

# Grade Crossings Cause 2,000 Deaths

## Fatalities and Injuries Increase Every Year.

By C. B. AUOL, President National Safety Council.

Chicago.—More than 2,000 persons lost their lives at grade crossings in 1924, and there were more than 6,000 injured. In spite of the fact that railroad officials, automobile manufacturers and state and county road commissions have co-operated to provide suitable warning in the form of mechanical devices to attract the motorist's attention and prevent him from crossing the tracks in the face of a locomotive, the fatalities and injuries have increased from year to year.

Various methods have been suggested for relieving the situation, the principal and most discussed of these being the elimination of grade crossings by separation of grades. Indeed, this would prevent any further railroad crossing accidents, but it is estimated that such elimination would cost \$25,000,000,000 and would take at least 300 years. Most people are familiar with the much-talked-of and sometimes-tried schemes of warning at railroad crossings. Motorists all know the railroad cross-buck grade crossing signs at the side of the highway; in some sections of the country the motorists are familiar with the bumps in the road opposite to the grade crossing, they are familiar with the bell systems and the light systems of warning. These devices are effective in that they give warning, but beyond this they are useless.

**Drivers to Blame.**  
It is not the crossing wherein the accident hazard lies. It is not the locomotive which bears down on an automobile that is the cause of an accident. It is not the automobile itself. All of these devices are almost mechanically perfect and are not dangerous in themselves, but in their operation. Summed down to a fine point we shall all have to admit that it is those of us who drive automobiles who are chiefly responsible for grade-crossing accidents.

Strange as it may seem, 70 per cent of all the grade-crossing accidents, wherein motorists are killed, occur in broad daylight. Sixty-three per cent occur at grade crossings where the view is entirely open and unobstructed. Fourteen per cent of grade-crossing accidents are due to the driver of an automobile colliding with the side of a moving train. Twenty-five per cent of all automobile drivers fail to use reasonable care in approaching

## Puts Radio in Coffin for DX After He Dies

Los Angeles, Cal.—Sam R. Kimball, elderly San Bernardino valley rancher, has placed an order with a Los Angeles undertaker for a \$1,200 steel coffin equipped with a radio receiving set.

Kimball explained that he is convinced that the soul lingers near the body until the Day of Judgment, and that he will be able to "hear what is going on in the world" after he dies.

and passing over the railroad grade crossing. Yet, it is estimated that only about 5 per cent are extremely reckless, using no care whatsoever. On the assumption that we have 17,700,000 automobiles in this country this year, it means that there are 875,000 reckless drivers, each one of whom is a potential train wrecker.

**Laws Inefficient.**  
Laws compelling the motorist to stop at grade crossings would be ineffective because we Americans do not react to law and discipline of the person as do other people whose life history has been less rugged. The whole matter of preventing public accidents—and grade-crossing accidents are only a part of the great number of avoidable mishaps which occur every year in this country—can be laid to the public conscience. Without a crystallization of that inner feeling against the public accident, the safety movement will fail.

Undoubtedly a great step toward the solution of this problem will have been taken when the various states reduce the mental and physical examination of every automobile driver in the country, and do not let him or her drive an automobile upon the streets and highways without essential qualifications.

# Mussolini Writes Fascist History

## Tells of Political Creed He Brought Into Power.

Rome.—Not satisfied with having created Fascism, with having put it into effect during three arduous years, and with bearing the herculean responsibility of holding simultaneously five cabinet posts, Benito Mussolini is now undertaking the task of incorporating his achievements by becoming the interpreter and historian of the political creed he brought to power.

Undaunted by the almost superhuman exertions and responsibilities of his unusual position, the premier has found time and energy to contribute to the political monthly, *Gerarchia* (Hierarchy), which he founded, two carefully written articles, explaining the Fascist conceptions of the "1922 revolution" and of the new labor union.

**Points the Way.**  
The articles, apparently the initial ones of a series, each militant and controversial in tone, survey the historical background of the subject matter, justifying the Mussolinian point of view, and aggressively point out

## WICHITA'S CHOICE



Miss Wildeana Withers, eighteen years old, who has been named as "Miss Wichita" for the annual beauty pageant to be held at Atlantic City. She excels in sports, is an excellent swimmer and diver and ranks at the top in collegiate activities.

