with justices whose prominence was obtained as railroad lawyers. Naturally years spent in the employment of the railroads has enabled such judges to see the rights of the railroad owners with the greatest clarity.

Who knows how long it will be before the tables are turned? The workers, exerting their political power intelligently, may one day have a control of affairs equal to that possessed by the present dominant interests. That time may be soon. When it comes, we may see the people's lawyers on the Federal bench. And won't the precedent set long ago of straining the meaning of the United States Constitution to fit the needs of dominant interests provide a useful tool for these people's lawyers after they reach the bench?

No, Mr. Daugherty, the law may be settled for a while, but not forever.

SAFEGUARD YOUR NERVES

DID you ever lock the house door, climb into your auto for a motor trip, then get out and go back to make sure the door was locked? Did you have to try the knob not once but several times before convinced the door wouldn't swing open at the first touch of a thief who might happen along?

Did you ever get out of bed and "make sure" the lights were turned off in a certain room, or in the cellar, even though you recalled very distinctly having turned them out?

Did you ever go over the house carefully before retiring or leaving the premises, to make sure that nothing had been forgotten in the way of smoldering cigarettes that might start a fire? Did you make the rounds of the house several times, repeatedly scrutinizing the same places, and even then not be confident that there was no fire hazard?

Did you ever . . . O what's the use? All of us are subject to these occasional losses of confidence in our own memory and judgment.

Cases such as these are apt to make us wonder occasionally if we are "all there" mentally. An insanity specialist, interrogated, might not be very comforting in his answers.

These queer brain short-circuits or throw-backs are not so much matters of sanity as of nerves. They belong in the same class as nervous drumming with fingertips, tapping of shoes to keep time to music, counting stairs as we climb, making freakish moron pencil designs in absent-minded moments while talking over the phone or waiting for a number.

Such brain lapses, unless curbed, can become annoying habits. Fundamentally they are nervous disturbances.

And they demonstrate that good memory, confidence in one's judgment and acts, and the alertness that is the opposite of absent-mindedness—all these are in varying degree a condition of nerves, rather than of education or determination or the hanging of "pep" mottoes over the desk.

Safeguard your nerves, for only when they are functioning harmoniously does your brain do its best work. You've observed how difficult it is to concentrate and reason when nervously restless.

PROBABLY the men who are boosting Henry can be listed as Ford accessories and it will be all right.

WE KNOW our exports to Canada have increased, but what about our moist imports? Eh, Roy Haynes?

THERE IS some talk about farmers holding wheat for higher prices. Who is going to take care of the mortgage on the old homestead in the meantime?

ALABAMAN LOOMS AS WET HOPE

Boomers Say Underwood Would Carry East and Solid South.

By Times Special

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Zealous wet, thirsting for a chance to wallop the Volstead act by voting for an anti-prohibition candidate in the next presidential election, stand about a one-to-ten chance of gratifying their wishes. And no more!

And their candidate will not be Governor Al Smith, champion of the New York wet legion. The truth of the matter is, Governor Al has been so all-fired victorious in his State he is too wet a public figure to be nominated, even if other odds were not against him.

So thoughts of conservative Democrats are turning fondly to Oscar Underwood, United States Senator from Alabama, pride of the sunny South, and author of the now dead and buried Underwood tariff.

Emissaries of the aforementioned conservative wing of the Democratic party have been sounding out local Democratic bosses of the East and of New England on Underwood's candidacy and report as follows:

Quite a flock of New York State Democrats think Underwood might do, if he would run on a platform with a damp plank in it. They think they could capture New York City and Buffalo on that basis, which virtually means that State.

Similar hopes were expressed by Democratic leaders in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. Of New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland the Underwood boomers seem quite sure.

This set-up, if staged, would mean the East and the South might elect a President without aid from the Middle West and the West. The East and the South have the votes in the electoral college. If they are solid for one candidate. Sectional pride is counted to carry the dry South for Underwood, even if the East voted for him as a wet.

Laughs

Not Particular

A woe-begone specimen of the tramp tribe made a call at a rural residence to ask for aid. The door was opened by a woman of angular proportions, severe in demeanor and uncertain age and temper. Having speedily ascertained the object of the unexpected visit, in raspy tones she observed:

"I shall not give you anything. If you had been wise, you would not have come here. Do you know who I am?"

The weary wanderer replied he had not the pleasure of knowing.

"Well, I'm a policeman's wife, and if he were here he would take you and very quickly, too."

The tired tramp looked at her quietly for a minute, and then replied: "I believe you, ma'am. If he took you he'd take anybody."—Argonaut.

