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COSTS OF ACCIDENTS

What do we pay for our traffic accidents?
In Lansing, Michigan, a town of 75,000 population, the total cost to those involved in traffic accidents during the past year was \$414,330. Total direct costs, including maintenance of police, courts, etc., totaled about three-quarters of a million dollars.

What does it mean?
It means that what happened in Lansing, happens in other cities throughout the country—it can also happen here!

It means that the current asking price for one medium-sized smashup is enormous. Not only in terms of dollars and cents but also in terms of man-hours lost from the job.

In terms of cold hard cash the average victim—and this applies everywhere—loses \$170 in salary, pays \$92 doctor and hospital bills plus \$26 miscellaneous bills, such as attorney fees, fines and settlement of other parties' claims, and is stuck with a \$220 auto repair bill as well if he is a car owner.

What's the average cost of driving and walking carelessly according to a study of the costs of traffic accidents made at Lansing by the National Conservation Bureau and the local safety council?

Average costs paid, if you are in an accident, are as follows: Uninjured Drivers pay \$73. Injured Drivers pay \$408. Injured Passengers pay \$206 and Injured Pedestrians pay \$468. Can you afford it?

THE GOAL MUST BE JUSTICE

The nation may be on the verge of a witch hunt. Inflation has reached the hardship stage. And when economic hardship prevails, some group usually takes the rap. This time, if care is not exercised in the needed revision of labor laws, labor will suffer. Arrogant labor leadership has created an incalculable reservoir of popular resentment. Generally speaking, a man may not hold a job in a basic industry today without paying tribute to a labor boss whose union is legally accountable to no one. The danger is that short-sighted politicians will try to cash in on this resentment, just as a decade ago every demagogue in the country sought office with sweeping attacks on industry.

There were two outstanding domestic events in 1946. First, was the November election, which, partisanship to one side, was a reaffirmation of the doctrine of free government at a time when most of the world seemed to have deserted to the forces of reaction, which the super-state represents. The vote amounted to an indictment of autocratic government, and to an indictment of labor abuses as well. Millions of people who belong to labor unions spoke unmistakably at the polls for a return to first principles.

The second event was the coal strike and its dramatic, unprecedented conclusion. There could be no mistaking the public's sense of outrage when one man callously decided to subject the whole nation to industrial paralysis, widespread unemployment, and actual destitution. Mr. Lewis' defeat was foreordained—no man and no group of men can forever be contemptuous of the public welfare. As one magazine put it, an era had ended—a long era, in which labor leaders, drunk with power and free of public responsibility, had received almost anything they demanded. This was the real significance of Mr. Lewis' surrender to the forces of law and public opinion. When special interest and the general interest are joined in conflict, the general interest must win.

Judged by the volume of comment by editors and columnists, correction of union abuses should be the first order of business of the 1947 Congress. There is a chance that before the year is out an individual may once more have the right to work, and pay tribute to no one. There is a good chance that unions will have to give an accounting of themselves before the law, the same as any corporation. It is a practical certainty that the license of a union leader to call a strike and cripple an entire nation at the nod of his head, will be terminated. But the line between needed correction and the witch hunt can easily be crossed. And that will actually be the great problem of 1947—not to cross the line. To cross this line now when our country is bedeviled with the racking strains of inflation, would be disastrous.

The outcome of any war may be determined by events far from the actual shooting. So it is with the labor problem. For fifteen years the Federal government of the United States has never known a balanced budget. The public debt has climbed beyond comprehension. The result has been as inevitable as night following day. The value of money is not what it used to be. Even the patient school teacher has had to resort to strikes to keep body and soul together. Only aggressive public backing of economy-minded representatives in government can solve this phase of the "labor problem." If we make a single resolution for 1947, it should be a prayerful one for solvent government.

Once the people understand that solvency in government is necessary to the control of all living costs, we will be on the road to practical solutions of most of today's uncertainties—including labor problems.

THOUGHTLETS

By Carl B. Balch

One writer thinks we will have a long time world peace, but it will be based on fear, fear of the atomic bomb. Perhaps world peace based on fear is better than no peace.

But how much more secure a peace the world would have based on mutual understanding than on mutual suspicion.

