

THE EVENING NEWS

R. W. BATES BY HERT G. BATES

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1917.

TWENTY MILES AN HOUR.

The National Automobile Chamber of Commerce reports that 40 per cent of the automobiles sold this year have been bought by farmers for the first six months of the year had one motor vehicle to every nine persons, an increase of 40 per cent over 1916. Nebraska had one to every ten persons, California one to every twelve, Kansas and South Dakota one to every thirteen, Minnesota and North Dakota one to every fourteen.

The farmer is prosperous. He can afford to buy the cars. But why has he taken to them more quickly and universally than any other class of people one would meet in the course of the traditional rural conservatism?

The answer is that the automobile is particularly adapted to the farmer's use—that it has supplied the greatest need of the rural community.

The trouble with the country from time immemorial, says a writer in the New York Times, was three-million-hour transportation. This rate limited the size of the community. It set a bound on the number of people one would meet in the course of a life time. Twelve miles is a long drive by horse and buggy, and that was about the radius of the farm family's social life. The automobile neighborhood was restricted to about four miles from home. Six miles was a good way to go to church, even on a night ride, would be attempted for a social party.

"In a small district one can know all the people, walk all their streets and all their possibilities. All their ideas, so that an observant person could tell in advance what a neighbor's opinion on a new subject would be. It was serene, but full of monotony. The dull people became duller. Many of the brighter ones made their escape."

"What was needed for the farmer's family was 20 miles an hour. The automobile has supplied it. That is the explanation of its tremendous rural popularity."

Twenty million hours means freedom, intelligence, progress to the farmer. It means work to every body else to help the farmer take out of his isolation and make a free-creativity citizen of a big community. What will it mean to the other plans he jumps to ten miles an hour?

PILING A LOAD

The average pile of hay in 18 thousand bushels, which depends upon the kind of hay and the way it is cut, has no mechanical means for moving plants with monthly potential, no water transportation, has no excess of human energy, and no transportation in pulling some load especially during this cold weather when all efforts are being directed at conserving the winter fuel.

That of an ordinary farmer's farm and then to make an effective and active one was a great task. The community had to be built in the winter, and the winter was the worst time to build it. The winter was the worst time to build it.

ious industries due to the present war being waged have prospered beyond the most sanguine expectations. "Dead ones" have been revived and those that were already experiencing a certain degree of prosperity have developed into a veritable thunderstorm of successful progress—more villages have taken on life, so to speak, and are now forging to the front, giving employment to its inhabitants, creating substantial profits and making prosperous homes and communities.

This is what might be properly termed "war prosperity." But one can only hope that the prosperity of a "war zone" enterprise becomes necessary to encourage this type of business, and that these war-time profits will be used for the construction of a very important "war enterprise" if such it may be termed. It calls for quick, intelligent and energetic action and will be worth to the business men of this city, and its people generally, a thousand times more than it will cost. This should be a sufficient incentive, if nothing more, to get a live committee "on the job" to deliver the venture to reality.

There is a possibility that we may not be successful, but it is certain we will bring up in the year unless a determined effort is put forth at once. This is no time for procrastination, concerted action is what sets the boom.

THE BEATIFIC I. W. W.

Everybody must have misinterpreted the I. W. W. Public opinion has been profoundly misled by that subtle organization. We learn this from an address delivered by a beatific initiate to the National Council of Congressional Democrats in Columbus, Ohio. The speaker was the Rev. Sydney Strain, of Seattle. He is quoted as follows: "The I. W. W. is the early Christians. Their leaders," he said, "are men of beatific countenance. They believe in the beautiful philosophy of conservatism, and are bounden to cause they think is right. They are idealists, and they have a remarkable consistency of purpose. They believe in a remarkable policy of non-violence. Their internationalism and internationalism are becoming to be most laudable standards. This remarkable attitude explains a lot of things which are inexplicable. We have assumed that the expansion on the lines of I. W. W. practitioners as they copied valuable machinery and set fire to buildings and blew up workshops was the result of economic and international war. But now, as the beatific light that shone in the faces of the Christian martyrs, when I. W. W. spokesmen ardently renounce all material purposes, declaring that they find in life possession of all wealth and the means of producing wealth, because they want it and because they can get it, and admit that they will take human life if it stands in their way. They are idealists, possessing a desire to which the rest of humanity has not yet risen. When they condemn what the ignorant public considers acts of extreme violence, they are illustrating the high morality of their cause."

The I. W. W. members are the victims of a cruel society that studies them and sees which way it can strike. And they are with more Christian than the Kaiser himself. When attacked unexpectedly, as he was in 1914, they are not even frightened. They are the only class of men who are not afraid of the other classes.

The I. W. W. member who returned to his native land after a year's absence found the United States was so full of it that he was not sure he was a member. He was not sure he was a member. He was not sure he was a member.

It will not pass without saying that the I. W. W. is a peace-loving and non-violent organization. It is a peace-loving and non-violent organization. It is a peace-loving and non-violent organization.

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STERLING CHARACTER

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OUR CAPTURED SOLDIERS.

The terrible things the Germans did in Belgium and France are now familiar to Americans. Yet they are still many who refuse to believe that non-combatants were forced up in ghettos, held, women and children tortured and their children snatched up and with the swiftness of a flash, and no provisions for cleanliness whatever. They see they can not believe that the right hands of hundreds of Belgian children were ruthlessly cut off, those of little girls as well as boys.

Orphaned and people may refuse to believe. But the things are no longer. These and worse things happened in such numbers that there is no longer any possible excuse for their cruelty.

The Germans, also, have allowed Among them are the Turks. The latest stories to be given out as completely authentic are those of orphans and little children buried in trenches with their slain mothers because it was too much trouble to take care of them.

If the telegraphic reports of Saturday are correct and their probability are that a number of our soldiers have been captured by the Germans, what will be their ultimate fate? It is too horrible to consider and likely will never be known. It is a certainty the treatment accorded them will be in line with the usual inhuman German atrocities.

The people who live on the edge of the waters would like an article on what is done on the other side of the world. It is not that they are not interested in the other side of the world, but that they are not interested in the other side of the world. They are not interested in the other side of the world.

If you have been interested in the progress of the war, you will find the following items of interest. They are of interest to you. They are of interest to you.

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See us for anything in the Dry Goods line. It will be worth your while.

REPORTS FROM PORTLAND

That is, a well-known Portland man who has been in Portland, on the past week, returned to this city. His opinion and will leave tonight for Los Angeles, Calif., to remain in the service of the U. S. Army. His wife, Mrs. W. W. King, and Mrs. W. W. King, are with their mother at Portland.

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