

THE BRIDGEPORT TIMES

And Evening Farmer

(FOUNDED 1790.)

FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES

Bryant, Griffith & Brunson, New York, Boston and Chicago

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHONE BUSINESS OFFICE Barnum 1208

PHONE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT Barnum 1287

Published by The Times Publishing Co., 179 Fairfield Ave., Bridgeport, Conn.
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MONDAY, JUNE 13, 1921

A NEW SORT OF SIGN

A PHOTOGRAPH from Seattle, Washington, shows a bad turn of the road and a sign which reads, **TWELVE YEAR OLD BOY KILLED BY AUTO HERE, March 28, 1921.**

DR. W. H. CORSON, CORONER.

It might be well if similar signs were placed where fatal accidents had occurred or were most likely to occur again unless care was exercised.

While to come suddenly upon such a sign on a pleasure ride would probably give a disagreeable impression. It might do something to stop the altogether too large total of automobile fatalities and it is evident from the large numbers of these that the ordinary sign is not effective or at least not effective enough.

AUTO TRUCKING

THERE ARE five main methods of transportation in the United States today—Steam, electric, inland water ways, motor vehicles and horses. Of these the newest, and most remarkable in its rapid and phenomenal growth, is motor vehicle transportation. It has become one of the greatest aids to commerce that we have. Last year motor trucks hauled over a billion tons of freight in this country. This stupendous amount lacks but a little of being one-half as great as that carried by the railroads in the same twelve months. It does not necessarily follow, however, that this was on competitive tonnage for a great part of the goods hauled by the trucks were also hauled by the railroad and vice-versa. Neither of them could have handled such a volume of business had it not been for the co-operation of the other. In fact each one of the five methods is particularly adapted to certain kind of transportation and each should be allowed to do, unrestricted, that haulage for which it is best fitted to serve the public.

The great increase of good roads all over the country in the last few years is due primarily to the development of the automobile vehicle. It has brought the better highways to us and contributed largely to their maintenance as well.

In spite of this there is a tendency in some quarters to place heavy taxes on automobile trucks on the plea that they are damaging the highways. If this is not done with reason and sound judgment there is a grave danger that it will be a case of killing the goose which lays the golden egg.

Motor trucking today is in a large measure interstate. There is an unfortunate amount of difference between the traffic laws in various states and with no uniform or central regulation, motor operators seldom know whether or not they are breaking laws until they are held for some infraction. Indeed it is said that in many states laws are so unreasonable that every one is automatically infringing on the regulations.

There should be, and eventually must be, uniform traffic laws for the whole country based on sound common sense allowing, not only the highways, a reasonable amount of protection but which at the same time will not in any way interfere with the proper development of transportation by automobile trucks.

ADDING TO A BIG LOAD

AMONG other things which the late Agricultural Legislature did was to pass an act imposing a tax of five per cent on amusements. This bill is now before the Governor awaiting his signature.

A five per cent tax, of itself, is not a very heavy one but the fact is that amusements already have to pay a Federal tax of ten per cent. In addition they have to pay city taxes, state taxes, a city license tax, a Federal license tax, a special tax on films of four dollars per thousand feet, corporation taxes and income tax. Place on top of all this list a five per cent tax, and it at once becomes a very different matter.

Of course it is obvious that if the Governor signs this bill the five per cent will at once show itself in the price of admission tickets and this too at a time when the amusement business is faced with an unusual period of depression. Amusement proprietors claim that it would place a real hardship on their business and cause them to advance rates at a time when prices on other things are going down, even if very slowly. It would seem that amusement proprietors are justified in asking the Governor to carefully consider their figures and statements before he signs the bill.

INCREASING DIVORCE

TIME WAS in the United States when divorces were at least, nine day wonders and attempts to obtain them were only made under the most unusual circumstances. Such an affair in a person's past was a thing to be mentioned under the breath.

It is so no longer. There are said to be six counties in the United States that have more divorces than marriages, these are Pawnee, Oklahoma; Washoe, Nevada; Trinity, California; Rutherford, Tennessee; Union, Oregon; and Clackamas, Oregon.

