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The influence of weekly newspapers on public opinion exceeds that of all other publications in the country.—Arthur Brisbane.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1932

COMPETITION FOR BUSSES

The big busses, having deprived the railroads of a large share of business, particularly on hauls of 50 to 250 miles, are now faced with stern competition which looms up ominously to check their progress.

Admittedly, the railroads cannot compete with the low fare busses on traffic to Portland, Springfield, Hartford, New York and other places. Stiff competition among the bus operators has reduced bus fares to amazingly low figures.

It is hard to see how any of the long distance bus lines can make money at present.

But, even their low fares have not consolidated the business for them.

They are now being severely pressed by the operators of 7-passenger limousine lines and these new comers have offered transportation at figures below the bus rates in many instances.

We have these limousine lines to Portland, Lewiston, Worcester, Hartford, Springfield and other places. Recently the bus line to Maine were forced to a deep cut in rates to meet this competition.

Automobile owners will wonder how these 7-passenger cars can carry people such long distances at so low a price. Only a few of these cars seem to carry the full capacity of passengers.

How they can possibly compete with the huge busses carrying 23 to 33 passengers when filled to capacity is a mystery. On some of these Maine trips where the limousine fare is but \$1.25 the proceeds of the trips would hardly seem to pay the salary of the driver, if he gets any sort of a reasonable wage. Even with seven passengers the profit, if any, must be extremely small.

Surely, everything in the matter of cost per passenger must be in favor of the big busses yet they are seriously menaced by this new angle in transportation.

AUTO DRIVER—LOOK AT YOURSELF

It is time the automobile driver took a look at himself.

Personal traits and characteristics are as much to blame for our appalling highway death rate as are incompetence and ignorance. The driver who passes on hills and curves, who operates his car at excessive speeds, who hogs the road and drives on the wrong side of the highway, who "weaves" and cuts in and out, is the driver who, no matter how great his skill, causes a large share of the 35,000 deaths each year.

The most encouraging sign at present is the wide public interest in highway safety—an interest which has grown amazingly the last year or two. Traffic laws are being studied. Surveys of accident statistics are being made. There is less theorizing and more dealing with honest facts.

Every state should have laws in accord with modern conditions. One of the most necessary steps is more drastic supervision of youthful drivers—it has been found that drivers under 20 have a 39 per cent worse record than the average, while those between 40 and 50 have a record 29 per cent better than the average. Automobiles should be periodically inspected in the matter of brakes, steering, lights, etc. Examinations of ap-

plicants for drivers' licenses should be conducted with extreme care.

The automobile death rate can and must be lowered. There is no place for the reckless, the incompetent, and the mentally or physically defective on our streets and highways. Sixty-five thousand deaths in two years is mute testimony to the need for quick and decisive action.

FOUR FARM PROBLEMS

C. O. Moser, President of the National Cooperative Council and Vice-President of the American Cotton Cooperative Association, recently pointed out that the prosperity of the farmer depends upon four things:

1. The cost of his production.
2. The volume of his production.
3. The price he obtains for what he produces.
4. The price he pays from what he buys.

As Mr. Moser observed, the first two are largely the problems of the individual. The next two are mainly the problems of the farmer as a group. They are the reason-for-being of the cooperative movement.

No single farmer, dealing with a large buying or selling organization, can have a voice in price. He must take what he is offered or lose the business. When he joins with thousands of other farmers whose problems and hopes are one with his, the shoe is on the other foot. The buying or selling organization has met its equal—and the price is much more likely to be a fair one.

No cooperative, of course, can raise prices to the desired level in times like these. What they can do is to keep them higher than they would otherwise be and prepare the groundwork for future achievements. All over the country the cooperative movement is making gains, both in strength and membership, and the results are beginning to show. When the economic clouds clear, an organized agriculture can be ready for a period of prosperity unprecedented in this century.

A STEP TOWARD RECOVERY

In August, 1926, the railroads of the country employed 1,793,067 persons.

In August, 1929, they employed 1,681,252 persons.

In August, 1932, they employed 996,319—the smallest since 1899.

In addition, reduced purchases by railroads from coal mines and other industries have caused even larger reduction in employment.

The railroads are not employing 797,000 less people now than they did in 1926 because they do not want to provide employment. They are employing less because gigantic decreases in railroad earnings have made it impossible for them to take any other course than decisive retrenchment. Had the decreases been the result of depression alone, they would seem much less important than they are. But the principal cause of transportation difficulties is, and has been, the inequalities in our transportation policy.

The railroads make no unreasonable requests. Here is what they do ask: That they be given fair treatment and that all forms of commercial transportation be placed on an equitable basis before the law. This means that the government must stop subsidizing waterways and that highway competitors must receive regulation similar to that now exerted over the railroads. When that is done, hundreds of thousands of railroad men will return to their jobs, a multitude of other industries will be stimulated—and we will have taken a long step toward recovery.

CUTTING DOWN

Who said the government is not cutting down on its expenditures? A new pay cut for the staff of the White House has been ordered by the President. Several thousand dollars will be saved by the government through this reduction, which is the second affecting the

White House employees. In the meantime, the governmental deficit is increasing at the rate of some \$5000 a minute and has already reached the \$700,000,000 mark.



WE ARE not going

* * *

TO SAY this happened

* * *

IN SALISBURY but we

* * *

MIGHT INTIMATE that

* * *

IT DID. The story

* * *

GOES TO show that you

* * *

CAN NEVER tell what

* * *

YOU ARE doing these

* * *

DAYS. A certain farmer

* * *

WHO HAD mortgaged his

* * *

FARM TO the bank was

* * *

CALLED IN by the banker

* * *

AND TOLD that the note

* * *

WAS DUE and must be

* * *

PAID THE following day.

