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W. Worthington of Plainview,
 who was here the latter part of
 last week prospecting, left for
 his home Friday. Mr. Worthing-
 ton told us that he expected to
 move here as soon as possible.

Uncounted Blessings
 There are many failures to
 criticize and many wrongs to
 redress in any form or scheme
 of organized society that has
 been put to the tests up to the
 present time. Aside from two
 chief dangers, (1) of giving to
 officialism too much power, thus
 inviting tyranny and slavery for
 the people, or (2) leaving indi-
 vidual ignorance and selfishness
 unrestrained to rush on from
 rapacity to anarchy, there are
 many other of the old problems
 which have never been solved,
 not to mention new and more
 complicated difficulties that are
 coming up every year as the nat-
 ural results of the progress of
 civilization. It is certainly one's
 duty to join in the condemnation
 of failures and wrongs, and in
 the contention for continuous
 progress and improvement.
 That is one thing we are here
 for.

While this is true, it would be
 desperately foolish and disas-
 trous to permit the difficulties
 and failures we encounter now
 and then to discourage us or to
 move us to cast aside lightly the
 benefits, the helps and the pro-
 tection which we as a free and
 progressive people now enjoy.
 The very fact that the word
 "treason" has lost the belhsh
 meaning which tyranny gave to
 it, that the citizen of this age is
 free to expose and to condemn
 wrong, in even the highest and
 mightiest ruler in the land, is
 enough of itself to mark encour-
 aging progress and to put every
 intelligent citizen on his guard
 against the abuse of a great and
 precious privilege, and to lead
 him to qualify and to modify his
 complaints at the least by an oc-
 casional reference to evidences
 of a wonderful progress.

Thousands of Americans who
 are now ready to condemn Sec-
 retary Ballinger for his failure
 to stretch the law in the interest
 of the conservation policy are
 men who, only a few years back
 completed the denudation of
 their own beautiful inheritances,
 in the good old States east of
 the Mississippi River, and whose
 migration was denoted by the
 crash of falling timber and the
 roar of forest fires as they came
 west. The grand army of re-
 formers who sometimes go to
 extremes in their criticism and
 condemnation of the courts of
 the country because of their de-
 lays and failures, made up largely
 of men who would not dream
 of serving as jurors in the most
 trying cases or as informers
 against criminals, overlook the
 fact that they and their families
 have lived all along in peace,
 comfort and safety under the
 sort of protection to life and
 property which our free institu-
 tions provide. Multitudes of
 Americans load the trains and
 boats to join other multitudes in
 the enjoyment of sporting events
 which cost them millions in a
 single day, and, apparently for-
 getting their extravagant indul-
 gence, including their auto-
 mobiles, they return to their
 homes preaching rapid sermons
 about the insupportable increase
 in the cost of living. Men en-
 gaged in manufacturing, in com-
 merce or in agriculture, and who
 accept eagerly every dollar or
 cent they can get for their pro-
 ducts or service, gather to con-
 demn other men for doing like-
 wise, following up their condem-
 nation with many of the highly
 extravagant and discouraging
 presentations to the political and
 legislative bodies of the country.

The inconsistency and injus-
 tice of it all are sometimes about
 as discouraging as the wrongs
 and evils that really need to be
 corrected, but the most impor-
 tant phase of the whole matter is
 found in the failure of many of
 the people to appreciate the sub-
 stantial benefits and blessings
 which have been brought home
 to them while devoting most, if
 not all, their time to the failures

and wrongs, imaginary as well
 as real.
 There are failures to criticize
 and wrongs to condemn, and
 little progress can be made if
 costly evils are ignored or excus-
 ed; but that is not all. The
 progress of the race, especially
 during modern times, has been
 like unto a succession of miracles
 along political as well as along
 industrial and educational lines.
 We are condemning today scores
 of evils that were not recognized
 as such half a century ago. We
 are enjoying benefits of which
 even our fathers never dreamed.
 It is neither wise nor safe to de-
 vote too much of our time to the
 failures we have made, or even
 to the evils which remain to be
 corrected. Some attention need
 to be paid to the brighter picture
 and to the uncounted blessings
 which lie at our feet.—Dallas
 News.

Railway Accidents
 From the New York Times:
 The railways in the United
 States which do not kill passen-
 gers are longer than all the rail-
 ways of Europe. This is a literal
 statement of fact. In three
 years, 1906-7-8, 316 companies
 operating 124,020 miles of road,
 did not kill a single passenger.
 The passenger mileage of these
 roads surpassed by a billion the
 mileage of the roads in England
 which boasted of a like clean
 record. In fact, the length of
 these railways in the United
 States exceeded that of all the
 railways in England, France,
 Germany, Austria, Hungary and
 Italy combined. The freight
 trains over railways are a con-
 tributory cause of accidents, and
 the freight ton mileage of the
 American railways with a score
 clean of all fatality for three
 years together exceeds that of
 the countries of Europe named
 above, with Japan, Argentina
 and Australia thrown in.

The figures for 1909 are in-
 complete, but the bureau of rail-
 way news, of Chicago, has
 received returns enabling it to
 state that 340 roads, operating
 over 153,000 miles of railway,
 have kept their score clean. Ten
 other companies operating 22,000
 miles of British railway seems
 not very extraordinary when
 compared with the deaths of
 only ten passengers upon a mile-
 age exceeding all Europe com-
 bined.
 It is a pity that this fine record
 extending through several years,
 began to be blemished in the
 closing months of 1909. All the
 artificial aids to safety were
 certainly better than in the pe-
 riod for which the score was
 clean. The suggestion has been
 made that deterioration of dis-
 cipline through trades union
 activity is a cause of the growing
 fatality.

Everett Purchases Farm
 S. B. Everett was in our office
 Friday and informed us that he
 had traded for 160 acres of fine
 land 9 miles northeast of town,
 near the Altus, Lubbock and Ros-
 well, Ry. Mr. Everett will move
 out to his new purchase in a few
 days, or as soon as he can get a
 house built for his family to oc-
 cupy. He will cultivate 100 acres
 of this land this year and will no
 doubt make good on the deal.
 Mr. Everett traded his place con-
 sisting of fifty acres of ground
 and a dwelling house, in the can-
 yon. The price for his old place
 being \$65 per acre, or a \$1000
 on the original purchase.

Pecos Valley Deal
 San Angelo, Texas, Jan. 26.—
 H. F. Mayse today sold
 to Jeff and Walter Smith
 thirty-seven sections of the best
 grazing land in the Pecos valley
 for \$5 per acre, or \$118,400. In
 addition to this considerable
 stock was sold, but the consid-
 eration was made public. This land
 has been used as a ranch by Mr.
 Mayse.

Quite a crowd of Lubbock's
 young people attended a hall at
 Post City Friday night.

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