Some people say they do not believe in foreign missions and ask why we don't clean up things here. If the early church had waited for all the Jews in Palestine to be converted there would not be any Christian church in America.

Every day that the Senate investigating committee hearing on the case of Senator Bilbo continues, the senator is shown in a more sordid and detestable light.

What would you think of a commentator that would depict John L. Lewis as a minion of the devil and extol Phillip Murray and other C. I. O. leaders as angels of light?

A commentator recently called our attention to the fact that Hormel, one of five leading packing establishments, and the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey have had no strikes or labor friction for many years. Other industries might well pattern their labor methods like unto Hormel and Standard Oil of New Jersey.

Georgia's governor-elect, Eugene Talmadge is dead. We do not wish to say anything disrespectful of the departed, but one wonders if the state of Georgia is not much better off.

A radio speaker recently said: "Most people want peace in heaven. Whatever peace we have in heaven is prepared here."

A distinguished clergyman and teacher wrote: "Unless we live like brothers we cannot live at all."

A decorated and lighted Christmas tree is a symbol of good will to all. It is hard to understand why any person or persons would desire to damage or mutilate such a tree.

Some so called Christmas music is not music and it certainly does not reflect the spirit of Christmas.

To this columnist, it seems like sacrilege to celebrate the birthday of our Savior inebriating beverages.

A backward look over the year 1946 shows that for the most part, the year has gone forward.

The people of the U. S. A. purchased more liquor the past year than in any peace time year. Can we "point with pride" to anything like this?

When one looks back over the year just past, we find that it has been one of the most eventful peace time years on record.

You will note that this flood of portal to portal suits are mostly brought by the C. I. O. The American Federation of Labor has consistently and conspicuously abstained from these suits.

You can now obtain your New Year's resolutions ready made from radio commercials.

Most people get their politics from environment and heredity and very few from personal convictions.

Some people are like a stream, the shallower it is, the more noise it makes.

It is well to know that missionaries are not able to enter communist dominated China.

A distinguished writer said: "It costs money in these days to be good."

PREPAID EDUCATIONS



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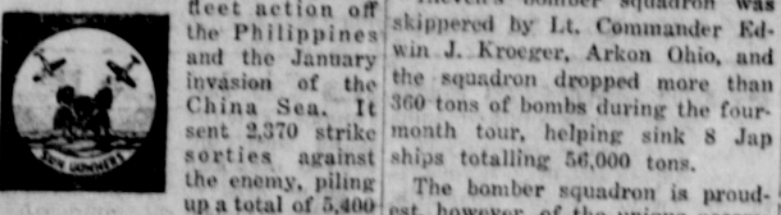
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Is This YOUR Outfit, Joe?

This short history is presented in your interest by AMPETS, American Veterans of World War II, the largest exclusively World War II veterans' organization. For further information relative to this history or to AMPETS, contact your local AMPETS post or write to AMPETS National Headquarters, 724 10th Street, N. W., Washington 1, D. C.

NAVY AIR GROUP 11
Led by Commander Robert E. Riera, Drexel Hill, Pa., Air Group Eleven participated in 19 separate engagements including the October fleet action off the Philippines and the January invasion of the China Sea. It sent 2,370 strike sorties against the enemy, piling up a total of 5,400 landings aboard its base carrier.



According to members of the group, the greatest day was January 11, 1945, off the coast of Indochina when Eleven took a leading part in totally wiping out two enemy convoys discovered creeping along the shore line. Eleven's fighter squadron, known as the "Sun Downers," was led by Lt. Commander Eugene G. Fairfax, Pensacola, Fla., and is credited with shooting down 105 Jap planes and helping sink 27,350 tons of enemy shipping, including one destroyer and three destroyer escorts.

Changes in Vets Housing Rules

Effective December 24, the system of authorizations and priorities assistance for veterans under the veterans emergency housing program in effect prior thereto is superseded, according to Folger Johnson, state director, Federal Housing Administration.

Major changes in the program are provisions for non-veterans as well as veterans to build for their occupancy as owners, the elimination of maximum sales prices and the substitution of a square foot floor area limitation, the elimination of the HH preference rating, the elimination of the HH minimum property requirements and priorities compliance inspections and modification of the \$80 maximum shelter rent per dwelling unit to an average maximum of \$80 per project. Also, applications for construction, repair, or alteration of farm dwellings will be processed by FHA field offices.

