







THE CISCO AMERICAN

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REGULATING AUTOMOBILES.

Speed and other automobile regulation is found to be less simple than it used to appear, and probably more time and thought is now being given to this problem by the police departments everywhere than to any other law violation.

As in the case of many other kinds of legislation, automobile speed laws often fail to accomplish their purpose. The most obvious fact about auto traffic in busy cities is that, for the sake of safety, cars should move slowly through the business section.

Another fact not always recognized is this—that the rate of speed may be of less importance than the care and skill of the driver. A car driven by an incapable, nervous or reckless person may be more dangerous at 15 miles an hour than the same car driven by a competent, well-balanced driver at 25 or 30 miles.

Cities, therefore, while making effort to control the careless and criminal driver, are finding it more and more necessary to recognize the two facts mentioned, and make some kind of compromise. Traffic rules theoretically ought to be perfectly definite, and yet in practice it is found wise to allow a considerable amount of flexibility.

In some cities automobilists, by open or tacit consent, are given a margin of several miles an hour over the strictly legal speed limit, of which they may avail themselves on streets where there is little traffic interference, or at any times and places that reduce the danger.

This policy will work just to the extent that autoists show themselves morally responsible.

AMERICA'S STANDING ARMY.

Those who insist that the standing army of the United States is too large with 158,000 men are likely to learn with surprise that it ranks fourteenth in size among the world's national armies, and twenty-fifth in comparison with the population represented.

Among the little countries having larger armies than ours are Rumania with 165,000; Spain with 216,000; Poland with 290,000, and Abyssinia with 571,000. What Abyssinia wants with that huge army is beyond comprehension.

Great Britain, with 237,000, seems to have a very moderate-sized army, when her vast possessions are considered. She is confronted with the necessity of doing police duty in all quarters of the world and at the same time keeping watch over troubled Europe.

Small as the American army is, the majority of Americans are satisfied that it is quite large enough, and glad that it is destined soon to suffer another small reduction.

This country, feared and courted by all nations, does not need a great military force to protect itself and make its influence felt.

A bill has been introduced in congress to give independent citizenship to married women. Up to the present time, an alien woman coming to this country would receive American citizenship automatically if she married a man who was naturalized.

THE COAL INDUSTRY.

As a rule, the Cisco American favors the most severe punishment possible for those guilty of treason or chronic plotting against the government of the United States, but the acquittal of the first West Virginia miners charged with treason was not much of a surprise.

The armed march of the miners, which afforded the basis of the charge, was admittedly intolerable. Yet, as a fact of human nature, no doubt taken into consideration by the jury, those miners felt themselves greatly wronged and many of them believed they had no recourse except armed warfare.

They had lost confidence in the public authorities, because the authorities were controlled by their employers. And the employers have their side.

Doubtless most of them sincerely believe that there is no other way to deal with the miners than by employing armed guards in the guise of deputy sheriffs and subsidizing the machinery of law enforcement. It seems to be a case of considerable sincerity, lack of comprehension and intolerable offense on both sides.

If treason has been committed, it has been committed by the coal industry as a whole.

Washington Bissell, oldest lawyer and oldest Mason in the country, is 102. From his home at Great Barrington, Mass., he sends a word that one of the chief reasons why he has lived so long is that he has been a heavy pipe smoker since he was 12. This will be sad news to the anti-tobacco crusaders, but it seems to be true.

SUSPENDERS AND LONG SKIRTS.

A good deal has been said about the prospect of lengthened skirts for women. Rumor has it that fashion decrees long skirts and many a scoffer at the feminine contingent says bitterly that we shall soon see that women don't really wear short skirts because they are hygienic, comfortable and sensible, but only because it was or is the style.

Now fashion is making insidious inroads into the vaunted freedom and good sense of men. An observer reports that suspenders are coming back. As Paris leads the way in establishing women's attire, so does London for men's, and "English gentlemen have gone back to suspenders." New Yorkers are wearing 'em already and Cisco and the rest of the country is likely to follow soon.

A disinterested onlooker might have a little fun watching to see which comes back with greater strength—the long skirts or the unsightly suspenders.

Eastland county has three thriving cities of the 7,000 to 12,000 class, with a total population of more than 70,000 people, yet there is not a government-owned post-office building in the county. Why?

At Mineola, N. Y., Bert Acosta flew his Curtiss wild-cat airplane at the rate of 208 miles an hour, which shattered the world's speed record by five miles. But what interested the crowd most was the Mummert, the world's smallest airplane. It weighs 550 pounds, has a wing spread of 18 feet and measures only 12 feet the other way. This is close to the long-desired flying flivver. All that is needed now is quantity production and device that will enable the plane to rise or descend perpendicularly, instead of having to take off by gliding over a long land field. This missing link will soon be found!

The church collection plate interests nearly everybody. Money contributed to Protestant churches of this country has doubled since the war ended. This fact was disclosed at the Atlantic City conference of the federal council of churches. The report says 17,000,000 persons last year contributed \$320,000,000 to 17 Protestant churches. The average for each contributor was about 35 cents a week.

The veterans of foreign wars have demanded informal resolutions that aliens now living in this country learn to speak English and become citizens, and that those who—for any reason—cannot acquire citizenship, be deported at once. These are reasonable demands. There is no room in this country for the resident who cannot speak the language of the country after a reasonable length of time.

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

RIGHTEOUSNESS BRINGS REJOICING:—When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.—Proverbs 29:2.

SENTENCE SERMONS

Anybody can put over an easy job; it takes a big man to overcome obstacles. To occupy oneself with thoughts and plans for the betterment of the world is a most commendable task. To hear some men talk you would think they are the main actors in the Big Show.

I WAS WONDERING

ABOUT RENTING. WHAT HE'S talking ABOUT. AND I wish there WERE A few THOUSAND MORE queer MEN LIKE him. WHO THINK a house IS A place to RAISE KIDS in. AND NOT just a BUILDING TO get RENT FROM. WITH NO marks ON THE wall. AND NO scratches ON THE floor. WHAT IF they DO GET on the GRASS? BOYS ARE better THAN KEEP off SIGNS. ON GRASS. ANY DAY. I'VE NOTICED you CAN'T RAISE boys AND GRASS on THE SAME spot. AT THE same time. I WAS WONDERING WHICH IS worth MORE—BOYS OR grass? ANYWAY. —McAlpine.

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

At times one can't tell which will get here first, prosperity or posterity.—Waterbury Democrat. It is generally agreed that whoever founded England located it too near Ireland.—New York Tribune. New York has a statue of Civic Virtue. Cities always put up statues to their dead.—Washington Post. "Rockefeller has \$7 for every person in America."—News Item. Try and get it.—Newspaper Enterprise Association. Members of the House of Lords call themselves gentlemen, but they wouldn't give Lady Rhonda a seat.—New York American. "What will become of our young people?" wails a reformer. Oh, they'll grow old and worry about the young people.—Bridgeport Star. France and Italy will join England in investigating Turkish atrocities. We saw a man smoking one yesterday.—Newspaper Enterprise Association. Unfortunately, the bobbing of hair doesn't always have the same effect. When Samson was shorn, they made him go to work.—Hartford Times. They have to introduce a bill in the house but some of the bills that come to our house are old acquaintances.—Hartford Times.

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