## Sweden Develops Radio at Expense of Cable

Gothenburg, Sweden.—Wireless transmission of messages has so developed in Sweden that the government's station at Grimeton now sends about 95 per cent of all telegrams from Sweden to the United States. The receiving station, on the other hand, gets only about 40 per cent of the telegrams coming from the United States.

In order to meet the new competition the cable companies have reduced their prewar rates.

The Grimeton wireless station was built for direct communication with the United States.

# MYSTERY OF THE MISSING SHIRT

By A. E. SWOYER

(By Short Story Pub. Co.)

HERLOCK SHOMES, the great detective, sat, pipe in mouth, idly strumming a banjo. Things were dull in the sleuthing business, and our hero had not the price of a regular meal; no mysterious murders nor clever robberies sought his mighty brain for a solution. The truth must be told—the peerless Shomes was on his uppers!

"Great days, Fatson!" he said, carefully emptying the ashes from his pipe into a bit of paper, and dexterously rolling it into a cigarette. "Great days! No work for me; no annals for you to chronicle (at so much per chronic) for posterity! It seems as if the pleasures of a neat murder no longer appeal to the strong-arm man; we are becoming a race of mollusks!" A tear for a moment shined in the eagle eye of Shomes, trickling gently down his classic nose and lost itself in the stubble of his two weeks' beard.

"Education has done it," replied his friend. "The real brainy criminal has learned that it is easier and more genteel to start a bank than to break into one; while the monetary results are the same. But, cheer up, Shomes, nothing can keep a good man down but a tombstone or a cash register!" "You are right, Fatson! And even now I feel that in exactly five minutes, by yonder clock, a client, the victim of a dark and awful crime, will come—"

A ponderous knocking at the door interrupted him. Rising, hastily, he set the clock ahead five minutes. "That is the power of deduction vindicated! Right to the minute! Fatson, open the door. It is our client! (Or, perhaps, the landlord for last January's rent," he muttered, aside. "I wish I were not seen!")

Before the faithful Fatson could reach the door, it opened, and a tall man, with a huge and shaggy beard, entered and sank heavily into a chair; the latter, not built for heavy sinking, collapsed. The strange visitor continued until stopped by the door.

"Alas!" said Shomes. "I see that you are the victim of a slight accident! You wonder how I know? These things are easy to the trained mind! Fatson, you remember the interesting little problem of the Emerald Frankfurter, in which this power enabled me to trace a clue the dull wits of the police had not even seen?"

The stranger, who, framed amid the wreckage of the broken chair, had been listening, open mouthed, now rose. "Mr. Shomes," said he, "you are the man I need! Something mysterious and dreadful threatens me! I am a marked man! Last evening—the trembling tones of this strong man made even the callous Fatson shiver—last evening, as an evidence of this power, the very shirt was stolen from my back. You, alone, can save me!"

"This is, indeed, a mystery, a case after my own heart. I can see in it the hand of that master criminal, Desperate Desmond, who has thwarted me for years! Our lives are all in danger! But come, tell me the details. 'They are few enough. In the first place, my name is Dairymple. I run a doughnut foundry, and am fairly well to do. Last evening I dressed carefully to go to the club; I remember my undershirt particularly. It was of the knitted kind I always wear, but new. I spent an hour at the club, and on retiring found the shirt was gone! My outer shirt, vest, and coat were intact."

"H'm!" said Shomes. "You must have been robbed of this—er—undergarment, then, either in your home, at the club, or between the two places!" "Marvelous!" ejaculated Fatson. "Shomes, with the remarkable agility he always showed when on a clue, whipped out a pocket ruler and measured the distance between Dairymple's eyes. Swiftly he entered the results in a large ledger. "Tis, indeed, Desmond's work!" he muttered. "We must be quick! Mr. Dairymple, may I have a sample of your whiskers? It is important! Thanks! Snipping off a generous portion of the guest's face curtains, he turned his back, stuffed them into his pipe and began smoking vigorously.

