

From Indiana—Ernie Pyle

All Those Folks on Reno Streets
Aren't Really Getting Divorces;
Six-Week Law Irks the Merchants.

RENO, Nev., Nov. 27.—The first time you visit Hollywood you think everybody you see on the streets is in the movies. Yet, you find out later, probably not one person out of hundreds walking on Hollywood Blvd. has ever been inside a studio.

It's just like that in Reno. Everybody you see on the street is obviously out here getting a divorce. You feel like stopping each one and asking, "Why couldn't you get along with him?"

And yet when you check up, you find that the divorce business is only a small part of Reno's life.

There is a fairly constant year-round population of around 300 people putting in their six-week residence here. But many of these stay at dude ranches outside of town. So we'll say there are actually 200 living in Reno at a given time.

Reno's population is 20,000. That would make one divorce-seeker for every 100 inhabitants.

Mr. Pyle The local newspapers pay almost no attention to the divorce hubbub. They do run the names of all people given decrees, but these are in the "vital statistics" column along with births and deaths. They don't even tell where the people are from.

Divorces have been running about 3000 a year in Reno. The number seems to follow almost exactly the nation's business trend. You could draw a chart, with one line showing business activity and the other Reno divorces, and they'd be almost parallel lines.

In 1931, before the depression had got up full steam, it was also the first year of the six-week law. 4745 divorces were issued in Reno.

In 1933 they dropped to a record low of 2438. By 1935 they were up to 3088. Last year they were 3001. Up to Nov. 1 of this year there have been 2238. Figured on a 12-month basis, that would be only 2685 for 1937.

Reno Doesn't Get All Business

Most of us think of all Nevada divorces being obtained in Reno. Actually, only about three-fourths are. Last year there were 4386 for the whole state, with 2001 in Reno.

Many people go to smaller towns over the state. But if they do this with the idea of escaping publicity they go in vain, for the press associations have correspondents watching the court records in even the smallest towns.

If you actually lived in Nevada, you could decide at breakfast you wanted a divorce and by noon you could have it. Yet the local people hardly ever get divorces. Only about 5 per cent of the divorces are by actual Nevada residents.

Nevada years ago became a sort of divorce haven, and hundreds were getting split here every year.

Then in the middle '20s Nevada's Legislature put through the anti-divorce law, and in 1931 the six weeks' law. There was much criticism of the Legislature, but the law stuck.

Today, the businessmen of Reno are not keen about the six weeks' law. They say they made more money under the six months' law. For then people had to be here so long they usually rented a house, sometimes bought a car, and had to stay through changes of season, which required new clothes.

Now, they just come and camp for a short time in anything from a hotel room to a tourist cabin, do little buying, just wait it out.

My Diary

By Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt

Rural Arts Exhibition Symbol of Our Defense Against Machine Age.

WASHINGTON, Friday—I started the morning in a most delightful manner by going to the rural art exhibit in the patio of the Agriculture Department building with Mrs. Wallace, Mr. Allen Eaton, who has supervised this collection and who probably knows more than anybody else about rural art, accompanied us. I was glad to see New York State represented by a very charming roadside stand, and I could have spent hours enjoying the little carved scene of a round-up done by a cowboy.

It gave me a thrill to see what delightful pottery and glass and even jewelry we are making in different rural districts, and to see nothing of the real artistry shown in food, sewing and weaving.

It was a treat to find a number of young people wandering around. I have a feeling they will get an inspiration that will spur them to trying to express themselves in a variety of mediums. After all, these arts are our best defense against the machine age. If we must work with a machine eight hours a day, we may still have avocations which some of us may choose to turn into vocations.

Housing Project Now Occupied

At noon I spent a very interesting hour visiting a housing project which has been done by private capital in conjunction with the F.H.A. It is a delightful development just back of Ft. Meyer, and will soon be accessible to Washington. A part of it already is finished and 100 per cent occupied. It was built not for the lowest income group, but for an intermediate group. Many people in this group, with incomes ranging from \$1500 to \$3000 a year, can be found here.

I watched the playground for a minute and wondered if all the families with little children could not combine and find a trained person to supervise the children for at least a few hours during the day. It would be beneficial for the children and one more person would be employed.

A little shopping morning and afternoon, a few friends to eat with, a few hours to read some of the criticisms and letters which have come in on "This Is My Story." It is funny how, when you have finished a thing, you almost feel as though it didn't belong to you. I have a feeling I am reading about somebody else's book, but I suppose that is only because the work on it is over and there is other work to be done.

New Books Today

Public Library Presents

FRAXINET on the shores of the Mediterranean was at one time a hill town and a harbor, and above them both rose Haut Fraxinet, a mountain peak lonely in its beauty until the miracle occurred which made it a shrine for pilgrims from afar.