We look upon the Oriental as an inferior race and restrict immigration from Japan and consider the Japanese subject unfit to become a citizen of our nation, but as a matter of fact Japan had a lower divorce rate in proportion to population in 1916 than twenty-two American states. The average divorce rate for the whole United States is one hundred and forty-one to each one hundred thousand population. Twenty-five states exceed the average headed by Nevada with a ratio of six hundred and fifty-two to each one hundred thousand population. There is but one state, South Carolina, which does not allow a divorce for any cause. Connecticut stands twenty-seventh in the list with a ratio of one hundred and thirty divorces to each one hundred thousand population.

Divorces have become so common that in Nevada, according to the census, the ratio of divorces to marriages runs from the record of Nevada which is one divorce to each one and fifty-four one hundredth marriages to that of the District of

Columbia which is one divorce to every ninety-one and thirty-four one hundredth marriages. In this record Connecticut stands forty-first with a ratio of one divorce to every fifteen and sixty-seven one hundredth marriages.

So easily has it been made by the laws of many states to obtain divorces for what in many cases are but trivial reasons and so rapidly has the aggregate number of divorces increased that in many instances we have what practically amounts to experimental marriages.

If divorces continue to increase as rapidly in the next few years as they have been doing we shall very soon as a nation be faced with the pertinent question, "Is the marriage institution worth saving?"

What Others Say

LITTLE DREAMS

(By Phyllis Coate)

A young girl's eyes are tender things
Where, fluttering with gentle wings,
Small dreams fly in and out.
She can not keep the wee things still;
They tremble in her eyes and thrill,
And hover round about.

Sometimes a mother's eyes are tired,
And sometimes calm and love-inspired,
And always clear and deep.
But dream-things of a young girl's kind
In mother's eyes are hard to find;
Their wee dreams seem to sleep.

The dearest mother that I know
Explained it all to me, and so
I'll pass along the cue,
She said, "The dreams that I once prized
Have since then all been realized—
My little dreams were you!"
—June Good Housekeeping.

WHAT TO DO WITH THE

FOURTH OF JULY

Mrs. Thomas G. Winter, President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, has made an appeal to the members of the Federation to uphold its effort to secure a nation-wide observance of a citizenship day. In her letter, which appears in June Good Housekeeping, Mrs. Winter says:

"I am appealing to you today to give your active and enthusiastic cooperation to a plan of our Department of American Citizenship—a plan definite, concrete, deeply appealing and capable of being made a tremendous agency for creating the spirit of American Citizenship, which is a far greater thing than the American Voter or the American Politician."

"In every little town and hamlet, in every big city, let the club women of this Federation start a movement to make the Fourth of July Citizenship Day."

"No matter what other celebrations are listed, let a part of that day that commemorates the time when American Citizenship became an actuality in the world, be given to a noble welcome extended by the whole community to the boys and girls who have come of age during the year and to the foreign-born who have become citizens. Both these groups should be included and recognized at the same time, thus intensifying in the minds of both the spiritual significance of the occasion. There should be a procession; there should be music for young feet to march by; there should be wise words uttered on the meaning of citizenship in this greatest of all democracies; there should be a proud welcome given by dignitaries of the community in the presence of massed crowds of relatives; and the generation a little older, the young men who have fought for the land, should be there to point the onward hand to the newer Americans."

SIMS AND HARVEY

(From the New York World)

The hysterical excitement of the Harding Administration over the indiscretions of Rear Admiral Sims' London speech is in striking contrast with its cynical indifference to the far more glaring indiscretions of Ambassador Harvey's London speech.

When Mr. Harvey insulted all the American people in the name of the President there was not a word of official disapproval. Not a Republican Senator made a protest. No hint of disavowal came from the White House or the State Department. On the contrary, the correspondents were told in effect that the Harvey speech was wholly acceptable to the Administration.

What a difference when Rear Admiral Sims attacks a small faction of American Sinn Féin voters! Senator McCormick rushes to the White House to call the matter to the President's attention. Secretary Denby sends a cablegram to the Rear Admiral saying that "I have read with amazement certain extracts from a speech purporting to have been made by you," and ordering Sims to "inform the department immediately by cable whether or not you were correctly reported." The Senate promptly orders an investigation. There is to be discipline for Sims but no discipline for Harvey.

