

# The Indianapolis Times

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## CROSSING GUARDS ON SUNDAY

HERE is a letter received by the editor from William O. Bramblett of Jamestown, Ind.:

"As Sunday seems to be the day of many crossing accidents, why would it not be a good plan to station watchmen at all dangerous crossings that day, half the expense to be paid by the railroad and half by the State or county? There are many men who would be glad to have a job like that just on Sunday and it would save many lives."

The grade crossing peril grows daily. Nine lives were snuffed out near Terre Haute Sunday when a train, speeding to make up for lost time after it had killed four other autoists, crashed into their car at a dangerous crossing. Thirteen lives within a few hours!

The autoist who drives along the same roads day after day knows them intimately. The tourist does not. Neither does the family man who takes the whole family out for a day's spin—generally on Sunday.

There is no question but what the peril is doubled, trebled or even greater on the Sabbath. Something must be done to save the incautious motorist and the innocent who ride with him.

Mr. Bramblett's suggestion furnishes food for thought.

## LIQUOR'S ACTION ON PIGS

GUINEA PIGS that have been drunk six days a week for six years are being studied by scientists of Cornell University Medical College. They get their jag by inhaling alcohol fumes—much more potent than drinking, for the intoxicant reaches them through their lungs.

Worse and more of it, these drunken guinea pigs seem not to be injured by their chronic drunkenness. They are as heavy as prohibition guinea pigs, also as healthy, and live as long.

But the alcohol takes its toll in the second generation. Few offspring are born to the alcoholics, and the ones that are born are decidedly inferior to the offspring of abstainers.

The third generation of guinea pigs, born from hard-drinking ancestors, are better than the second generation, but not up to normal.

The fourth generation, however, puzzles John Barleycorn's enemies. For, while only the hardy ones live, the survivors are stronger, heavier and more alert than guinea pigs whose ancestors indulged not in the fiery cup.

All this, of course, is a sort of post-mortem on J. Barleycorn, an attempt by scientists to learn the truth about alcohol's effects in heredity. About 7,000 guinea pigs have, to date, been used in the experiments.

It's too early in the game to make definite announcements. But it begins to look as if the experiments show that alcoholism is bad for individuals, but that it may benefit the race by weeding out the unfit—eliminating weaklings early in life or preventing their birth altogether.

Dr. Charles R. Stockard, head of the Cornell guinea pig investigators, says:

"Should any one desire to apply these experimental results to the human alcohol problem, it might be claimed that some such elimination of unfit individuals has benefited the races of Europe, since all of the dominant races have a definite alcoholic history, and the excessive use of alcohol was decidedly more general three or four generations ago than it is today."

Similarly, it will be at least three generations before the effects of liquor prohibition can be estimated with accuracy. The effect on our generation will be much less than on our descendants.

## HENRY FORD SAYS HE WON'T RUN

IN Collier's this week Henry Ford seems to make it clear that nothing short of a war or some such crisis calling for a man who could do things and do them quickly, would impel him to accept a presidential nomination. With nothing like that in sight, he can't see any sense in his attempting political leadership. He thinks making him President would be about as sensible as making Harding the head of the Ford research laboratory.

A lot of Indiana folk reading Ford's simple statement are likely to decide that any man with so much common sense is just the man for the job he says he's unfitted for.

Ford may think he has no place in American politics, but he is wrong. Ford already is an important factor in politics. Quite apart from his possible candidacy, which has caused such an epidemic of political insomnia, Ford's every day labors have a real and important bearing on political affairs.

Economic considerations are at the base of nine-tenths of our politics. Our political problems are really commercial, industrial, agricultural problems. And Ford goes ahead helping the country solve one after another of these—or, at least, helping to throw great light into each. His factory output is helping the agricultural situation in ever increasing degree. His delving into railroad transportation for his own purposes will have made the railroad problem a lot clearer before he gets through; he will have shown how to operate a railroad as a non-stock-jobbing enterprise. His reaching out into the field of water power has tremendous political significance—using the word in its broadest sense. His daily demonstration that business does not require special privileges from the government has a direct bearing on the protective tariff, which he scorns.

NOW the Canadian judiciary are at it. Judge Lemieux in the Delorme murder case, at Montreal, roasts his jury for disagreeing, because of the great expense to the people. Roasting jurors for not violating their oaths, to save costs!

SENATOR WALSH (Democrat), Massachusetts, must be stone blind, or something. Returns from Europe and says he didn't observe any chaos over there. Gosh! Chaos meets everybody else at the docks in Europe, according to reports.

LASKER is so tickled that he is going to ask the building of two more ships just like the Leviathan. Better wait until we see if we haven't got to auction off the Leviathan for \$245 or abouts.

... in swimming before cooling off is about as safe as a tank of bad moonshine.