Like the Family Hooh

A stranger in the city went up to a barkeeper and ordered a drink. After serving the stranger the barkeeper immediately grabbed him by the collar and hustled him to the door.

"Haddye putting me out for," the stranger demanded, indignantly. "I ain't started nothin' yet."

"I know," the barkeeper replied, "but you are going to in a minute."—Youngstown Telegram.

Sister's Face Value

Didn't I hear Jack remark to you that my face was my fortune? No, he said your face must have cost a fortune.—Boston Transcript.

When Her Feller Popped

One can be very happy in this world with health and money. Then let's be made one. I have the health and you have the money.—Boston Transcript.

Points Made by Poets

No flower-bells that expand and shrink Gleam half so heavenly sweet As shine on life's untrodden brink A baby's feet.

—Swinburne.

Heard in Smoking Room

THE pitiful wail of a babe arose above the rattle and roar of the train, but the solitary man at the smoking-room window gave no sign that he heard or was disturbed. Stagnantly he gazed at the monotonous sagebrush plains and smoked. The wailing continued. Suddenly another man stamped into the smoking-room; threw himself into a seat and protested:

"Ye Gods, but I'm tired of listening to the howling of that kid! It's done nothing but try my nerves. I was brought aboard. What the devil does a man mean by traveling about the country with an unmothered babe, anyway?"

The man at the window turned: "I wouldn't kick about it, friend," he said. "I learned two years ago to accept a situation like this gracefully—learned to pity rather than blame."

"I left Seattle on the night train, bound for Chicago. Some time during the night a young fellow with a crying baby came aboard. The baby cried all night, despite the crooning efforts of the father to soothe it to sleep. It was still crying in the morning. We discovered then it was in the arms of a young man whose face was white and haggard, and whose hopeless eyes were red and sunken. He didn't get much sympathy from the other passengers, however, although a plea for kindly consideration was written in every line of his sorrowful face. In fact, we all, collectively and in turn, looked daggers at him. Some of us even got up and walked the aisle so we might pass him and shoot him to pieces with our angry glances, and, at times, he flinched under this sort of bombardment, but said not a word. Along toward noon the big woman in the section in front of mine, her nerves jarred to the limit by the crying child, crossed the aisle and said to the young man:

TOM SIMS SAYS

Keep your temper. Alabama man broke his arm hitting a fly. Too much sunshine makes a desert, but not enough makes arctic regions. Statistics would show that every rich uncle in the world has some baby named after him.

The world gets faster. A man can get married in two minutes or drink himself to death in one.

Entirely too many people are going down to the movies to talk about something.

Wearing old clothes is all right if you know you don't have to.

The first time a man slaps a neighbor's child is always the last time.

Every time they build a new railroad crossing the auto dealers order more cars.

No home is complete without a few uncomfortable chairs to offer unwelcome company.

If you hear a great silence it is the children yelling for school to start again.

Some people will stand for anything, but help with nothing.

A bigamist says he married three times because he was crazy. Most everybody agrees.

High Time

By BERTON BRALEY

When you're tired of work and when you're restless by night and when you're convinced that in every old way

There's something wrong with creation.

When you are a pest to your children and wife,

When everything stirs you to anger and strife,

And all you can see is the dark side of life,

It's time that you took a vacation.

When you start to think, "I'm a downtrodden nigger,

And there's simply nobody treating me right!"

When all of the world seems to ride you for spite,

And life is one long aggravation;

When little things bother, and big things appall,

When most of your thoughts are of wormwood and gall,

And you are fed up and displeased with it all,

It's time that you took a vacation.

When rain makes you ugly, and sun makes you sore,

When you and your virtuous don't jibe any more,

When all of your fellow men's ways you deplore

And view them with sour indignation;

When you've all the symptoms of sullen despair,

Stop gnashing your teeth and quit tearing your hair;

Snap out of it, beat it—go on, get the air!

It's time that you took a vacation.

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A Thought

Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.—Matt. 15:11

SPEAK not at all in any wise, till you have somewhat to speak; care not for the reward of your speaking, but simply and with undivided mind for the truth of your speaking.—Carlyle.

"Here, gimme that child! What're you doing gallivanting around with a baby? Where's its mother?"

"In the baggage car," the young fellow replied in a strained voice.

"In the baggage car?" shouted the big woman. "What in heaven's name is she doing there when this baby needs her?"

"Yes," said the father, as tears filled his weary, bloodshot eyes, "baby does need her, but she—she is—dead. I am taking her home to her mother to—be—buried."

