

The Indianapolis Times

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UNTYING TRAFFIC KNOTS

THE city plan commission is now undertaking the readjustment of traffic in Indianapolis to do away with some of the congestion. The commission has a number of very good but expensive ideas.

One of the changes contemplated calls for a belt line around the city for transportation of interurban freight and possibly elevated lines for interurbans. The plans also contemplate the re-routing of interurbans to make their progress in the city more rapid, and the establishment of major high speed automobile thoroughfares with heavy traffic on side streets.

Presumably, it would be up to the interurban companies to build, or at least to contribute a large share of the expense of building the belt road and the elevated tracks. With the growth of the automobile as a vehicle of long-distance transportation, the interurban business has been none too good. There is evidence that some roads are having a struggle to continue their passenger business. That they would build a belt railroad or elevated tracks now is highly improbable. The irony of the situation is that these things are proposed to make room for automobiles.

The proposal for the establishment of high speed thoroughfares with slow, heavy traffic on side streets is good. This already has been worked out on Meridian St., Capitol Ave., Maple Road and similar thoroughfares. Perhaps one-way traffic on certain streets will be the eventual solution.

To any one who travels on interurban cars the proposal that they be rerouted to speed them up inside the city appears to be well founded. Why is it necessary for interurbans to travel so far before they reach the station? To a casual observer it would appear they frequently travel farther than necessary to avoid congestion in the business district.

CLEANING UP AROUND MARKET

GAIN we are to have the block around the courthouse occupied with city market stands cleaned up. Mayor Shank says so and Sarah backs him up. They went out and looked at the street themselves and found it dirty.

These crusades for clean streets around the market stands occur at frequent intervals. Usually things are kept clean for a few days and then the affair is forgotten until somebody again reminds the authorities.

There is bound to be a certain amount of refuse from market stands. Throwing this refuse into the streets and allowing it to putrefy not only makes the streets unsightly, but threatens the public health. The streets around the market should be cleaned up and kept clean.

HIGH COST OF CRIME

CRIME costs the American people more than three billion dollars a year—or roughly \$30 for every man, woman and child.

This is the estimate by the National Surety Company, which bonds employees who handle money—cashiers, treasurers, etc.

It's only part of the real bill, of course, for it covers only the visible or reported crimes. Petty thefts, which never get publicity, never are called to attention of public officials, must mount up to a staggering sum each year.

What do you think is the most costly form of crime? Stock frauds, answers Cromwell, president of New York Stock Exchange. He figures that swindling by the sale of securities costs the American people a billion dollars a year, or a third of the total cost of crime.

Fraudulent bankruptcies get away with 400 million dollars a year.

Based on police estimates, the national loss from burglary, larceny and general petty thefts is only 250 million dollars a year.

That is amazing—burglars and other thieves getting away with only a fourth as much as the stock swindlers.

Embezzlers make off with 100 million dollars a year. Forgers get the same. A fourth of this amount covers railroad freight thefts.

Bonding companies' books show that between 1910 and 1922 the losses from burglaries increased 1,200 per cent, while embezzlements jumped 500 per cent. These figures are based on money losses. The average criminal "job," of course, involves more money than it used to. Putting it on a straight dollars-and-cents basis, and eliminating moral considerations, the theft of \$200 today is equivalent to the theft of \$100 before the war.

Even thieves have to figure on the increased cost of living.

A prominent expert attributes the increase in financial crimes to discontent, envy, unemployment, desire for luxury beyond earning capacity, carelessness of people whose funds are stolen, unfairly low pay, and "widespread disrespect for property rights and law, caused partly by the World War."

That last reason may be the most important one.

Comparing the national crime bill with the total income of the American people, about \$1 in each \$15 or \$20 that is produced by honest effort is stolen by the parasites.

FORMER CROWN PRINCE is said to foresee anarchy in Germany. That doesn't require much foresight.

THE county tax rate will be no higher. That doesn't sound possible.

THE German program is said to be food and money for all. Let's hope they have better luck than Russia.

NO Fall Creek bridge to be built this year—headline. Nobody thought one would be built.

AT least Governor McCray is denying more pardon petitions than he is granting, and that is more than could be said of Jim Goodrich.