... seem to think the world is a menace to civilization and should be destroyed.

## NEW CANAL DEPENDENT ON WARFARE

World Peace Means Second Waterway Across Nicaragua Is Unnecessary.

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—You'd better begin plugging for world peace. If you don't, it may cost you \$9.

A new American, ocean-to-ocean canal, across Nicaragua, depends very largely on the probability or improbability of future wars. I was reliably informed today.

If the great powers continue to reduce their navies and world peace seems reasonably assured, Panama Canal will continue our only waterway across Central America. When it reaches its capacity it will be broadened, most likely, rather than a new canal dug.

On the other hand, if the war-making powers go on unchecked, and armament races continued—in the air, under the sea and in the direction of fast cruisers of 10,000 tons and less—it appears only a question of time before a new canal across Nicaragua will become a military necessity.

Interest Renewed

In view of the renewed interest in the Nicaragua Canal, the Secretary of War has authorized the writer to publish a memorandum from his chief of engineers setting forth some of the details of the Nicaragua project.

The Secretary desires it clearly understood, "I was informed, however, 'the Government is not taking any definite steps in this matter.'"

The proposed canal would follow the San Juan River on the Atlantic side up to Lake Nicaragua, through the lake into the Pacific Ocean at Salinas Bay.

Lake Very Deep

Lake Nicaragua's surface varies about thirty feet depending on the rainfall, the memo says, in part. At high water the lake is 110 feet above the sea. Four locks would be necessary at each end of the canal. The lake runs from 50 to 200 feet deep, that is, deep enough for ocean-going vessels.

A canal of the same dimensions as Panama would have cost, before the war, approximately \$42,000,000, as against Panama's \$373,000,000.

"The cost of all construction and dredging work at the present time," says the chief of engineers, "is a trifle more than twice the amount which it was prior to the war. This increase would make the canal via the Nicaragua route, today, cost approximately \$1,000,000,000."

This would make the per capita cost—your share—about \$9.

NEXT: Yes, we'll have no Bahamas.

Observations

The roar of those 210 war guns at Seattle was a mere low hiss compared with the reverberating returns from Minnesota.

Bananas have gone up 3 per cent, probably due to that awful song.

According to Washington statistics, wholesale prices have dropped and retail prices have advanced. That's where the justly famous "overhead" comes into play, you see.

Ganna Walska says it is better to be plain Mrs. McCormick, anyway, showing that she isn't so very hard to please.

A Michigan bootlegger was shot in the leg by his official pursuers, but happily it turns out that it wasn't his bootleg.

What this world really needs is to have the doves of peace make an endurance flight.

That Louisiana man who traded his baby boy for a horse introduced the baby to much better society, at least.

Mebbe those Lausanne conferees were good to the Turk because he is "the sick man of Europe."

## Science

Insects constitute one of the greatest dangers to man. Yet even insects have their uses. They fertilize flowering plants by carrying the pollen from one blossom to another.

Darwin demonstrated the value of certain insects to plants. In one experiment he took a number of heads of clover, which he covered with muslin so that air and sunlight got in, but insects were kept out. He took an equal number of heads without any covering. From the first he got not a single seed. From the second he obtained thousands. These latter had been visited by bees, which fertilized them with pollen.

On the other hand the increase of insects has been so great of late years that they constitute the chief danger of overturning what is called the "balance of nature," whereby all species are kept in proper proportions. Outside of scientific efforts, the main hope in keeping down the numbers of insects lies in insect-eating birds. Without them, it is probable that within ten years insects would conquer the earth and exterminate man.

## Heard in Smoking Room

THE locomotive's piston rod had snapped and the train was in for a two-hour stay at N—, Ark. "This town," spoke up one of the smokers, a drummer in the ready-made clothing line, "contains the champion long endurance grounder of the nation, Mr. Simon Cohen, clothing, notions, etc."

"That so?" replied one of the other smokers. "I'm in the notion line. Let's go up and sell to Cohen."

The two left the train and, a half hour later, returned with this: "We found Mr. Cohen standing in the doorway of his store."

"Good morning, Mr. Cohen. Nice morning," said one.

"I've seen nicer," replied Cohen, and at once went inside his store.

## Editor's Mail

The editor is willing to print views of Times readers on interesting subjects. Make your comment brief. Sign your name as an evidence of good faith. It will not be printed if you object.

### Reply to Atterbury

To the Editor of The Times  
I have read with a great deal of interest the address made by W. W. Atterbury, Vice-President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, at Indianapolis and in fairness to the thousands of red-blooded liberty-loving American citizens, who believe in justice, I do not believe his statements should go unchallenged.

