

The Lake County Times
INCLUDING THE GARY EVENING TIMES EDITION, THE LAKE COUNTY
TIMES FOUR O'CLOCK EDITION, AND THE LAKE COUNTY
TIMES EDITION, ALL DAILY NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED
BY THE LAKE COUNTY PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY.

"Entered as second class matter June 28, 1904, at the postoffice at Hammond, Indiana, under the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879."

MAIN OFFICE—HAMMOND, IND., TELEPHONES, 111-112.
BRANCHES—GARY, EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA HARBOR, WHITING, CROWN
POINT, TOLLESTON AND LOWELL.

YEARLY \$2.00
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SINGLE COPIES ONE CENT

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THE TIMES will print all communications on subjects of general interest
to the people, when such communications are signed by the writer, but will
reject all communications not signed, no matter what their merits. This pro-
tection is taken to avoid misrepresentation.

THE TIMES is published in the best interest of the people, and its utterances
themselves intended to promote the general welfare of the public at large.

UNJUST TREATMENT OF INDIANA STEEL COMPANY.

The employers' liability is one of the most expensive things connected
with the operation of a great manufacturing concern. It is just and
right that a company should pay damages to its employees if through its
negligence they are injured and are deprived of their ability to earn a
livelihood.

But there are abuses of this most benevolent provision just as there
are abuses of every good thing. Surface traction companies in great municipali-
ties are often bled by those who are injured, or are able to persuade
a prejudiced jury that they have been injured, until the surplus and profits
are cut to nothing. This was true in the case of the consolidated traction
companies in New York city.

In Hammond there are people who will chuckle with glee whenever
the street car company is stuck for a \$5,000 judgment, regardless of the
merits of the case and little realizing that in order to pay that \$5,000 it
will be necessary to take in 100,000 nickels and carry that many passengers.

Even though street cars are popularly supposed to be owned by men
with dollar marks on their clothes they have got to pay dividends and
when the company gets a set back in the way of a \$5,000 judgment it means
that the new cars we have been wanting so long will be delayed just that
much longer and we, the public, are chuckling over our own loss.

In Gary the United States Steel company has built a model plant, it
is not only constructed so that the process of steel will be the most simple
and the cheapest but the United States Steel company has tried to install
safety and injury preventing devices that will reduce the amount it is
compelled to pay out every year for personal injuries.

It has discovered that it is just as necessary to save that by-product
called "life and limb" as it is to make producer gas run its own electric
motors. Consequently every device that will minimize the slaughter of in-
nocents is being used. Gary may be proud of its new steel plant for this
reason.

But even the United States Steel company wants some recognition of
its efforts along this line. Realizing that no matter how many safety devices
may be installed there will be some men killed and injured, for neither
steel nor man are infallible, it now plans the erection of the most magni-
ficent industrial hospital that has ever been built by a corporation. This is
further evidence of the fact that steel magnates do have hearts and that
they beat for even "hunkies" in their employ.

After going this length to provide safe employment for their men and
then establishing a complete and sanitary hospital for those who are in-
jured, in spite of all precautions, it is disappointing to have newspaper
stories purely imaginary and greatly exaggerated, circulated about terrible
accidents and new plants. It hurts the pardonable pride of the men who
have been doing so much to end the loss of life and limb. Stories of actual

accidents are legitimate news but the Indiana Steel company should not be
blamed for imaginary horrors which it is striving so hard to prevent.

ANENT THE GOMPERS DECISION.

That the sentencing of Gompers and his allied union labor officials
to jail for contempt of court in violating Buck's injunction is received with
gravity by the press is quite plain to be seen, for among all the Chicago
papers this morning not one treats of the affair editorially. There can be
no question of the tenor of Justice Wright's decision, nor of the importance
of the issues involved as well as their complexity. The rights of man, the
rights of labor, of employers, of the courts are brought face to face. The
issues were discussed during the late campaign and Mr. Gompers and his
visit to Lake county have not been forgotten by many people. The decision
presages a never-to-be-forgotten conflict between capital and labor. But it
is early yet. The sentenced men have the benefit of another appeal. They
may not have to go to jail. We shall see what we shall see.