EX-SECRETARY TUMULTY is now telling how the President should be relieved of some of his work. If Tumulty did all he says he did during the Wilson Administration it is strange he is alive to tell about it.

IF the fourteen remonstrators think that the little wooden schoolhouse is good enough for the kids, wouldn't it be fair for them to go back to the conditions of forty years ago themselves—kerosene lamps, clay roads, horse and buggy and celluloid collars?

BRING SHIPS TO FARMS IS PLANNED

St. Lawrence Seaway Offers Great Development for Interior of Nation.

By HERBERT QUICK

OPONENTS of the St. Lawrence seaway—the deep water channel between the Great Lakes and the ocean—say over and over again that ocean-going ships will never come into the lakes, no matter how deep the channel may be. Many people believe this—but it is really nothing but propaganda for the New York bottle-neck which is strangling the prosperity of the interior. People who really believe this propaganda should study what is going on in the lower Mississippi.

New Orleans Is Example

New Orleans is far up the river, but the big ships go there—so many of them that it is one of our greatest ports. And all the way up to Baton Rouge the banks are lined with great oil, sugar and other plants, each with its own docks, at which huge ocean-going ships load and unload the grain.

If there were five great lakes to be reached by going further, and cities like Chicago, Buffalo, Cleveland, Milwaukee, Duluth, Ft. William, Toronto and all the others on the lakes, the Mississippi would be a huge seaway which would dwarf the Panama Canal.

And that is what the St. Lawrence will be when opened up.

And if we do not join Canada in opening it up, Canada will do it herself.

Canada Offers Opportunity

She offers us the chance of our national life, a partnership in a great seaway which we need worse than she does, and immunity from discrimination which tolls all the future.

If Uncle Sam doesn't accept the partnership, Uncle Sam is a fool. And the interior of the continent will be condemned to transportation slavery forever.

What Editors Are Saying

Toner

(Fr. Wayne News-Sentinel)

An Indiana editor writes this paper soliciting its support for the gubernatorial candidacy of Edward Toner of Anderson, basing his plea on the flat and foolish proposition that Mr. Toner is entitled to it because he is a newspaper man and his own personal friend. If Mr. Toner has only these attributes to command him, God save Indiana from any rule by him.

Gasoline

(Tipton Times)

The reduction in the price of gasoline ordered by the Standard Oil Company will be taken advantage of by the people without any feeling of compunction on their part. If the Standard succeeds in eliminating a few competitors the public will probably face an advanced rate after the fight is over.

Rates

(Frankfort Crescent-News)

The appeal of the Indiana Bell Telephone Company to the Federal Court for interference in the Indiana rate hearing does not have the appearance of an honest desire to have rates based on facts revealed at hearings especially provided for such cases. Rate making by telephone experts is an involved process, purposely so, it is believed so that the average man cannot understand the manner in which rates are arrived at.

'Cal'

(Lafayette Journal and Courier)

A lot of people are engaged just now in the pleasant process of "feeling out" President Coolidge on the world court issue. So far the "feelers" have not got much beyond the point where "silent Cal" just kept on keeping still.

Observations

It would cost \$12,000,000,000 to abolish all of the grade crossings in this country. It is said. That's entirely to high a price to pay for we poor humans, isn't it?

Where there is a thirst there is a way.

It has been so very warm at Atlantic City this season a number of bathers sought to cool themselves by actually going in the water.

Issuing those German marks in trillions will undoubtedly ruin the regular wall-paper business in that country.

We got even in one case at least. One of those British lecturers complains he "caught" the gout in this country.

We regret to say it, but the taxpayer leads a double life. Also is he the ultimate consumer.

A New York paper says the subway conditions in that city "are a disgrace to a civilized community." Wonder what civilized community is referred to.

When they refer to the German crown prince's coup they probably mean the one he is confined in.

Heard in Smoking Room

OME fine golf links were visible from the smoker window and Sterling of the Oklahoma News, sprung this:

"Little Jimmy always did so well out on the golf links at Lincoln Park. That boy was the perfect caddy. And all the other caddies wondered."