He said, "Our problem began during the war. Government control, superimposed an organization upon us which settled for us problems that we should have settled amongst ourselves." He is not entitled to state the autocratic and dictatorial attitude of the Pennsylvania management, prior to Federal control, when they continually refused the shop craft employees the privilege of forming organizations approved by a majority. It would not have been necessary for the United States Government to have seen to it that the Pennsylvania Railroad employees were permitted to enjoy the rights and privileges provided for in the Constitution of the United States and which the Pennsylvania management is again seeking to take away.

Speaking of Ballots

Although Mr. Atterbury permitted his general managers to effect with them, adjustments involving hundreds of thousands of dollars of the Government's money during Federal control, he now says he never believed the committee of System Federation 90 represented the employees and in speaking of the ballot which was submitted to and participated in by the maintenance of way and signalmen, he said that: "System Federation No. 90 had the same opportunity, but refused to go along and instructed the men not to vote. If they had had the majority of the men behind them they would have gone along on the ballot, just as the maintenance of way employees and signalmen did." Is not the fact that 90% of the employees of the shop crafts heeded the recommendation of the officers of System Federation 90 and refused to vote the company's ballot in 1921, the best evidence in the world that this committee was truly representative of a majority of such employees?

Disregard of Decision

The results which Mr. Atterbury says were secured in the late so-called election were secured only after two years of continued violation of the transportation act and disregard of the Labor Board's decision, during which time a strike took place. Thousands of the original employees affected are refusing to return to work and are, therefore, not included among the employees participating in this election, so that the late vote was cast by strike breakers, a large majority of whom have only been in the service for a short time, and therefore are either trying to protect the continuity of their employment or do not expect to remain in the service and have little or no interest in the future. It is also significant that many of this class even refused to vote until threatened with discharge by their foremen or were headed to the polls in taxicabs. Does this seem like "voluntary cooperation" on the part of the employees?

Crusading Minority

Is not the attitude of the Pennsylvania Railroad management and the 10% of the original shop craft employees who are in collusion with them that of a "crusading minority" which is trying to ride "roughshod" over the 90% who, under the transportation act, have the right to deal with the management in whatever manner and through whatever organizations such employees may select.

Mr. Atterbury also charges some people (evidently the Labor Board) with trying to sow seeds of discord and therefore make it impossible to reach a compromise what the Pennsylvania management is trying to do. Is it not clearly the duty of the Labor Board (a governmental body) to condemn the Pennsylvania management for its continued violations of the transportation act and the constitutional rights of the employees? The officials of this railroad have had such free-handed methods in the past that apparently Mr. Atterbury would have the board condone the railroad's violations of the law and have it join hands with him in subduing the striking employees. Did not Chairman Hooper with his "outlaw" resolution of July 3, 1922, and President Harding and Attorney General Daugherty with their "famous" injunction do enough to help crush the employees back to slavery and wipe out their organizations? What more does Mr. Atterbury want?

Liberty-loving, red-blooded American citizens will not submit peacefully to such invasion of their constitutional rights, and whether Mr. Atterbury wants to believe it or not, his autocratic crusading is sure to fail and justice and fair dealing must ultimately triumph.

N. P. GOOD,

President System No. 90,

Pennsylvania Shop Employees.

Asia

Our much-heralded trade with the Orient is back-firing. Instead of America finding big markets in the Orient is back-firing. Instead of big markets in the Orient.

During the last twelve months we bought from Asiatic countries about 550 million dollars more than we sold them.

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## BRASS WORK IS POPULAR WITH SCOTS

Women Spend Lives Shining and Polishing, as Tar-nish Is Scandal.

By JOHN W. RAPER

ANYWHERE IN SCOTLAND—If, after death, a Scotch woman should open her eyes and see a piece of brass, she would know she was not in heaven.

I figure a Scotch woman of 60, who does her own housework is spent about twenty years of it in polishing brass.

I have seen the interiors of probably three dozen Scotch houses of middle class folk, and all I can remember of them is brass. Scotsmen tell me all other houses are the same.

Brass, brass everywhere. You begin at the front door. There is a nameplate—brass. Doorknob and plate, brass. Sometimes these knobs are fearsome things, large as the lock plates.

One popular form is a brass plate a foot square with hanging brass handles, rectangular, five inches long. If there are double doors at the entrance there are two plates. The doorknob frequently is covered with a sheet of brass.

Inside, the brass begins in earnest. Umbrella rack? Brass trimmings, maybe all brass. Coat and hat rack? Smeared with brass, plain, fancy, scroll work, brass hooks.

Lighting fixtures? Brass. And the gas chandeliers that grandfather put in have never been taken down. They may not be used but they are still hanging, all brass.

Heated by Grates.

Central heating is practically unknown in Scotland. The big hotels, the castle-like homes of the rich, the big business blocks, all are heated by grates.

