

SOUTH BEND NEWS-TIMES

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SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, SEPTEMBER 6, 1915.

MAKING SUBMARINES SAFE.

The raising of the American submarine F-4 at Honolulu has served as a powerful reminder of the defects of the old submarines, and especially of the old type of submarine batteries.

Hitherto all our submarines, and apparently all foreign submarines, too, have depended on lead batteries for power when submerged.

Naval officers put the problem up to Mr. Edison four years ago, and asked him to devise an efficient and perfectly safe battery for submarines.

The nickel battery is being installed in the new submarine L-3, the largest one yet designed for our navy.

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LABOR'S OPPORTUNITY.

American labor today seems more fortunate than ever before in its history.

On this Labor Day it is impossible not to think of Europe, where nearly every able bodied man is in the field, or in a grave, or in a hospital or concentration camp.

Even in peaceful countries the world over, except the United States, there is industrial depression and poverty.

We have been blessed with bountiful crops, and the war itself has begun to contribute powerfully to our prosperity.

Labor at last is at a premium. The workmen have suddenly and rather unexpectedly come into their own.

Such a profitable partnership meets public approval and augurs well for the future of American labor—provided labor leaders are wise and don't press their demands to an unreasonable extreme.

prosperity may place American labor

permanently on a new, higher plane of comfort, influence and dignity.

FOURTH IN FOREIGN SHIPPING.

It is pleasant to learn that the American flag really is making its way on the seas again.

Unfortunately, however, this growth is restricted almost entirely to the European traffic.

We are losing instead of gaining in the Asiatic routes. It is feared, too, that the present rate of growth will prove merely temporary.

When the war ends, this stimulus will fall us. Moreover, Germany, regaining access to the seas, will resume her place ahead of us in tonnage.

MUNICIPAL BAT ROOSTS. San Antonio, Texas, boasts of a novel remedy for mosquitoes.

The theory was that, since bats eat mosquitoes, if you encourage the multiplication of bat colonies the problem will solve itself.

Each bat, says Dr. Campbell, will eat about 250 mosquitoes a night.

A GREAT LAKES NAVY. The Chicago Yacht club has a brilliant plan for the establishment of a great naval reserve.

It is nothing less than the organization of all the power boats on the Great Lakes to serve as a reserve scouting fleet.

It sounds very well until one looks up the Canadian treaty whose centenary was celebrated recently.

CHICAGO TONGUE. You might as well trim your tongue as get ready for it.

as A. Knott, language instructor in the university of Chicago, that the Windy City is to set the future standard of American speech.

At present, says Prof. Knott, we have several distinct dialects—the New England, the New York, the southern, the middle western and the western—but we have no generally accepted standard of spoken English.

"There is a tendency," he says, "in the middle west, particularly in Chicago, where men of all dialects are coming together, to form a composite dialect throughout this section.

It will not be a system of speech imposed by any class of superior culture. Much of the language of the farm, the slum and the workshop "will become a part of the dialect of the higher classes."

It seems natural enough that the final merging of dialects should take place in and around Chicago, where east, west, north and south come together, and the melting pot of races is always bubbling.

PLENTY OF FOOD.

Nature seems to have played a good-natured joke on the human race, if the latest wheat estimates are to be credited.

Last year it was taken for granted that there would be scarcity of wheat this year. Everybody figured that with so much of the wheat growing region of Europe ravaged by war, the output would be greatly diminished.

According to London estimates, only one country, France, has less wheat than it had last year.

The world's total wheat crop is estimated at 518,500,000 quarters (a quarter is 8 bushels), against 456,500,000 in 1914.

CAN'T STRADDLE ALWAYS. A prominent Japanese statesman is quoted as saying: "Japan feels that she performed her part in the European war when she ejected Germany from the Orient and Japan feels that the war nearby is a closed incident as far as she is concerned."

This is exactly the middle ground of compromise that the subtle Jap likes to tread on all occasions.

Our national debt is only two-thirds of one per cent of our national wealth, and only \$11 per capita.

That Monterey editor who says that Mexico will seize Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Oklahoma and Mississippi has got us scooped but we are glad he left out Indiana.

Now that Brigham Young's last remaining widow has died, the era of Mormon polygamy may be regarded as definitely ended.

THE MELTING POT COME! TAKE POTLUCK WITH US.

THE PITTIFUL BLEAT.