Yet the Sims speech, however much it may be open to criticism on the ground of fact and good taste, is merely the opinion of an individual. Nobody would dream of interpreting it as an expression of the United States Government's policy or opinion. The Harvey speech, on the other hand, has been accepted everywhere in Europe as the formal expression of President Harding's own views on international affairs.

CONTROLLING DANDELIONS?

A TROUBLESOME LAWN WEED

Dandelions are among the most wide-spread lawn pests, but are particularly troublesome in the northern half of the country and sometimes become so bad that the best method of eradication is to plow or spade the lawn and reseed it, but the United States Department of Agriculture advises against this method except in the most extreme cases. The general care of the lawn is important in controlling all lawn weeds, including the dandelion—mowing, rolling, fertilizing, and watering. In other words, everything which contributes to the growth of the desired grasses will tend to combat weeds.

In small lawns cutting the individual plants at least 3 inches below the ground twice a year is frequently the most satisfactory method of control. It does little good to cut them shallow. The best time to cut is in the spring when the dandelions are in early bloom, and again late in the summer. On large, heavily infested areas where the stand of grass is vigorous, spraying with a solution of iron sulphate, 1 1-2 pounds to a gallon of water is practical, especially on bluegrass lawns. It has not been found successful in Bermuda grass, red top, or bent grass.

Spray 5 times, the first time just as the blossoms unfold, and at intervals of a month thereafter. It kills the tips of the grass and kills white clover entirely, but it will eradicate the dandelions to such an extent that the surviving plants can easily be removed the following year. In small areas or as a follow-up means after spraying, a good method of killing dandelions is to apply about a tablespoonful of kerosene or gasoline on the crown of individual plants. Dry salt may also be used effectively on cut surfaces.

The best way to handle pastures infested with dandelions is to improve the stand of grass by judicious fertilizing, seeding and pasturing, so that the weeds will be crowded out. Dandelions do not infest well-managed pastures containing a thick, luxuriant stand of grass.

THREE-QUARTER VERDICT

(From the Evening World)

Judge James A. Allen has made several almost revolutionary proposals for reform of the judiciary and of judicial procedure in the State courts.

Of these by far the most striking would allow nine of twelve jurors to render a verdict in all civil and most criminal cases. Before such a change can be made the public will have to be educated to understand what it means. Trial by "twelve good men and true" and the requirement of unanimity in the verdict is more than established law. It is a tradition.

But the tradition has been weakened in some respects in recent years. Many commercial associations have decided that arbitration is fairer and less expensive than judicial litigation.

If such a change as Judge Allen advocates is to be made, it probably will come gradually—first by three-quarter verdicts in a limited field of civil law, then by extensions to all civil cases.

If three-quarter verdicts result in as high a degree of justice in civil cases as does the present procedure, perhaps we may in time become accustomed to the idea and extend it in the field of criminal law.

DRASTIC, BUT SALUTARY

(From the Boston Post)

The new regulations governing the manufacture and sale of fireworks in Massachusetts which have been issued by Colonel Foote, commissioner of public safety, and approved by the Governor's Council, are pretty stiff; but who can say that they are not salutary?

In the first place, makers of fireworks must file a bond of \$10,000 to cover loss, damages or injuries that might be caused by the manufacturing or storage of the fireworks. Any person holding a public exhibition of fireworks must file a bond of \$15,000 with the State Treasurer to cover losses and to protect persons who might be injured by carelessness or neglect of the exhibitor. Violation of this rule is punishable by a fine of \$500. And the innocent-looking fire balloon must not be sent up under penalty of \$100 fine or a month in jail, or both.

The menace to property and persons from the too-free shooting-off of aerial explosives is too great to be longer tolerated without strict safeguarding. The new rules ought to be beneficial all around.