"Say, man—oh, man. You should have seen the range that came over the face of that big woman—that came over all of us. Rage turned to pity and pity to kindness in an instant. Well, from then on, during the whole long trip, that baby had the best and most care it ever had in all its short life. All of the women cuddled and cared for it in turn, and it cooed and laughed by day and slept sweetly and soundly on the arm of the big woman by night. We men bought cigars and meals for the young father, and in a man's way, tried to let him know how we felt. Sometimes he smiled through his tears and looked the thanks his trembling lips could not utter. He was going to a little town near Cincinnati, and the big woman was bound for Baltimore. She volunteered to stay with him until she could put the babe in the arms of the sad grandmother who waited for the homecoming of her own baby—the baby in the baggage car. I saw them last at Chicago when they changed cars. The big woman was in full command with the baby in her arms. Every one of us kissed that baby good-by and shook hands sympathetically with the sad young father.

"So, friend, I never say a word when a baby cries on my sleeper. Its mother may be riding in the baggage car."

WHEAT LOSS TO FARMERS IS \$472,000,000

Means Financial Ruin to Many as Reward for Year's Work.

By J. P. WRIGHT
NEA Service Writer

KANSAS CITY, MO., July 13.—As their reward for a season's work, the farmers of the United States will have to pocket a loss of \$472,000,000 on this year's wheat crop as a result of the recent slump in wheat prices.

That is the estimate of J. C. Mohler, secretary of the Kansas State board of agriculture.

The slump, caused mainly by over-production throughout the world, will sweep away the earnings of millions of farmers. Mohler estimates that the average farmer was a year ago.

It means a check in the prosperity wave that has swept the country during the recent months, he believes, but will not bring on a panic. The loss estimate is based on a production cost of \$1.36 a bushel, the estimate of what it costs a farmer to raise a bushel of wheat in Kansas this year. The farmer will get only an average of 77 cents a bushel for his product.

Must Offset Losses

"It means 40,000,000 people of the Middle West and West will have to cut down expenditures during the coming year," Mohler says. "It means there must be a change in the mode of living of farmers and those who depend upon the prosperity of the farmers for a living."

"Of course, farmers will make a profit in other lines, possibly from their livestock and corn," the agricultural expert continues. "But one can see that it will take a great deal of profit in those lines to offset the losses of wheat growers."

"Kansas farmers will be \$55,000,000 worse off for their year of work and investment in growing wheat."

"I am not a calamity howler and want to make the reservation that Kansas farmers have seen hard times before, and will pull through some way. They still will ride in motor cars, but many of them will be old ones, I fear."

Last year the average price received by Kansas farmers for wheat was 90 cents.

"The situation is such that farmers simply will have to give up raising wheat in such large quantities," Mohler says. "It is idle to expect legislation of any other factor to increase wheat prices while the world markets are being flooded."

Declining Market

"The farmers of this continent obeyed the economic law and produced more wheat when more wheat was needed. They are just as certain to obey the economic law and produce less wheat when less wheat is needed."

Asked regarding the suggestion of Governor Jonathan M. Davis, "dirt farmer" executive of Kansas, that wheat sellers go on a strike, Mohler says:

"I believe such a movement would have to take in virtually all of the wheat producing States to be successful. It would be hard to arrange with banks to liquidate loans."

Mohler's belief is that the big world market, which the United States has had the last few years is being narrowed down rapidly by European countries returning to production of wheat—something they dropped during and immediately after the war.

Indiana Sunshine

A reminder of pre-war days has come to Lafayette. One confectionery store has started to dispense sodas for one nickel.

It's a mighty good thing to have a wife who keeps all the buttons on your clothes. William Heston, Portland, owes his life to a button. A shot, mysteriously fired, hit the button on his suspenders and glanced off.

Tentative plans for an arcade, the first in Bloomington, have been drawn by William P. Bollenbacher. She's going to be a beauty, Bollenbacher said.

More than a thousand Franklin singers, hummers, whistlers, would-be, and just plain listeners, attended the big community sing on the courthouse lawn.

It. Wayne people are promised a real beauty treat. Local damsels will compete in a water front beauty contest with members of a show visiting the city.

Dr. J. B. Shoemaker, his son Vernon, E. C. and Dwight Howard are on their way from Peru to New Orleans in a sixteen-foot row boat, equipped with a motor and a camping outfit.