"My hubby broke his promise! She wanted and snivelled. Hully Gee! You have my sympathy poor girl For that same boomerang hit me. Tho I didn't seek a lawyer To break we twain in half. Nor pull my rope and better Like a weaning yearling calf. I'd had a sneaking notion That 'twould happen don't you know When I threw my lasso round him And took the beast in tow. Of course he'd break it dearie! They simply can't be true And only make a prom' e For joy of smashing it in two. Our hubbies as a specie Are—or think themselves—right clever Their morals work both ways And with a well-oiled lever. They'll sing "Oh I'll be true to thee," And all that silly droll And oh how glad they are to think They've charmed another fool. But wouldn't they hit the alleys And all the byways too, If stranger eyes could see them In the light we fool wives do. F. L. T.

WE passed our week end installment of vacation at Diamond Lake, partaking copiously of the scenery from the vantage point of a spacious verandah at Sandy Beach, symptomatically furnished with easy chairs, porch swings, pillows and an occasional tinkling pitcher of strictly option liquid.

THERE are those, we are aware, who view with something akin to contempt the week end installment vacation, but having tried other kinds with less than more satisfaction we are strong for it.

IN the first instance you sleep in your own bed and eat at your own table most of the time, and that is a consideration which makes vacations of any kind almost negligible.

Ethics of Motoring.

Is it a wonder that so many get hurt thru riding autos? In the first place many use very little sense or judgment in driving their cars, but just because it is an automobile think they can and must and do, too, run like the very— Well, I came pretty near saying it and there comes the report someone hurt or killed. What would anyone or the people at large say and think of you or me or anyone else if you got a new car and drove the team as fast as they could run from Honey Lake to Burr Oak or to any other civilized town. They would say no sense, why, the officers would lock you up, the humane society would bring you up before Mr. J. P. and how long would your rig last. And not alone that, sympathy they may ever have felt for swoonheads or swoonhearting. The rule that all the world loves a lover finds its exception in them. tect themselves, they propose to patrol the parks and put a stop to the business of cupid—that is, they will if the chief of police will let them. But this monumental specimen of human perversity blithely responds to their well meaning offer with these outrageous sentiments: "I did my share of spooning when I was young, and I'm not so old yet. No couple on earth ever went through their courtship without 'spooning,' and I can't see that it makes any difference whether it's done in the park in plain sight of a few busy-bodies or in the house behind closed doors or drawn curtains. None of my policemen shall ever be given orders to stop 'spooning.'" Ladies, why not try the recall on this official for nonfeasance, and let the people vote on it. If this fails there is still recourse to an amendment to the federal constitution, and if this proves futile there remains the last resort of amending the human constitution.

C. N. F.

What The Papers Say

CONVERSATIONS IN FICTION

An English editor complains that characters in novels do not talk like actors in real life, and he holds up Meredith as a conspicuous offender in this matter. But we are inclined to think of it as a great deal better than characters in real life, we ought to rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is our reward. Some of the conversations in more than one Howells novel bore most of us, for they are altogether too much like the real thing to be agreeable.

We have heard that Meredith talked quite as well as any of the characters in his fiction, and we remember hearing once, as a reply to a critic who had said that nobody on earth ever talked like Oscar Wilde's characters, that he was mistaken, for Wilde himself talked in the drawing rooms of London and Dublin. Probably Mr. Howells is far more entertained in his conversation than some of his characters are in theirs. It has been said, in praise or disparage of Henry James, that his talk is very much like his writing.

Realism in fiction has much to comment it, for we want real characters, and not imaginary ones. As a rule, but we ought not to object to the way that these characters express themselves well. Sydney Smith shocked his hostess one time by telling her that Daniel Webster, whom he had met at her table, was a humbug. Pressed for his reason, he replied that no man could possibly be as great as Daniel Webster looked. But Webster was and there have been conversationalists who spoke quite as well as any character in fiction.

Some people have perfect genius for finding fault at the wrong time and over the wrong thing. Now, if one heard a critic finding fault over the poor quality of conversation in many an American novel, one might approve the criticism heartily. But one ought not to approve the criticism of fictional conversation on the ground that it is too good, for there are one too many things in this world which are really too good. One thinks of Euripides, not on the ground that they are too good, but because when analyzed, they are found to be less good than they try to make people think they are. Their "goodness," in the end, turns out to be either squeamishness of cowardice or hypocrisy. But for real goodness, whether in conversation or in life, there ought to be hearty praise, and nothing but hearty praise.