* * *

THE FARMER asked, "Were

* * *

YOU EVER in the farming

* * *

BUSINESS?" TO which the

* * *

BANKER REPLIED, "No."

* * *

"WELL," SAID the farmer

* * *

AS HE walked out,

* * *

"YOU ARE now."

* * *

I THANK YOU.

Local Highs To Play 17 Cage Games

The following schedule has been announced for the 1932-1933 high school basketball season. Seventeen games will be played in all.

The schedule follows:

Dec. 14—Oak Ridge there.

Dec. 17—Alumni here.

Jan. 6—Davidson fresh here.

Jan. 10—Davidson fresh there.

Jan. 13—Gaston here.

Jan. 20—Spencer here.

Jan. 21—Greensboro there.

Jan. 27—High Point here.

Jan. 31—Winston-Salem there.

Feb. 3—Greensboro here.

Feb. 7—Gaston here.

Feb. 10—Charlotte here.

Feb. 14—Spencer there.

Feb. 17—High Point there.

Feb. 18—Oak Ridge here (pending).

Feb. 21—Charlotte there.

Feb. 24—Winston-Salem here.

CRESS GRANGE

Cress Grange held its regular meeting Friday night, December 2. A literary program was given. After which the members enjoyed a chicken stew. We were glad to have with us Mr. A. M. Miller from Patterson grange.

Mr. J. W. Safrit is visiting home folks.

Evelyn Menius and Virginia Cress spent the week-end with Mrs. Delmer Huffman of near High Rock.

Mr. L. B. Bassinger can boast of pulling a watermelon from his patch November 30. Who can beat that?

Shot When His Dog Fires Gun

St. Albans, Vt.—The playful antics of his dog resulted in the wounding of John Gravelin, 16, while on a rabbit hunting expedition.

He had dropped on one knee and rested his left arm on the muzzle of his rifle. His dog playfully jumped on him, one paw striking the trigger and causing the rifle to discharge.

DR. FEW IS HONORED

Dr. W. P. Few, president of Duke university, was elected president of the Association of Colleges of the Southern States at New Orleans.

Favor Repeal Of Dry Law

(Continued from page one)

away with gangsters and bootleggers."

"I pray every night that congress will not repeal the 18th amendment," one lady declared. "I have five children and I do not want them to touch whiskey as long as they live. I do not want them to be able to buy it anywhere at any time. I think if we would better enforce the law, the problem would be solved."

"I think congress should modify the Volstead act to allow light wines and beer. I do not see the necessity or wisdom of repeal. Personally I don't drink liquor, but I would like to have light wines and beer." This was the opinion of another merchant on Main Street.

A political leader said:

"Prohibition should be taken out of politics. It is being used as a political football. It is not a political issue, in the proper sense. It is an economic or moral issue and should be so considered. You can't legislate morals or prosperity so why waste time trying."

Cleveland Rt. 2

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Merrell spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Campbell.

Mrs. T. D. Steele spent a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. S. Steele, last week.

Miss Pauline Turner had a number of her friends at her home Saturday night for a social party. After an interesting evening of contests and games, sandwiches, cake and cocoa were served to the following:

Misses Viola Gaither, Jamie Knox, Blanch Perry, Nellie Brinkley, Rebecca Campbell, Mamie Miller, Gladys Wilhelm, Ruby and Hazel Johnson and Messrs. Henry Phifer, Larry Long, Darr Miller, Oscar Shuping, Flowe and Joe McDaniel, Paul Burton and Kenneth Gray.

Little Herbert Campbell, the 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Campbell, is suffering from acute Poliomyelitis, or infantile paralysis we are very sorry to note. Miss Ruby Johnson has been with him for a week and will continue to stay there for some time.

Mrs. Sam Burton is also on the sick list now. We hope they are well soon.

Mrs. Jonnie Campbell was removed from the home of her daughter, Mrs. Clifford Troutman, at Statesville and brought to her home, Tuesday, in an ambulance. She stood the trip remarkably well we are glad to know.

Miss Ruby Johnson and Mr. Paul Burton spent last week-end near Advance, with Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Merrell.

There was a pie supper at Pine Grove school house Saturday night in benefit of the Sunday school.

The many friends of Miss Thelma Atkins and Mr. Elmer Knox will learn with interest of their marriage in South Carolina last Saturday.

Miss Christene Wooten is visiting Miss Geneva Lackey near Harmony.

Rev. Thetus Pritchard, minister of the church of Christ, preached Sunday night at Corinth on "There is no room in the Inn" concerning the birth of Christ. Rev. and Mrs. Pritchard are moving to Arkansas this week, their many friends will be sorry to learn.

There were services at Providence L. E. Church Sunday at 3 o'clock by the Pastor, Rev. R. H. Kepley. Mrs. Kepley was operated on at Dr. Davis' Sanatorium Monday. We wish for her a speedy recovery.

AUTO SALES IMPROVE

Detroit.—Automobile manufacturers saw a favorable trend in reports indicating from 115,000 to 130,000 automobiles would be placed in the market in December. Dow, Jones & Co., placed the number at 125,965. Models in the hands of dealers were said to have decreased sharply.

HAMLET MAN HONORED

Hamlet.—The many friends of Lieut.-Com. and Mrs. Thomas L. Morrow of Hamlet will be glad to know that he has been awarded the medal of distinction by the president of the republic Managua in connection with his medical services there recently.

BADIN HOUSE BURNS