The grate in Scotland is a wonderful affair. Most of them I have seen are at least one-quarter brass.

Tarnish Is Scandal  
Brass, brass, brass! And "always shining like a mirror. Never a finger spot nor a mark. As for a tarnished spot—oh, scandal!"

I have tried this a dozen times and it always works.

Say to a Scotch woman, "Why do you have so much brass around? You're wasting your life cleaning brass. Why don't you throw it away?"

And she says, "What! Throw my beautiful brass away? No indeed. Just think of how it brightens up a house. Besides, it isn't much work."

No Vacuum Cleaner  
The electrical vacuum cleaner is next to unknown in Scotland. In a big hotel, never, say hotel workers; a few, here and there, in the homes of the rich. Occasionally, they say, you can find a vacuum cleaner worked by hand.

Next—Our Jack goes to "best hotel in Scotland" and finds some one who needs an emancipation proclamation.

## TOM SIMS --- Says

WONDER if Mrs. Harding forgot to stop the newspaper before she went away with Warren?

Dusseldorf is a nice summer resort. Coffee is so high there they have to drink beer.

While wheat makes flour, wheat prices don't make flour prices.

Detroit girl of 17 has a divorce already. There is talk of making her an honorary movie star.

When a man kicks his radio on a hot night he has been listening to MacMillan in the arctic.

Salt Lake City man shot at a waiter five times. Why not quit serving green cantaloupes?

Doctors took twelve stitches in an Indianapolis man who stepped off a street car backward.

Birth marks, considered harmless, led to the arrest of a Missouri bandit who showed them.

New star was found by a man in Flagstaff, Ariz., where there is nothing to do but count them.

What does the German prefix "Von" mean?

This dates from the days when a man was designated by the house or family to which he belonged. Hence Von Hindenburg means "of the house of Hindenburg."

Did Battling Siki marry a white woman, what was her name and have they a child?

He married a white woman, Lynt Je Van Appelle, at Rotterdam, Holland, in 1920, and they have one child, a boy.

What are the lucky days of the week for weddings?

The rhyme reads: Monday for health, Tuesday for wealth, Wednesday the best day of all, Thursday for crosses, Friday for losses, Saturday no luck at all.

Does a broken mirror bring seven years bad luck?

No, this is a very foolish superstition.

Can a man bring an action for breach of promise?

Yes. However, he is usually laughed out of court, or awarded one cent damages.

Do the rules of baseball permit the throwing of a cap at the ball?

No.

How many ribs have men and women?

Twenty-four each.

What does "Auld Lang Syne" mean?

This is Scottish for "old long since."

When was Washington's birthday first celebrated?

The first recorded mention of the celebration is said to be the one in "The Virginia Gazette" of "The American Advertiser" of Richmond; "Tuesday last being the birthday of His Excellency General Washington, our illustrious Commander-in-chief, the same was commemorated here with the utmost demonstrations of joy. The day this celebrated was Feb. 11, 1782, the Old Style calendar not having then been everywhere and for every purpose abandoned."

## Making a Doggie Out of the Sausage



## QUESTIONS Ask—The Times ANSWERS

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to the Indianapolis Times, Washington, D. C., 1232 N. W. Avenue, Washington, D. C. It costs 2 cents to start a question. Medical, legal, love and marriage advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be undertaken, or papers searched for answers. Unpublished letters cannot be answered, but all letters are confidential, and receive personal replies.—Editor.

Can one get an electric shock from any living thing?

The electric ray, found in the Mediterranean, has two large electric organs between the front of the head and the gills. One can get a really painful electric shock from handling this fish. The electric eel, found in the shallow parts of the Orinoco, Amazon and associated rivers, is capable of giving a very strong shock. The mormyrs of the Nile give feeble shocks. The electric catfish, found in rivers of tropical Africa and the lower Nile, is able to give shocks powerful enough to kill other fishes.

What is the difference in meaning attached to the leaves or the flowers of oranges on an engagement ring?

There is no difference of particular meaning attached to either the leaves or flowers. Orange blossoms have long been associated with marriage, the custom originating many years ago in Spain, and from there introduced into other countries.

How much in loans have the twelve Federal Land Banks?

The total outstanding first mortgage farm loans are \$729,208,811.96, in addition to approximately \$300,000,000 in loans made by the seventy-eight subsidiary joint stock land banks.

What does the word "Sisyphean" mean?

Of or pertaining to Sisyphus, hence perpetually recurring, endless, unceasing. The origin is from the story of Sisyphus, the crafty son of Aolus, husband of Merope, founder of Corinth and of the Isthmian games. He was condemned in Hades forever to roll to the top of a steep hill a huge stone that always rolled down again.

To whom should one report a deserter in order to get a reward? To the Department of Justice, or to the War Department, Washington, D. C.

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