THE SPOONING ISSUE IN OKLAHOMA.

From St. Louis Post Dispatch. Romance in Muskogee is threatened with club women armed with night sticks. Of course, nobody would think of attempting to "spoon"—as they call it—with these mature and formidable beings whose natures have evidently outgrown whatever

anyone on the highway would be in danger. Just so with the average car driver and for land sakes keep in the road—that is what it's for. When any car goes out of the track, unless to pass others, they do it at their own risk and the drivers should duly consider that anyone and everyone's lives are in much danger ever minute when going beyond any common sense. One man is not everybody because he owns a car.

OUR August death record was the lowest for years, but there were thousands who would have wished to die had they thought August weather was to be continued.

THE movement to put corset dealers under civil service meets our approval. The act of fitting a corset itself should be a civil service.

WE can understand. (Cor. Ft. Wayne Journal-Gazette.) The visitors took along baskets of eatables and the resulting combination was thirty-two different articles of food and drink and when all had eaten there remained of the fragments enough for another party and still some left. Seldom are more happy hours crowded into one day. It was, in short, a day without a flaw.

THE colonel's recent silence is painful if not ominous.

RECENT events should be a warning to men contemplating divorce to check out their bank balances. Unfeeling courts have a habit of laying an enjoining hand on balances.

His Name Won Her. (Chicago Tribune.) Among those who were most struck thereby was old Mrs. Grey, wife of President Grey, who, prior to marrying him, had been his cook.

S. F. D. asks if Old Hos will be found among the entries in the work horse parade. We think not. Our idea is that our occasional contributor is in the high school saddle class.

WE see the chickens are to have a regular department at the fair.

OLD D. M. S., touring Canada, offers this from the Toronto Globe as an example of what our neighbors laugh at:

A visitor to Toronto yesterday had a spare hour before train time, so went up to the Exhibition grounds to look around. Having heard many favorable comments about the interesting war exhibit, he accosted an exceedingly tall and correspondingly dignified "bobby" with the question, "Can you tell me please, where the munitions are?" With a perplexed look, he replied, "Munitions? Munitions? Is them musical instruments?"

Back to your Palm Beach, If but for a day, But don't lay your flannels Too far away.

C. N. F.

Advertisement for Electricity—the QUALITY LIGHT. Includes text: "Use Electricity—the QUALITY LIGHT. When you have your house wired for electric light, you solve one of the great problems of housekeeping. Just pressing a button floods any or all rooms with the best artificial light that's known. You bring within your home power for an electric flat iron, washing machine, sewing machine, vacuum cleaner and many other devices too numerous to mention. Just think this over and see if you can in justice to yourself be without electric service in your home. We are wiring all ready built houses and furnishing fixtures suitable for any home at a price that will surprise you, and twelve months in which to pay. Indiana & Michigan Electric Company 220-222 West Colfax Ave. Bell 462. Home 5462."

Advertisement for Commence Fall Sewing. Includes text: "The New Fall Styles with their touch of quaintness from 1880 are faithfully reproduced by McCALL PATTERNS. The Fall Fashions show more simple lines, which makes it easier than ever before to construct a dress from patterns—see the new McCall Book of Fashions Now on Sale. It is filled with new ideas and beautiful illustrations. Smart Fall Model McCall Pattern 6751-6757. We are showing many other new and attractive October designs. Latest Fall Style McCall Pattern 6719. One of the many new October designs. Geo. Wyman & Co. South Bend, Indiana."

Advertisement for Indianapolis and Lake Erie & Western R. R. Includes text: "\$2.00 Indianapolis and \$2.00 Return via LAKE ERIE & WESTERN R. R. Every Sunday during September. Full particulars at City Ticket Office—Oliver Hotel. NEW YORK CENTRAL LINES."

Advertisement for Union Dental Co. Includes text: "ITS IN THE SUCTION EVERSTICK SUCTION NO PAIN \$4. We have been in South Bend 13 years—Don't pay any more; we guarantee our work as good as our prices as you can get anywhere at any price. GOLD CROWNS \$3.00 WHITE CROWNS \$3.00 BRIDGE WORK \$3.00 GOOD SET TEETH 50c UNION DENTAL CO. 113 South Michigan Street, Over May's Jewelry Store."