MR. JOHNSON AND HIS NERVE.

The consummate nerve possessed by some people who are wont to employ
it in a reprehensible way would make them millionaires in no time if they
chose to use it in the right way. A case at Whiting yesterday illustrates
this. Officers of the B. & O. railroad company found smoke issuing from
a car in the yards there and upon an investigation found that Peter Johnson,
an East Chicago man, had obtained some wood, taken it inside a freight
car, built a fire therein and was calmly smoking his pipe and toasting his
chilled shins. Mr. Johnson had, only just been released from the county
jail at Crown Point and was taken back there to pass the glad Christmas
tide where he will be kept warm without endangering any property belong-
ing to the B. & O. railroad company.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

In accordance with its usual custom the TIMES will not print its usual
editions on Christmas Day and will afford its employees a chance to observe
the day as they see fit. To all of its readers over Lake county the TIMES
extends the compliments of the season and wishes them all a very Merry
Christmas with all the joy that the Yuletide is supposed to bring.

THERE IS BUT ONE thing lacking and that is a plentiful supply of the
beautiful. No one wants to see a green Christmas but the members of the
medical fraternity and it would be much more charitable to give them the
benefit of the doubt and say that they don't want sickness at this season
of the year.

IT IS NO USE crying peace when there is no peace. Col. Bryan says
the war is not yet over. This disposes of the rumor that the Peerless Loser
was about to change the name of his paper to the *Kimona* and make it a
Lincoln society organ.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

Dec. 24.

1737—Silas Deane, a special ambassador sent to France in 1776 to seek aid for the American cause, born in Groton, Conn. Died in England, 1789.
1800—Attempt to assassinate Napoleon Bonaparte.
1809—"Kit" Carson, noted scout and pioneer, born in Madison county, Ky. Died at Fort Lyon, Colo., May 23, 1868.

1811—The "New Orleans," the first steamboat built in western waters, started from Pittsburgh for New Orleans.
1814—Treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain signed at Ghent.
1854—Two United States ships seized at Havana for conveying arms and

**Heart to Heart
Talks.**

By EDWIN A. NYE.

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ONE WOMAN'S EXTRAVAGANCE.

Mrs. Howard Gould spent \$224,000 for "pin money" in one year.

This fact was revealed in the divorce suit brought by her husband. She spent this tremendous sum for dresses, knickknacks, entertaining, etc.

Moreover—Mrs. Gould, while making no denial of the fact that she had expended the vast sum on her personal wants, contended through her counsel that Mr. Gould had tried to starve her out of Gould castle.

Two hundred and twenty-four thousand dollars!

Note a few figures:

The starvation allowance made by Mr. Gould would feed 100,000 starving poor for several whole days.

If this sum of \$224,000 were in silver dollars it would require 140 husky men to carry it if each man carried 100 pounds.

That many silver dollars would weight seven tons, a fair load for six horses to pull.

According to the census, the average price of a farm in this country at \$4,000. Mrs. Gould's yearly allowance would buy fifty-six such farms.

Put it in the shape of dresses. The average woman would consider \$30 the maximum price for a dress. Mrs. Gould's annual expenditure would purchase dresses for 7,460 women.

"Well," you say, "the money belonged to Mrs. Gould. Did she not have the right to scatter it according to her personal fancy?"

Legally, yes.
Morally, no.

Every dollar of that money, in the last analysis, represents somebody's toll and sweat, somebody's short dinners and pinching economies. It is part of the capital of society, the aggregated savings of millions.

Has this woman the right morally to spend \$224,000 on her petticoats while 15,000 school children in Chicago go supperless to bed?

The spectacle of such wanton extravagance in the face of so much want and woe breeds not only envy but hatred of the very rich.

seditions proclamations.

1864—Wilmington, N. C., bombarded by the Union fleet.

