

WORLD NEWS
—In—
BRIEF FORM

From Near and Far, Some Timely, Some of Human Interest

It didn't take a Solomon to settle a dispute over the ownership of Polly Ann, of Cleveland, a yellow parrot. At central police station in the presence of the two claimants, Mrs. Arthur Hagedorn and Mrs. Joseph Bagnoli, Polly squawked a "Hello" to Mrs. Hagedorn. She got the bird.

At York, S. C., fifteen months ago, Frank Rhyan threw several small chicks, apparently dead, into a 30-foot abandoned gold mine. He heard a clucking in the mine recently, he said, and brought to the surface a full grown hen he found at the bottom of the pit. Rhyan said she was all right except the light hurt her eyes.

L. C. Vanpatten of Cheney, Wash., had the last laugh, in a way, on burglars who peeled off the back of his safe and smashed in the front without getting at the contents. The safe was not locked.

If Lawrence J. Hanna of Madison, Misc., had not been so polite, he might not be presenting the city with a \$200 injuries claim. He met two women on a dark street the night of June 11, he said, and politely stepped to one side—right into an open man hole. He asked the damages for large portions of skin scraped off his face, and for employment lost because of other injuries.

"Where have I seen you before?" asked Acting Judge J. J. Quillin of a transient charged with drunkenness at Portland, Ore. "Why, I remember! You panhandled me and when I refused you gave me the best 'cussing out' I ever received. Thirty days."

At Livingston, Mont., a large tomcat was stalking a robin. Incensed, William B. Calhoun threw a rock at the cat, missed. Calhoun went to a hospital, his arm broken by the heave.

When her hand caught in the wringer, Mrs. Addie A. Gehlauf, 36, fell headlong into her washing machine and drowned.

Mrs. Irene McCabe, who rushed to Spokane, Wash., from Cleveland to be at the bedside of her mother, Mrs. George Harber, was handed a telegram a few moments after her mother's death. The message said her husband, Albert, 40, had just died in Cleveland from a heart attack.

At Brockton, Mass., doctors walked to the bedside of Elizabeth Shaw, 17, and handed her a newspaper clipping. Elizabeth read the story, about a New Jersey girl who lost both legs but mastered artificial limbs and even learned to dance. "How brave that girl must have been," she said. "You must be brave, too," one doctor replied. Then she realized what the doctors were trying to tell her. "I will be brave," she said. Her right leg had been amputated above the knee as the result of a bicycle-automobile collision.

When the Dupont, Pa., borough council told WPA officials it was unable to provide trucks for use on a project, 150 workers took matters in their own hands. They solicited voluntary contributions, raised \$450, purchased two trucks and turned the titles over to the council. Now they ride to work.

R. W. Buskirk of Logan, W. Va., who lives next door to a new power plant, sued the company for \$40,000, claiming the vibration from generators was shaking his house down. The jury returned a verdict in his favor—for \$1.

John B. Ely, prospective juror in the trial of a Los Angeles man charged with robbing a bank messenger, was asked if he could judge fairly. "I'm a little nervous about these matters," he replied. "I've been held up three times in banks where I have been employed." He was excused—promptly.

Pitching a no-hit, no-run game and then not winning is the hard luck of Bruno Vitz of Lambert, Pa., in the Frick League. Although allowing four hits, the opposing Smock hurler didn't allow a run either and the contest was called at the end of the ninth because of darkness.

Fourteen thousand WPA works of art have been allotted to tax-supported institutions.

Francis Strang, 20-year-old Indianapolis high school student, says he's the world's champion movie fan. He figures he's seen at least 1,665 moving pictures in four years. Francis goes 4 or 5 times a week to shows—most of them double features.

Typewriters for Rent—The Advocate.

Motor Vehicle Taxes in New Mexico Are Higher Than National Average

New Mexico motorists are paying motor vehicle taxes which are on an average 20.2 per cent higher than the national average, Dudley, Cornell, secretary of the New Mexico Petroleum Industries Committee, declared following an analysis made by his organization of the various taxes paid by motor vehicle operators in this state last year.

The committee found the average motor vehicle operator in this state paid \$61.47 in special automotive taxes last year, compared with average payments of \$51.13 made in the nation as a whole. One of the principal reasons for the higher taxes paid by motorists in this state was found to be the state and federal gasoline taxes, which total 6 cents a gallon and amount to \$41.33 a vehicle during the course of a year. This is 67.24 per cent of the entire motor vehicle tax bill paid and is substantially higher than the average federal and state gasoline taxes paid elsewhere in the United States.

The motorist in New Mexico has

another charge not included in these figures which further increases his tax above the national average, the municipal gasoline tax levied by twenty-two cities in the state, and which cost the motorist \$177,094 in 1938, Cornell said.

"There is no reason why the motorists of this state should be asked to pay disproportionately higher taxes on the operation of their vehicles than do the motorists of the other states," Cornell said.

"It looks to me as though we in this state ought to look carefully over our tax bills to see whether we cannot get some measure of reduction. The first place to start is with the unfair city taxes. These should be repealed first, and then other reductions can follow. The most alarming aspect of the whole tax situation is the constant increase of the tax burden year by year. During 1938 thirty-five of the forty-eight states in the Union experienced a reduction in the amount of taxes paid upon automotive vehicles, but New Mexico was one of the few

W. E. KERR WILL LEAD CONFERENCE DISCUSSION

W. E. Kerr, superintendent of the Artesia public schools, accompanied by Mrs. Kerr, is spending several days in Santa Fe and Las Vegas this week in interest of school matters. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr will go to Las Cruces the first of the week, where Mr. Kerr will lead in the panel discussion at a general conference of state educators to be held there July 18 and 19.

The subject of discussion will be "A State Program for Improvement of Instruction." A large number of state educators are expected to attend this conference.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Story and grandson, Lewis W., spent the week end at the Artesia Sacramento Camp.

states that experienced an increase. There is a general leveling off of the motorists' tax burden throughout the nation, showing a rebellion on the part of the overburdened motorist to increased taxes, and it is time that the New Mexico motorists assert themselves to prevent continued tax increases."

Meditations
Of Your Country Cousin

Well, th' "month of brides" is ove—an' then came th' fireworks!

If you ain't plum relieved to get back to your "daily grind," you just ain't had a successful vacation.

You know, this here "patriotism" must be a funny sort of thing if you judge by th' effect it has on folks. Some shoot off a lot of fireworks, some loudly denounce th' dictators, an' some get drunk—an' there's some that just cut th' weeds alongside their fences or get rid of th' breedin' places of th' flies an' mosquitoes!

We ought to be thankful that we do not see so well as we get older! We ain't near so apt t' be discouraged a-seein' our own grey hairs 'n' wrinkles—an' we don't notice 'em so much in our friends, either.

"Calf-love" is like th' measles. It ain't funny 'ceptin' to them that's had a right smart spell themselves!

Most of us find it's blamed hard to tell if it's "opportunity" that's knockin' at our door—or th' wolf er just some queer actin' hobo.

A lot of us are "weak zippers" these days.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil B. Watson have had as their guests this last week, Mr. Watson's mother, Mrs. Fred Whipple, and a sister, Miss Alice Whipple, both of Kansas City, Mo., a sister-in-law, Mrs. Howard Watson, and her sons, Howard, Jr., and Bob, of Hutchinson, Kan. The visitors arrived last Thursday afternoon.

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