Harding's Religion

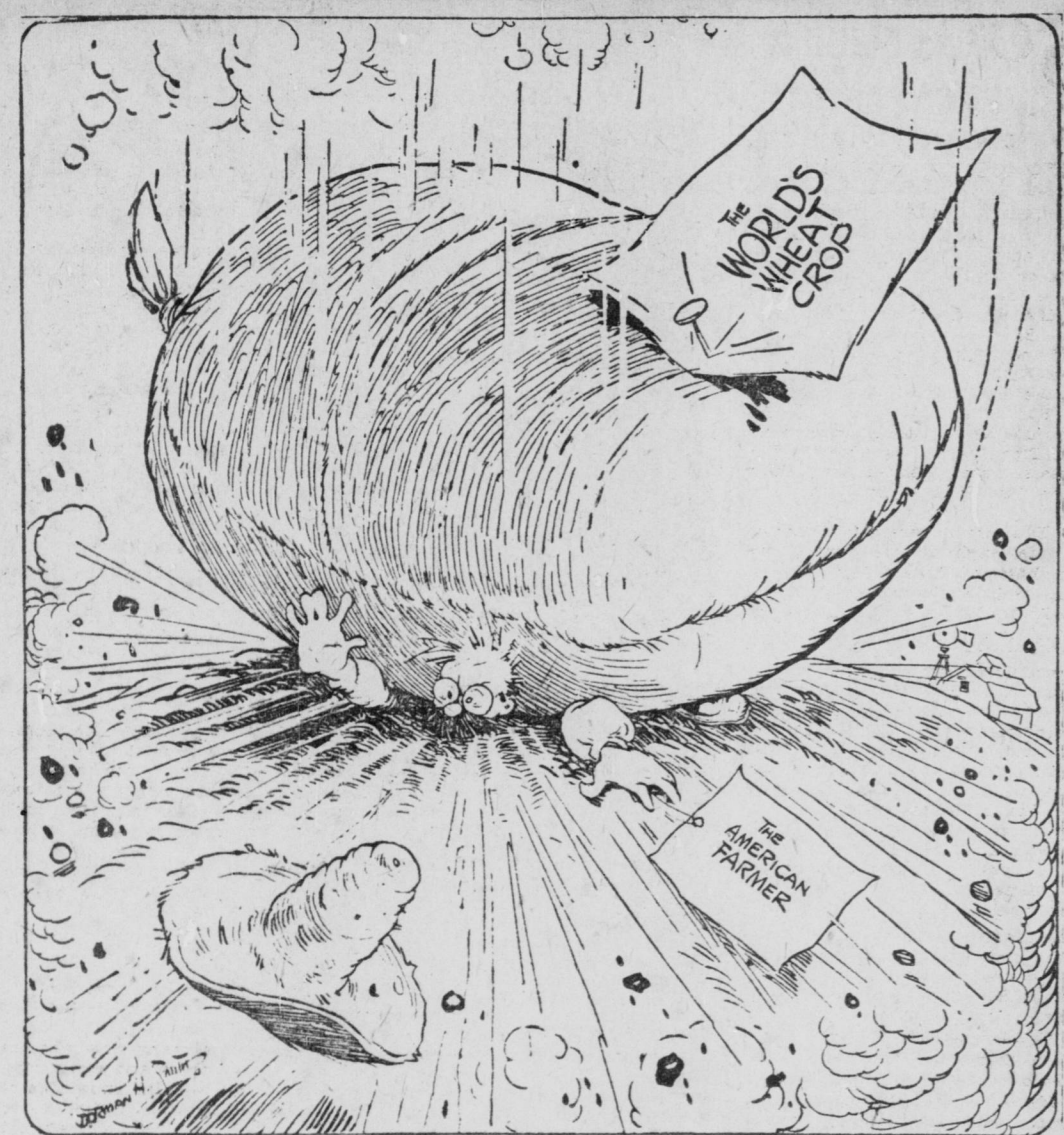
An Eastern paper speaks with veiled derision of President Harding's frequent appeals to the Deity in his recent speeches. That sort of criticism is quite unjustified.

Whatever else may be said of Mr. Harding, there is no doubt about his sincerity of purpose. Nor is there any question about the honesty of his religious bent. Sincerely, honestly, wholeheartedly, he desires the good of his country—the good of the whole world. He is ambitious to be the means of attaining those ends. He may lack the ability, the force, the power of mind and position that such consummations demand, but he commits himself to the effort prayerfully, religiously. He is wise enough to know that he must have help from some source that will steady his step and hold up his arms. He asks that help from the people and the throne of heaven above.

There is nothing about this sort of appeal that invites other than respect, whether we agree with him or not.