Therefore, applications for residential construction approved on or after December 24, will only provide for authorization to do the work described in the application, longer be given. Until new forms and priorities assistance will no longer be prepared, applications for both farm and non-farm dwelling accommodations may be made to the Federal Housing Administration on Form NHA 14-56.

FHA has jurisdiction over the construction, repair, or alteration of any building in which 50 per cent or more of the floor space involved is to be used for either farm or non-farm residential purposes. This does not include hotels and rooming houses for over-night guests, nor dwelling accommodations constructed for experimental or testing purposes, nor applications by educational institutions or public organizations for residential accommodations to be built by them.

Applications involving repairs and alterations shall be filed in duplicate, those for construction of dwellings for owner occupancy, in triplicate, and those for construction or conversion of dwelling accommodations for sale or rent in quadruplicate. Applications involving dwelling accommodations to be built for rent shall include

I verily believe that in this century, the problems of each generation are much more complex than the previous one.

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CURTIN

We welcome to our neighborhood Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Martin, lately of Long Beach, California. They have bought a part of the old Anlauf place from Mr. and Mrs. Stephens. They are living in the old house until they can build a better one.

The Newbridge Lumber Co. here at Curtin, closed down more than a week ago, principally for lack of logs. They intend to start up again by the first of March or a little before.

Our school is also closed until Monday, January 6, so it is rather quiet here.

P. D. Ryan stopped to let all admire an enormous bobcat he and his dogs killed near London. It weighed forty pounds.

Mr. and Mrs. Burdick Trask spent the week end in Portland. The brilliantly lighted tree in their front window is very cheerful these dark mornings.

Someone took notice of our complaints about radio interference here. An official from the Mt. States Power Co. called to see if we thought their installations were to blame. No, it must be either Bonneville or Douglas Co-op. The latter told a patron they thought they had fixed it, but even people with radios in their cars who stop for gas ask what is the matter along here.

Do you remember back ten or twelve years ago, when men were looking for jobs? Any kind of job. Two or three dollars a day, even. Now jobs are waiting at almost that much per hour and men would rather strike than work at them. Yet in Europe, according to a reliable reporter for the Oregonian, men and women scurried on the ground this fall picking up beechnuts. Do you know what they are? Tiny triangular nuts about the size of a lady's little finger. Ordinary people, middle-class, like you and I, on their hands and knees picking up these nuts because in two or three days they could get twelve pounds, which could be exchanged for one pound of oil, and they are hungry.

Mrs. Irene Ames, who has been ill so long, is a little better. Their son, and his wife and little boy from Vanport are visiting the Ames. The son, Mr. Noland, is going to college there.

Brush Teeth Wrong
The average American takes approximately 207 strokes to brush his teeth but almost never reaches the sides of the teeth next to his tongue. About one out of each three persons uses the crosswise method of brushing universally condemned by dentists.

LEARN TO LAUGH MORE

The way laughter helps in digestion is very interesting. Through the experiments of eminent physiologists who have done remarkable research on the digestive apparatus, it has been determined that among the other factors that aid in proper digestion pleasurable emotion is the most efficient. Laughter plays a prominent part in this role.

Most happy is the effect of laughter on the circulation. A good laugh is virtually a series of spasmodic expirations. The forcible chest movements cause a partial closing of the glottis which increases the pressure within the thorax and so impedes the entry of the blood from the veins into the heart. This effect is disconcerted in the turgidity of the head and neck. In the second place the exceptionally deep inspirations tend to expand the lungs with air and to draw off the blood from the veins of the heart.

In respiration a good laugh also exerts a happy influence. The lungs are strengthened and deeper inhalations of air are encouraged. Moreover, the actions of the large muscles which do work of respiration are enforced.

A good laugh is one of life's best tonics. Its influence on the human economy is healthful and widespread. We ought to learn to laugh more.

—Dr. H. A. Hagen

SEE OUR

1/2 PRICE TABLE

of items that were brought to our attention during inventory. Some goods are shelf worn and others are slightly damaged but are well worth 1/2 of their original price.

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