A. Tennyson Jesse tells in *ACT OF GOD* (Greystone Press) a whimsical story of how the Blessed Virgin appeared to Sylvestre and Simone, two children who were tending their sheep on the mountain top. The village Cure listened to their story, weighed it carefully and came to believe in the apparition as implicitly as did the children themselves. When Toby Erskine, a friend of the Cure's, found an explanation of the miracle he succeeded for only a short time in keeping secret his discovery. Shocked at first by the revelation, the kindly Cure found that his deep faith was not dependent on the authenticity of a miracle, and the reader, too, feels that the beauty of the story is not lost.

PERHAPS it is a little early for this story of a family famous in the annals of American finance. Has the author been able in *THE GUGGENHEIMS* (Covici-Friede) to attain the cool abstraction necessary to the writing of a biography when he must be conscious of the many prosperous third and fourth generation descendants of that Meyer Guggenheim, who, leaving Switzerland in 1847 to seek his fortunes in America left behind him "the hated heritage of six generations of oppression"?

On the whole, Harvey O'Connor has done his difficult task well. The early part of the book is especially interesting and especially well told. Here is the favorite American success story, the steady progress from peddler to wealthy merchant, from merchant to silver mines at Leadville, on to new mining ventures in Mexico, concessions in the Congo, and a vast fortune from Alaskan copper.

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ENGINEERED MURDER!



(Third of a Series)

By William Crabb

INDIANAPOLIS is lucky. Most large cities, in the process of development, lined their main thoroughfares with expensive factory buildings.

Those streets never can be widened to handle increased traffic. Other cities find themselves so completely blocked they only can lay their streets with extra levels in subways and elevateds.

This situation tends to handicap development of the "limited motorway," prescribed by Dr. Miller McClintock, Harvard, and Thomas MacDonald, U. S. Bureau of Public Roads chief, as solution to a national traffic problem which counts 37,000 dead each year.

Indianapolis' 11 intersecting state and national highways are more easily adaptable to the modern safety-engineering plans than those in many American cities.

How does the "limited highway" work?

The reckless, the drunk, the fatigued and the moronic who threaten the lives of 85 per cent of us daily are stopped from the head-on collisions and violent side-swipes by the 10 to 30 feet of intervening center island.

THOSE who ignore or fail to notice traffic lights, boulevards stop signs and such cannot ram us in the side, because they cross above or below us at the intersections.

Pedestrians who walk on the edges of highways (16,000 were killed last year), stray cattle, cars backing out of driveways, autos stopping for hot dogs or roadside marketing, or entering from side roads, are all out of the picture by the limited "across prevention."

Pedestrians, parked cars, stray cattle all become "fixed objects" like culverts, soft shoulders, telephone poles in the dynamics of marginal friction.

Elimination of this friction involves right-of-way from 150 to 500 feet wide in order to isolate the highway from abutting property and give the engineers room to keep all "fixed objects" off the shoulder and away from the curb.

First: Mr. Sheets says, the systems must include terminal facilities. In metropolitan centers,

there must be provided elevated or depressed limited ways to pick up traffic delivered at the edges of congested areas and from other thoroughfares within the areas themselves.

These traffic arteries must have adequate traffic and safe speed capacity, must have opposing traffic lanes separated, must be free from grade crossings either with railways or other highways, and must have suitable ramps for picking up and discharging traffic at strategic points.

SECOND, according to Mr. Sheets, transcontinental and sectional traffic will demand the development of limited mileage of super-highways, permitting high speed, safe travel between important population centers and between major sections of the United States.

These highways ultimately will provide from four to eight traffic lanes, each 12 feet wide, will have no grade crossings with railways or other highways, will eliminate all pedestrian and horse-drawn traffic, and will provide for egress and ingress of vehicular traffic at only fixed points several miles apart.

Speed will be limited only by the capacity of driver and vehicle. Trucks and slower moving vehicles will be segregated into special lanes. Opposing traffic lanes will be separated. Alignment, grade, slight distance and superelevation should be predicated on top speeds of 100 miles per hour. Free movement and discharge capacity should be encouraged rather than discouraged by arbitrary speed limitations and unwise po-

lating. These highways will avoid all cities and towns.

THIRD in importance in Mr. Sheets' "highway of tomorrow" are main trunk highways. Super-highways will be a larger system of main trunk highways. These will feed traffic into the main superhighways and will serve other intercity, interstate and international traffic.

Another requirement of the perfect highway system is installation of intermediate highways. Mr. Sheets says. These highways will include those which serve mainly the traffic between local communities but carry also some interstate and sectional traffic.