1873—Johns Hopkins, founder of Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, died. Born May 19, 1795.

1893—Unsuccessful train robbery on the Southern Pacific, near Burbank, Cal.

THIS IS MY 52ND BIRTHDAY.

Manuel Estrada Cabrera.

Manuel Estrada Cabrera, president of the republic of Guatemala, was born Dec. 24, 1856, and acceded to the rulership in 1898. His election followed the assassination of President Barrios. Cabrera was the first president of the republic taken from civil life since 1839, those intervening having been military chiefs. Cabrera was a thorough Spaniard and an advanced liberal. Though he has held office considerably longer than the average term enjoyed by his predecessors, his rule has been marked with many troubles. In 1890 an undue issue of paper money caused much dissatisfaction among the people and the result was that several unsuccessful attempts were made on the life of President Cabrera.

Some one wants to know the meaning of "Pawky Chiel," used in THE TIMES in the Carnegie story. It is Scotch for "wize gauzoo."

Dec. 25.

1635—Samuel de Champlain, explorer, died in Quebec. Born in France in 1567.

1774—British tea ship forbidden to land at Philadelphia.

1776—Americans defeated the British at Trenton, N. J.

1779—The city of Nashville, Tenn., founded.

1826—Rear Admiral Francis M. Biddle, U. S. N. born in Hartford, Conn. Died there, Oct. 19, 1901.

1868—President Johnson issued universal amnesty proclamation.

1890—China Navigation company's liner Shanghai burned near Ching Kiang, with loss of 300 lives.

1898—Great Britain inaugurated imperial penny postage.

THIS IS MY 52ND BIRTHDAY.

George I of Greece.

George I, king of Greece, was born Dec. 25, 1845, the second son of the late king of Denmark, Christian IX. When the Greeks finally succeeded in throwing off the Turkish domination and looked about for a ruler they called Prince George of Denmark to accept the newly-created throne of Greece. He was chosen king in March, 1863, and was crowned in November of the same year. In 1867 King George married the Grand Duchess Olga, daughter of the Russian Grand Duke Constantine.

The rule of King George has been a successful one and no sovereign in Europe enjoys a greater degree of popularity with his subjects. King George has six children. The eldest son and heir to the throne is the Duke of Sparta, who has just passed his 40th year. King George is a keen man of business and is reputed to be very wealthy, though his civil list is far below that of many other rulers in Europe.

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**RANDOM
THINGS AND FLINGS**

A Merry Christmas.

And one good thing about it is, that you won't have to read the early Christmas shopping warning for another twelve months.

If you take the part of Santa Claus, be sure and wear the asbestos chin-chillas.

A man

May never fathom

The mind of a woman

But it is possible

To give a close

Guess

If you see her looking into a

Window at some

Hats.

Philadelphia couple just wed will part six months to test their affection. Well, six months is a long time. Like to see the betting on the event.

It is said but true that the average man's train of thought never set fire to anything.

The funny thing about Carnegie is that he thinks nobody but he understands figures for he says: "Figures befuddle people."

LOTS OF PEOPLE IMAGINE THEY ARE GENIUSES UNTIL THEY BEGIN SENDING THINGS TO THE PAPERS. THEN THE SCALES FALL FROM THEIR EYES.

However, it will be hard for the new Gary to have the beautiful press agents that our own Gary has.

And don't forget the poor families and the homeless dogs and cats if you have too much for your own.

Men call women dainty creatures, but we notice that they

let them was the dishes just the same.

The cabinet makers seem to have no trouble whatever in turning out good pieces of furniture, and it may be hard for Mr. Taft to pick.

Of course,

It is much more

Blessed to give than to receive,

But it's far less

Expensive

The

Other way around.

Read the "Christmas Carol" to the children and don't forget to take its message to your own heart.

Nothing is gained by being glib. Many a man has laughed and ha-had his way into success.

It's all right to pity the poor at this peace-on-earth season, but it is also well to remember that sympathy doesn't fill an empty stomach.

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