"Again turning to his guest, he shot the question, 'Have you dined? No? Good! Then we will accompany you—you must not be alone!'" Dashing to the table, he placed a celluloid paper cutter and seized it in his pocket. "This is a desperate case—we must go armed!" he gruffed, with a sinister scowl. "Fatson, call a taxi. And," he hissed, in a tone so low that Dairymple could not catch the words, "don't get that gink on the corner, you lunkhead! Remember, we hung him up last week!"

Quickly disguising himself, by turning up his coat collar, the great detective led Fatson and Dairymple to the door.

In three-quarters of an hour the speeding taxi landed the party at a famous restaurant two blocks away. "Fatson and I will enter first, Mr. Dairymple," muttered Shomes. "We must not be seen together!" "Why did you leave him, Shomes?" asked Fatson, timidly, as they hurried into the restaurant.

"Fatson! Fatson! You will never be a great detective. Don't you know that the last man out pays the taxi? You would do well to read my monograph upon the subject."

The meal passed in silence, save for the voice of Dairymple ordering fresh supplies. Like all great men, Shomes sometimes went for days without a meal, particularly when broke; then he ate ravenously. So it was on this occasion. Fatson, being an opportunist, did likewise. Dairymple watched them with ever increasing respect. "I am glad the other fellow got my shirt!" he muttered, as he paid the check.

At the scenes of the crime, as Shomes called them until he could determine which was the scene, the famous sleuth was at his best. Magnifying glass in hand, he poked and probed everywhere, entering notes in the big ledger which Fatson carried. From time to time he put choice bits of evidence, such as a bottle of Wilson's, a few cigars, and about a quire of the club paper, into his pockets; clues like these could not escape the eagle eye of Shomes.

Finally he rose. "Mr. Dairymple," he said, proudly, "I know the criminal! No further attempt will be made upon your life tonight! Go home, and tomorrow night I will have news for you! Fatson and I will now retire."

The next day was a busy one for both Fatson and Shomes. The former went about his medical labors in the veterinary department of the S. P. C. A.; the noted sleuth elected to experiment in his laboratory, as cool and collected as if Dairymple were not compelled by a fiendish crime to wear his extra shirt. He refused to satisfy Fatson's curiosity by any statement other than "Tonight we shall know all!"

# Die at Heine's Grave.

Heine, famous German poet, lies buried in Montmartre cemetery. His tomb is the mecca of many love-sick French people. Police records show that every year at least twenty suicides are committed at his grave by unlucky lovers. This year, the number having exceeded the usual average, the police have decided to station a policeman at the grave to prevent young people from taking their lives there.

**Wisdom in Choice.**  
A doctor who had taken up as his specialty the treatment of skin diseases was asked by a friend how he happened to select that branch of medicine. "There were three perfectly good reasons," replied the physician. "My patients never get me out of bed at night; they never die and they never get well."—Medical Review of Reviews.

**To Tell Silver Fox.**  
It is almost as important to be able to recognize a silver fox scarf as to own one. From a distance, a pointed fox with the white hairs inserted amidst the black looks the same, but in a real silver fox each white hair has a bead of black at the tip, then a band of white and at the base another touch of black.

**Little by Little.**  
The case was that of a street hold-up and as it neared the end the prosecutor said impressively: "You see how the rascal assaulted the plaintiff. How could he go to such a length for the paltry sum of a half-dollar?" "Why not?" came from the back of the courtroom. "Half-dollars soon count up."

**Cats Without Tails.**  
In most Manx cats the tails are represented merely by a tuft of hair without any remnant of bone. This strain is met with in many parts of Russia and there is a very general opinion that it originally came from Japan. Unless the jungle cat, which is a nearly whole-colored species, can claim the position, the ancestry of these Manx cats is still unknown.

**Observations in Rivers.**  
There are a large number of stations reporting on the daily stages of the rivers, probably from 500 to 1,000, and in addition there are other stations maintained to study the general climate of the country. These are known as co-operative weather observing stations and probably number between 4,000 and 5,000, well distributed over the United States.

**Was Said by Jefferson.**  
The original quotation said of office-holders that few die and none resign, is from one of Thomas Jefferson's letters, as follows: "If a due participation of office is a matter of right, how are vacancies to be obtained? Those by death are few; by resignation, none."