Researches have shown highway engineers the solution.

Meanwhile, the slaughter continues.

NEXT — What Part Does the Auto Play?

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NEXT — What Part Does the Auto Play?

Indiana Professor Analyzes Technique of Thievery

Times Special

BLOOMINGTON, Nov. 27.—"Never grieve on the way out"—meaning "Don't steal anything more on the way back from another theft"—is one of the business rules of the profession of thievery, according to the book "The Professional Thief," written by Dr. Edwin H. Sutherland, head of the Indiana University department of sociology.

Published this month by the University of Chicago Press, the new book on thievery is based on 10 years of professional thief of 20 years' experience made to Dr. Sutherland, who annotated and interpreted the material.

Chic Conwell, the professional thief with Dr. Sutherland interviewed seven hours a week for three months, was an attractive person, the author relates. "He could have passed readily as a lawyer, a banker, or merchant," Dr. Sutherland says.

Dr. Sutherland's book describes the life of his subject and explains the professional thief's way of life.

He discusses the "mob" or the group of thieves who work together in shoplifting, pocket picking and other illegal work; the various "rackets," the personal and social life of the thief.

IN a chapter on the personal life of the thief, Dr. Sutherland points out that the professional thief travels alongside of society, but separate from it. The thief is suspicious of, but does not hate, those

in legitimate jobs, which persons he calls "suckers."

The professional thief enjoys movies, night clubs, summers at the lakes and winters at the springs. He may have a wife, if so, she is generally loyal to him, both for business and sentimental reasons.

The thief avoids crowds when not "working" because it crowds him no good to be recognized.

That the professional thief is carefully schooled by his superiors before starting out on a life of crime is also pointed out by the book. Chic Conwell, for example, was from a well-to-do Philadelphia family and started in life as a theater usher. Married to a chorus girl, Chic left home, became an occasional user of drugs, and drifted into the underworld. He worked as a pickpocket, a shoplifter and confidence man in all the principal American cities and maintained his headquarters in Chicago.

DR. SUTHERLAND also relates

that a professional thief will help one of the same vocation to "beat the rap," regardless of his personal feelings for the arrested man.

Incidentally, Chic Conwell was sentenced to state or Federal prisons.

Conwell was for a period of about five years in his career and at the expiration of his last in 1933, this professional thief held legitimate jobs, one of which was telling his experiences to Dr. Sutherland.

ANSWER—The tension will no doubt ease up after the older brother goes to college and the younger brother has no rival left at home. It is very hard on a boy to have a pace-setter in his older brother who is held up to him as a model which he is expected to duplicate. Unless carefully handled the younger child will either lose his own individuality in the attempt to ape the older, or will try to differentiate himself by becoming the opposite.

I regard any school teacher as stupid who tries to prod a younger child to achievement by mentioning the virtues of any older child in the family.

I believe it is a mistake for the older boy to tutor his brother in this way. It is the duty of parents that they often place too much responsibility on the oldest child in the family, permitting him to teach and discipline the younger children, thereby arousing their jealousy of the parents' regard for the first-born. As a rule brothers and sisters are not so jealous of each other as children of the same sex, though there are exceptions, of course.

If you seek the co-operation of the boy's teachers

you must take care not to show favoritism yourself.

Your child will be very sensitive to any comparison between himself and his brother. You would be wise to place more responsibility on the younger boy and show more confidence in his ability to perform.

A hobby of his own, completely removed from his brother's interests, would help him.

In building up the ego of the younger boy you must be careful not to offend the big brother. Even a model child is not above jealousy of the parents.

It may be that you could get the older boy to co-operate with you by letting his brother like him even though he is inferior. This is treading on dangerous ground, but a great deal can be accomplished with children through love. If the big brother feels that he is only in a project, he will work hard to help you, whereas if his jealousy is aroused he would unconsciously try to defeat your aims.

JANE JORDAN.

Mother Warned Against Upholding Older Brother Against Younger.

DEAR MAMA JORDAN—I have three children in the family, two boys and a girl. The two boys are devoted to the girl but not to each other. The older boy is a model son, industrious, reliable and self-sufficient.

Next year he will enter college with the highest marks.

His brother who is three years younger has not done so well in school.

He is always at odds with his teachers and blames his bad marks on them.

I must say they have not been as friendly toward him as toward the older boy.

Even have rebuked him for not equaling his brother's record in school.

The big brother has tried in every

way to make the younger boy feel bad.

At the evening at home, at the younger boy feels no gratitude and we have many emotional scenes.

This quarreling between the boys is the only disharmony we have in our home and I would appreciate it if you have any suggestions which may help me correct it.

MOTHER.

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