Deer are even more fearful of the man-scent than they are of man himself. An old guide of the North woods tells of trying to feed deer from a pail during bad weather. He mixed a fine grain mash in a pail and placed it on a stump in the woods. Deer stood near watching him. The wind was right and they did not get his scent. As soon as he left the deer approached the pail, got the mash and immediately bolted with the mash from the pail to the top of the stump. The deer came back and ate it.

Unwarned and Unarmed



From the Referee's Tower

By ALBERT APPLE

MOVIES

Eighteen thousand movie theaters in the United States, with an attendance of fifty million ticket-buyers a week, according to a trade estimate, which means, the average person goes to the movies about once every two weeks.

Edison was right when he said: "Whoever controls the motion picture industry controls the most powerful medium of influence over the people."

CENSORS

New York censors eliminated certain parts of the movie, "Good Romance." The producers "went to law," and the court of appeals overrules the censors. The film will go into circulation in New York State before it was before the censors cut it.

In this particular film, the censors' objection was that some of the episodes portrayed cruelty to animals, which might incite others to cruelty. It seems to be all right to portray cruelty to children in the pictures, which is a puzzling contradiction.

PRICES

Retail prices in Germany, as the mark continues going to pieces, rise a third in one week. Cost of living there now is over 1,000 times higher than it was when the war started in 1914.

The mark apparently was purposefully inflated to throw sand in the eyes of indemnity collectors. The Germans dug a pit for their neighbors and fell in it themselves. The boom-erang usually returns to its source, especially when hurled by an expert, with power.

Science

Some of the smallest and apparently least important things in nature are in reality the most necessary. Probably the most important in the history of the earth is the earthworm.

Without it the earth would not be fertile enough to bear crops. Their burrows open the soil for roots and rain. Also they bury leaves which turn into vegetable mold. They are the great promoters of vegetation through their boring, perforating and loosening of the soil, and without them the earth would become hard-bound and sterile. It is estimated in an acre of average soil there are over 50,000 earthworms and in an acre of very fertile ground there are over a million. They are continually circulating the soil and in the course of thirty or forty years they will turn a stony field into a fertile one by covering the stones with soil.

Darwin claimed earthworms have made the bulk of the fertile soil of the globe. He studied the subject all his life and shortly before he died wrote a notable book on earthworms.

Rights

A constitutional amendment declaring in plain words that "men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction," is the aim of the National Woman's party, soon to hold a national convention.

That may excite some few women leaders, radical feminists, but the great majority of American women will wonder what it is all about.

The one inalienable right of both men and women is that of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Any right that any resident of this country, male or female, may claim is but an interpretation of this broad theme.

Wheat Tariff

(Bluffton Evening Banner)

Gone coming on the market has been below a dollar and has established a "new low record since the war." How can this be possible? Was it not only two years ago that the Republicans passed an emergency tariff bill "to aid the farmer," and a little later did they not pass another bill with even higher duties than those of the special act, and does not this bill carry a duty of 30 cents per bushel on outside wheat? Sure, but the tariff bill does not protect the farmer on his price for wheat, but it does protect the clothing manufacturer in his demand for a couple dollars more on each suit of clothes. Any local merchant will tell you that clothing is quite a little bit higher under the present tariff law than it was under the Democratic measure passed in 1913.

QUESTIONS Ask—The Times ANSWERS

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to the Indianapolis Times' Washington Bureau, 1325 N. Y. Avenue, Washington, D. C. Inclosing 2 cents in stamps. Medical, legal, love and marriage advice cannot be given, nor of extended research be undertaken, or papers, speeches, etc., be prepared. Unlabeled letters cannot be answered, but all letters are confidential, and receive personal replies.—Editor.

Please tell me how to burn formaldehyde in a room so as to get rid of flies, bedbugs, etc.—A. M. Truffed.

Burning an ordinary formaldehyde candle, procurable at any drug store, in a room made as air-tight as possible will kill flies and insects, but cannot be relied on to rid the room of bedbugs. If the fumes of the candle can reach into all cracks and crevices where the bedbugs hide, it is partly successful. A mixture of benzine and carbolic acid, as recommended by a druggist, sprayed with care on the walls and in the cracks and crevices of the room is much more successful.

Please tell me how much Citizens coke a bin ten feet long by five feet eight inches wide by five feet eight inches deep will hold.—C. M. Wolfe.

Approximately 5.5 tons of coke. However, this is not an accurate way to judge the capacity of a bin, especially for coke, as the amount in weight the bin will hold depends largely upon the moisture contained in the coke at the time of its purchase.

Are the United States mints issuing a \$50 gold piece of octagon shape? No, nor of any other shape. The \$20