**"Chaperon"**  
The word chaperon is not feminine, although it is generally applied to a woman. It means a hood, and when used metaphorically signifies that the married woman shields her youthful protegee as the hood shields the face.

**Confounding.**  
The only time one really envies the illiterate is when billboards take his mind from the scenery.—Duluth Herald.

**Man Worth While.**  
There is something solid and doughy in the man that can rise from defeat—the stuff of which victories are made in due time, when we are able to choose our position better and the sun is at our back.—Lowell.

**Burial "Rehearsal."**  
Charles V. of Spain shortly before his death had the full burial service read over him. The death knell was tolled and monks chanted the requiem.

**Groveling Punishment.**  
Our idea of a nifty guy is the bird who found two armed burglars under his bed and made them hunt for his collar button.—University of Georgia Cracker.

**Where Are They?**  
It is pretty well established that there were seven jokes originally and we often wonder, as someone else tells us a funny story, whatever became of them all.—Ohio State Journal.

**Cause and Effect.**  
"Do you always think before you speak?" "Yes," answered Senator Sorghum; "but not as hard as I am sometimes compelled to think afterward."—Washington Star.

**Ended Sunday Pastimes.**  
Due to the collapse of a large theater on the Sabbath day in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a general prohibition of all Sunday public pastimes followed.

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**"Pennsylvania"**  
The province of Pennsylvania was not named in honor of the William Penn of American fame, but in honor of his father, Sir William Penn, who had been high in the favor of King Charles II of England. William Penn had selected the name "New Wales" for his grant, on account of the hills. The fact that the name Penn was Welsh for head or highland determined the king to adopt it for the new territory, and its reported beauty added the title "Sylvania."

**Formation of Union**  
The original states formed the Union. The majority of the later states were carved from federal territory under the supervision of the federal government. Some states, such as Kentucky and Maine, were formed from the territory of other states and admitted into the Union. Texas was an independent republic when it became a state.

# News of the Churches

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**Gloss-Tex Brilliantine**  
50c Makes the hair soft and glossy and keeps it in good condition without leaving it oily or gummy.

**Strait-Tex Herbs**  
50c Is a vegetable preparation that actually straightens and restores the original color to gray or faded hair. Color permanent—positively will not rub off, no matter how often the hair is shampooed. Three shades: Black, Brown and Chestnut-Brown.

**Kokomo Shampoo**  
40c Is made from pure coconut oil; cleans the scalp and roots of the hair in a natural, healthy manner.

**Bronze Beauty Vanishing Cream**  
50c Is a soothing, greenless vanishing face cream that does not grow hair.

**Bronze Beauty Lemon Cream**  
50c Is nourishing, softening and stimulating to the skin; is filled with a triple strength of oil of lemon—making it mild, bleaching cream.

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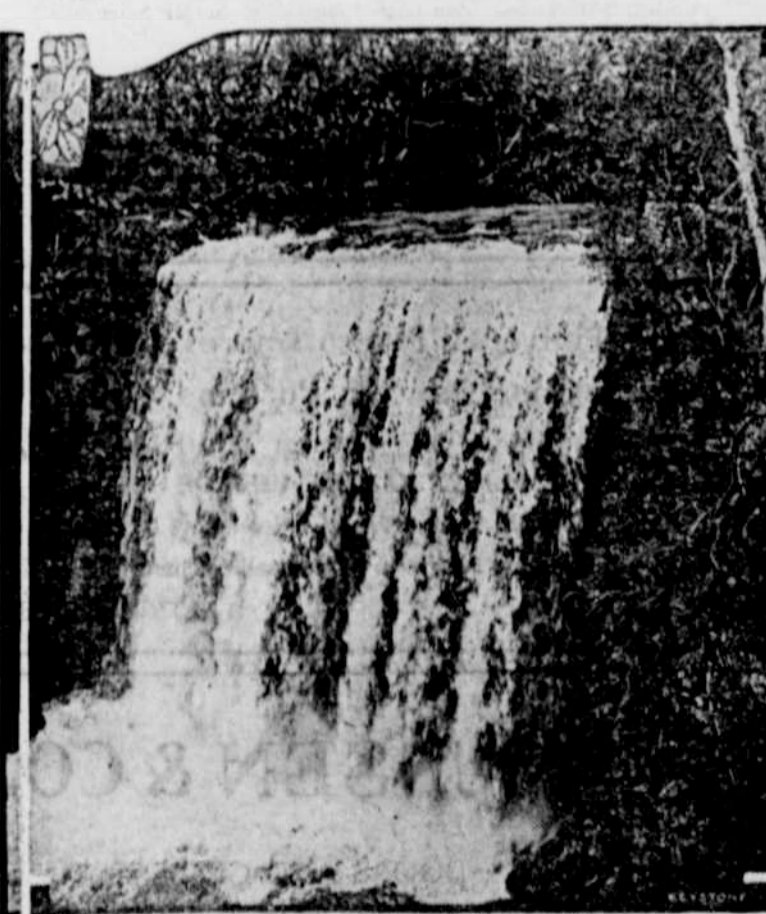
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## More Water to Be Given Minnehaha