"'Wot's this guy got we aint?" they grumbled. Which worried Jimmy about as much as the regulation against one-piece bathing suits worried the blind man.

"Jimmy didn't have time to worry. He had more customers than he could take care of. As soon as he came in with one golfer there were a dozen more to take him out. And

Tom Sims --- Says

B EEN reading so many European war rumors lately we forgot and saluted a street car conductor.

One Sunday was so quiet in Berlin they had only two outbreaks.

Chinese are worrying the British. Can't solve the Chinese puzzle.

Secretary of Treasury Mellon is in Paris. He knows his business. Left the treasury at home.

Big dynamite plot found at London. It wasn't sweet of them.

Mussolini continues being the savior of Italy. His name continues to sound like a wrestler.

Keep away from Athens. Girls wearing sleeveless dresses there are smeared with tar.

Bank 107 years old has closed in Vienna. It found the first 100 years the easiest.

Geneva women are trying to protect children from wicked movies. Leave the children at home.

Dr. Laws got mad in a Stockholm church. Laid down the law.

Hindus and Moslems clash. Hindus, as you know, when he has no clothes makes his skin do.

More bad luck for Europe. One out of every four U. S. senators are studying Europe.

Improvement in America reported. New Yorker whipped a man for singing, "Yes, We Have No Bananas."

Babe Ruth tried to catch a burglar, but only caught him out.

San Antonio (Tex.) golfer played 19 hours. Hope he found it.

Louisville (Ky.) man was arrested for spanking his wife. Bustles, however, are coming back.

Some men will ship. One made \$890 shining shoes in Sing Sing.

Sailor kicked a Los Angeles cop on the nose. In other towns this is considered back luck.

Detroit ice man had four wives. Strange thing is all were his.

Printer arrested in New York is supposed to have three wives. Release him for punishment.

Editor's Mail

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

To the Editor of The Times

Wonder what kind of names and how many I shall be called if I am allowed publicly to say I fail to see the consistency in our Governor following the day of our deceased President's burial, and failing at the 500-mile race crisis. Those old heroes who made our glorious republic possible were ignominiously turned down! They paid the supreme penalty of citizenship in the agonies of a fraternal holocaust and their surviving comrades were brushed aside by cries of "Big Business" and "Everyone observes the day in his own way."

Then, of what value are official proclamations? Must this time of sorrow be embittered by thoughts of what might have been? Yea, verily! And how come? RAY ALLEN.

Animal Facts

How would you like a nice, thick, juicy slab of whale tail for today's dinner? Um! It's a delicacy in the far east. If it were not for the prejudice against whale meat on this continent, the British Columbia Whaling industry could furnish us with about 100,000,000 pounds of perfectly good meat at 12½ cents a pound. As it is, much of the whale meat now caught goes to waste, although some of it is cut into cubes about 12x18 inches, frozen and shipped to Japan, where there is a good market. Whale meat is as palatable and nutritious as mutton. It is said. Outside of the meat, a whale weighing sixty tons, will yield six tons of oil, three tons of whale fat, a half of guano and 300 pounds of whalebone. Its meat will amount to three and one half tons, and the whole fish will bring about \$1,000 in revenue.

The richness of fish life in our fresh waters is amazing. Chas. H. Townsend tells the *Geographic Magazine* that the United States has a smaller area than Europe, and yet it has 585 species of fresh water fish while Europe has only 126. Illinois alone has 150 species and New York 141.

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A Thought

He that saith I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him. —1 John 2:4.

THE finest and noblest ground on which people can live is truth; the real with the real; a ground on which nothing is assumed.—Emerson.

COUSINS IN BRITAIN KICK ON TAX, TOO

Same Complaints Heard on Labor, Coal and Like as in U. S.

By JOHN W. RAPER

I N ENGLAND: Sit around and listen to a crowd of Englishmen or Scotchmen talk and think you are back in America.

The conversation goes like this:

"Business is taxed to death. It's the high taxes that cause stagnation."

"I wouldn't mind paying the taxes if I thought the money were spent wisely. But most of it is wasted. We might as well burn it up."

"Labor is crazy. Just as soon as things get going, what happens? A strike."

"Well after all, can you blame them for striking? They've never get decent pay if they didn't."