SCHOOL DAYS

The McClure Newspaper Syndicate

By DWIC



EDUCATION FOR CO-OPERATION

(H. G. Wells in the July Yale Review)

Education is really one of the newest of the arts and sciences. The idea of particular, exceptional people pursuing learning has been familiar to the world for scores of centuries, but the idea of preparing the minds of whole classes or whole communities for co-operations and common actions by a training in common ideas is comparatively a new one. The idea of education as learning still dominates us, and so it is that while we have numbers of teachers of history who are or who attempt to be, or who pose as historians who teach, we have comparatively few teachers of history who are teachers whose instrument is history. In relation to the science of history, and indeed to all the sciences, the importance of teacher as teacher is still insufficiently recognized.

SUPREME COURT IS CHALLENGED BY LABOR

Demand That Laws Passed By Congress Be Not Passed Upon Again By Supreme Tribunal; Ask Also Immunity From Indictment for Entering Into Combinations to Regulate Wages.

(By International News Service.)

Denver, Colo., June 12.—An amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the United States Supreme Court or other Federal court from passing on the constitutionality of an act of Congress after it becomes a law will be asked by organized labor following a recommendation made today by the executive council of the American Federation of Labor.

Under the proposed amendment any resolution passed by Congress and made a law would be held valid under the Constitution.

The executive council in its report declares the power of Federal courts to pass on the constitutionality of laws made by Congress "is one of the greatest menaces to measures intended to remedy evils in our government."

Unions picketing and other strike tactics which they use will be legalized under the Federal law and courts prohibited from granting injunctions in any case involving or growing out of a dispute over conditions of labor or terms of employment, if another measure recommended today by the executive council and to be sponsored in Congress by organized labor becomes a law. The measure also provides immunity from indictment or prosecution of any person who enters into an agreement or combination for the purpose of regulating wages, hours or working conditions.

The proposed law is designed to restore the "labor rights" eliminated by the Supreme Court in its recent decision on the Clayton act and to protect the unions in event the court's decision in the case of the Coronado Coal Company against the United Mine Workers of America is unfavorable to labor. If the decision sustains the grounds of the suit the collective bargaining will become unlawful, and employers will have the right to seize union funds as strike damages, according to the annual report of the executive council, which reviews the case.

It declares suits will be begun in every State where coal is mined and charged that the coal operators of several States have already refused to operate the machinery provided for the settlement of disputes between miners for the collection of assessments to aid the striking miners in West Virginia.

The council recommends that the American Federation of Labor pledge full support and aid to John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers, and the other officials of the organization, who are under indictment in Indianapolis in proceedings which grew out of the coal strike.

The Adventure of the Abbey Grange

Part Five

By SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

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(Continued from Saturday.)

I should say, that it was unusual for such men to leave a bottle half empty. How do all these unusuals strike you, Watson?"

"Their cumulative effect is certainly considerable, and yet each of them is quite a thing of itself. The most unusual thing of all, as it seems to me, is that the lady should be tied to the chair."

"Well, I am not so clear about that, Watson, for it is evident that they must either kill her or else secure her in such a way that she could not give immediate notice of their escape. But at any rate I have shown, have I not, that there is a certain element of improbability about the lady's story? And now on the top of this, comes the incident of the wine glasses?" I asked.

"Can you see them in your mind's eye?"

"I see them clearly."

"We are told that three men drank from them. Does that strike you as likely?"

"Why not? There was wine in each glass."

"Exactly but there was something noticed that fact. What does that suggest to your mind?"

"The last glass filled would be most likely to contain poisoning."

"Not at all. The bottle was full of it, and it is inconceivable that the first two glasses were filled with the third heavily charged with it. There are two possible explanations, and only two. One is that after the second glass was filled the bottle was violently agitated and so the third glass received the poisoning. That does not appear probable. No, no, I am sure that I am right."

"What, then, do you suppose?"