Minnehaha falls, the beautiful and famous waterfall at Minneapolis, has been nearly dry for some years owing to the diversion of water. The city has now arranged to supply water for the falls either from wells or by tapping an underground stream, and Minnehaha will be restored.

## Boss Bans Nude Colors; Girl Employees Protest

Cardiff.—The manager of a large business house has created consternation among his women employees and those of other concerns, by issuing instructions that his staff must not wear champagne-colored or flesh-colored stockings in the office during business hours.

This has developed into quite a controversy and the great question of the day is "Are light stockings and abbreviated skirts permissible for business girls?"

One girl has revolted and resigned rather than wear the orthodox black stockings. She says: "My stockings do not interfere with my efficiency, and there is no reason why, because I am a business girl, I should not be smart. Besides, in this hot weather light stockings make one feel cooler. Anyhow, they look cooler."

## Gulps Nickel; Dies

Toledo, Ohio.—A nickel swallowed by three-year-old Louis Roberts two weeks ago caused the boy's death at a hospital here. The child became ill shortly after swallowing the coin and was taken to the hospital.

## The Best Plan

"Don't worry about anonymous letters. The best thing is not to open them at all!"—From Buen Humor, Madrid.

Writing on the labor unions organized by his party, Mussolini argues they are different from those in all other countries in two respects: they accept fully the idea of fatherland, rejecting any internationalism which implies political adherence or class fealty breaking through national boundaries, and they consider capital not as an element to be suppressed, but as one to be liberated and strengthened for the benefit of the fatherland.

Insists it's insurrection. Supporting the thesis that Fascism came into power by a revolution and is now defending itself as a revolutionary government, the premier asserts that the two years before the now famous "March on Rome" constituted a war between Fascism and the government then in power.

Answering the objection that the march on Rome was a parliamentary coup d'etat, Mussolini maintains that it was an insurrection, adding that a revolution does not necessarily coincide with its most important insurrectional acts which, he declares, is but a single moment of the revolution and often not the first one. If the Fascist revolution were comparatively bloodless, it was merely because the government in power realized it would have been folly to resist.

The premier concludes his survey with a plea that Fascists realize the possibilities and necessities of the revolution, that they keep ever in mind the need for defending it and using it militantly against its opponents who are hence not merely peaceful parliamentary enemies but traitors and subversives.

**Maoris Trace Forbear to Hawaiian Islands**  
Honolulu.—Many of the Maoris of New Zealand consider their race had its origin in Hawaii centuries ago. It has been revealed by Rattina Jakob, a prominent Maori. He is here with a group of Mormon church-workers from Australia to visit the famous Mormon temple at Laie, Oahu.

Jakob said he had traced his ancestry back to a chieftain named Hema, who ruled the island of Hawaii. After a devastating war in which Hema was defeated badly and forced to flee from the island for his life, he and a few companions set sail for the south in huge war canoes. Maori legends have it that they landed in New Zealand.

Jakob said the Maoris had established the names of the canoes in which their ancestors went from Hawaii to New Zealand.

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