

# THE CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

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**NATHAN EDWARD POWELL**  
Editor and Proprietor

## A THOUGHT for the week.

By Archie Parker

(THE COURSE OF TIME)  
A Poem, in ten books.

by Robert Pollok, A. M.

Published in the United States of America by Crocker & Brewster, of Boston, 1928.

"The wise man, said the Bible, walks with God;  
Surveys, far on, the endless line of life;  
Values his soul, thinks of eternity,  
Both worlds considers, and provides for both;  
With reason's eye his passions guards, abstains  
From evil; lives on hope, on hope, the fruit  
Of faith; looks upward, purifies his soul,  
Expands his wings, and mounts into the sky;  
Passes the sun, and gains his Father's house,  
And drinks with angels from the font of bliss."

## EDITORIALS

### ASHES TO ASHES

Many otherwise sane citizens become thoughtless fools when they get behind the wheel of an automobile. This paradox cost 23,596 lives in auto accidents last year. In the same period 19,300,000 were injured, of which number 400,000 were more or less permanently disabled. Such a staggering slaughter of human life could not be much worse if the country were in a state of constant revolution. How can it be curbed? According to the Portland Oregonian there is no answer to the problem "except in more ruthless law enforcement, and that cannot be achieved this side of public indignation." Thirty-eight-thousand-five-

hundred lives sacrificed on the altar of recklessness would seem to be sufficient cause for public indignation.

Safe driving campaigns, designed to appeal to the common sense of the individual, have apparently been of little benefit. Speeding, drunken driving, gross negligence in approaching crossings, and weaving in and out of traffic, are increasing every day. The only ones who have been thoroughly cared are the victims, and hitted experience cured them. Lying mangled in hospitals, perhaps clinging to this earth by a mere thread, they have come to realize how precious life is. But the dead will never have another chance in that split second before oblivion they too realized—but too late!

The next time you hit a cross street at sixty miles an hour STOP AND THINK of what might have happened if you had not been alone in your foolishness. Picture yourself being lowered to your final resting place with the clods dropping on your coffin and the minister chanting "ashes to ashes, dust to dust." If you are blessed with the life loving instincts of the average individual you will approach the next cross street with due caution and trembling knees.

### THE HIGHEST TRIBUTE

We all take air, light and water for granted. The better they are, the less we think about them or appreciate them. It is only when the supply of these necessities is poor and inferior that we kick.

The same situation exists in connection with the essential part played by the railroads, both locally and nationally, in mobilizing and making effective relief efforts in connection with the Ohio and Mississippi valley floods. We just take railroad service for granted, and the better the railroads do their job, the less we say about them.

The railroads on both sides of the Ohio river have operated their trains just close to the flood lines as a train could be taken; have set up emergency terminal facilities wherever possible; have maintained local

shuttle service, at heavy expense. In those cases where through service was cut off, have brought in the great bulk of all the supplies of food, fuel and equipment which have gone into the flood-stricken area; have taken out great numbers of refugees; and, in general, made possible the work of relief and rescue.

Without the public even knowing about it, the railroads mobilized car supplies to take care of not only the people, the livestock and the relief needs of threatened areas, but also the commerce. Coal mines have been kept in operation by reason of the ability of the railroads to divert and marshal coal cars wherever needed. Thousands of extra box cars were mobilized with the idea that if evacuation of the lower Mississippi valley should become necessary on any large scale, the car supply would be available to bring out not only the people and livestock, but their cotton, manufactured goods, stocks in trade, and the materials necessary to enable them to resume business when the waters receded. All of this was done quietly and without fuss, as part of the organized service of the American railroads. Much of it was done without cost to relief authorities or to refugees.

Railroads in the flood emergency, as in their everyday service, are pretty much taken for granted in the United States. When a railroad took into Louisville in one night 35 carloads of coal and trainloads of food and other supplies that wasn't news. That's what the railroads were supposed to do. When an airplane

unloaded a crate of bread at the airport one would think that the miracle of the leaves and the fishes were about to be repeated.

After all, taking the railroads for granted, like light, air and water, is probably the highest tribute to them, but, nevertheless, they are organizations run by human beings to whom a word of gratitude and appreciation is not amiss when it is so justly deserved. Just being taken for granted becomes rather stale for the best of us.

## G.A.A. Members Enjoy Basketball Play Night

Judging from the comments, the girls had a very enjoyable time at the G. A. A. play night held in the gym one evening last week under the direction of Miss Florence DeBorja. The first part of the evening was spent playing basketball, there being enough girls for four teams. When all had tired of basketball they played other games including

Flying Dutchman, two deep, and dodge ball.

Later, the girls gathered around

and ate their cookies and sandwiches which they had brought. The Central Pointer.

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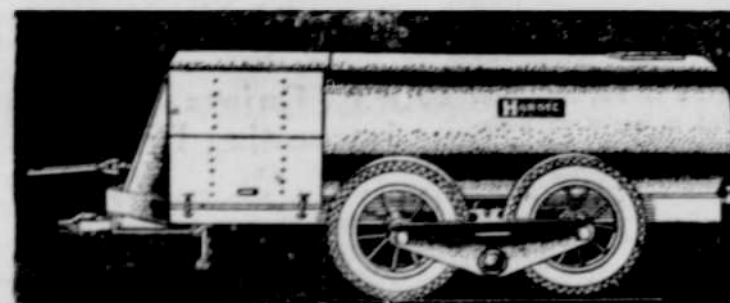
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