"That only two glasses were used, and that the third was poured into a third glass, so as to give the false impression that three people had been here. In that way all the poisoning would be in the last glass, would it not? Yes, I am convinced that this is so. But if I have upon the whole been correct, then this small phenomenon, then in an instant the case rises from the commonplace to the exceedingly remarkable. For can only one man, Lady Brackenstall and her maid have deliberately lied to us, that not one word of their story is to be believed. That they have some very strong reason for covering the real criminal, and that we must construct our case for ourselves with any help from report to headquarters, took possession of the dining-room, looked the door upon the inside, and devoted himself to the task of one of the most laborious investigations which form the solid basis on which his brilliant edifice of deduction is reared. Seated in a corner like an interested student who observes the demonstration of his professor, I followed every step of that remarkable reasoning. The window, the curtains, the carpet, the chair, the rope—each in turn was minutely examined and duly pondered. The lady's foot, the baronet's hand, had been removed, and all else remained as we had seen it in the morning. Finally, the housemaid, who had been climbing up on to the massive mantelpiece."

Far above his head hung the few inches of red cord which were still attached to the wire. For a long time he gazed upwards at it, and then in an attempt to get nearer to it he rested his knee upon a wooden support on the wall. This brought his hand within a few inches of the broken end of the rope but it was not this so much as the fact that he himself seemed to engage his attention. Finally, he sprang down with an exclamation of satisfaction.

"You have got it, Watson," he said. "We have got our case—one of the most remarkable in our collection. But, dear me, how slowly it has been and how nearly I have committed the blunder of my life-time! Now, I think that, with a few missing links my chain is almost complete."

"You have got your men?"

"Man, Watson, man. Only one, but a very formidable person. Strong as a Roman, with the blow that bent that poker! Six feet three in height, active as a squirrel, dexterous with his fingers, a fairly remarkably quick-witted for this whole country. His story is of his conception. Yes, Watson, we have come upon the handiwork of a very remarkable individual. And yet, in that bell-rope, he has given us a clue which should not have left us a doubt."

"Where was the clue?"

"Well, if you were to pull down a bell-rope, Watson, where would you expect it to break?"

spot where it is attached to the wire. Why should it break three inches from the top, as this one has done?"

"Because it is frayed there?"

"Exactly. This end, which we can examine, is frayed. He was examining enough to do that with his knife. But the other end is not frayed. You could not observe that from here. But if you were on the mantelpiece you would see that it is cut clean off without any mark of fraying whatever. You can reconstruct what occurred. The man neared the rope. He would not tear it down for fear of giving the alarm by ringing the bell. What did he do? He sprang up on the mantelpiece, could not quite reach it, put his knee on the bracket—you will see the impression in the dust—and so got his knife to bear upon the cord. I could not reach the place by at least three inches—from which I infer that he is at least three inches bigger than I am. Look at that mark upon the seat of the oaken chair! That is it!"

"Blood."

"Undoubtedly it is blood. This alone puts the lady's story out of court. If she were seated on the chair when the crime was done, how comes that mark? No, no, she was placed in the chair after the death of her husband. The blood was the black-dress shows a corresponding mark to this. We have not yet met our Waterloo, Watson, but this is our Marching Order. I should like to have a few words with the nurse, if we are to get the information which we want."

She was an interesting person, this amiable. She did not attempt to conceal her emotions. It took some time before Holmes' pleasant manner and frank acceptance of all that she said "bowed" her to a corresponding amiability. She did not attempt to conceal her hatred for her late employer.

"Yes, sir, it is true that he threw the decanter at me. I heard him call my mistress a name, and I told him that he would pay for it. She said that he had been there. Then it was that he threw it at me. He might have thrown a dozen if he had but left my mistress alone. He was forever ill-treating her, and she too proud to complain. She would not even tell me all that she had done to her. She never told me of those marks on her arm that you saw this morning. But I know very well that they came from a stab with a razor. The silly devil—God forgive me! I should speak of him so, now that he is dead! But a devil he was, if ever one walked the earth. He was all honey when first we met him—only eighteen months ago, and we both feel as if it were yesterday. He was a good man, only arrived in London. Yes, it was her first voyage—she had never been from home before. He won her with his title and his money and his fine London ways. If she made a mistake she has paid for it, if ever a woman did. What more could she expect? Well, I'll tell you it was just after we arrived. We arrived in June, and it was July. They were married in January of last year. Yes, she is down in the morning-room again, and I have no doubt she will see you, but you must not ask too much of her for the Republic of the United States. Blood and blood will stand."

Tomorrow—The Adventure of the Abbey Grange, continued.

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