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THE QUALITY OF MERCY

HAUPTMANN EXECUTION

WITH the electrocution last Friday night of Bruno Richard Hauptmann, the formal end was made to one of the greatest dramas of American crime. Yet there is still a lingering mystery about the case which gives many of us the feeling that the whole truth is not yet out and that only with time will the complete story be known. Even though the machinery of law has automatically taken definite action in the condemnation and execution of the believed offender of society, there seem to be none who are absolutely confident that justice has been done in its entirety.

Of the original principals of the case, two have died from suicide, several have departed for their original homes in Europe, others have taken lengthened vacations outside of the country, the Lindberghs themselves have taken up abode in England, and even those who still remain here indicate by their guarded statements and actions that they really know more about the matter than they are willing to tell.

The system of courts in the United States has often been criticized as the slowest and most inefficient of any in the larger countries of the world. Years of time are often spent on a case, taxpayers' money is wasted unnecessarily, and too often the criminal is allowed to escape with insufficient penalty for his crime, merely because of the technicalities of the case. Yet there are times like the present when it seems that hasty, harsh action is taken.

Who is there who has kept close watch of this case who has not wondered what thoughts lie behind the steeled stare of the doomed Bronx carpenter? Is Mr. Hauptmann innocent of the major crime, or is he trying to shield someone else in the case, or is he really guilty of all of which he has been accused? The jury has said guilty and in so saying has given him the benefit of all the fairness of trial by jury as we have fairness at the present time. It makes one wonder whether the quality of justice in our courts is sufficient. This is a case in which it seems that it is not sufficient.

GET THE PEDESTRIAN

NOT ALWAYS DRIVER'S FAULT

AUTOMOBILE drivers have been severely criticized during the past few months for general carelessness on the highway; the pedestrians, however, are evidently regarded as inoffensive beings.

In truth, while the drivers cause accidents by carelessness, pedestrians are causing accidents by deliberate breaking of the law and by relying on their helplessness to force the drivers to watch out for them.

The attitude toward the pedestrian seems to be that he cannot hurt the motor car, while the motor car can hurt him, so the man on foot therefore must be the innocent party in every case and the driver the guilty party. As a direct result of this opposition, the penalties of the

law are applied almost exclusively to the automobile drivers, and practically never to the man on foot.

The pedestrian himself, moreover, seems to feel subconsciously, that his is a God-given immunity, that the same solicitude must be shown him as is shown to old ladies and young children. He realizes that even when he is breaking the law, the driver of a car will not dare hit him under penalty of fine or imprisonment, or suit for damages.

It should not be advocated that automobiles run over pedestrians who jay walk or dash across in front of cars, but it is true that some of the blame for accidents, both to pedestrians and sometimes against inanimate obstacles, be removed from the drivers and placed on the shoulders of careless, reckless, lawless pedestrians.

The present laws provide no effective laws to curb the foot traffic in its carelessness and recklessness; the only danger to the pedestrian is the physical danger, that is not realized until the accident has occurred. The attempt should be to penalize the man on foot before he is a cripple or a corpse, and not to wait until it is too late to save his life or health.

Those people who disobey the law on foot should be fined just as rigidly as if they were in a car. Crossing against the lights should draw the same fine that an automobile driver would get for a similar offense, and jay walking should be as criminal as cutting in and out of line.

The pedestrian often walks away from serious accidents when the driver is wrapped around a telephone pole, having crashed in an attempt to avoid the careless man on foot; when the pedestrian is injured, he collects from the driver's insurance company, and the driver may go to jail; when the driver is injured, he's just another reckless fool, that pays his own doctor's bills. Why not give the driver a relief and make the pedestrian obey the law too?

With The American College Editor

TARIFF BALLYHOO

Since 1900 there has been a rapidly growing economic nationalism among the nations of the world. This has resulted in an era of high tariffs which has undoubtedly retarded the economic growth and prosperity of mankind.

The main arguments for "protection" by means of a duty, which, in reality, is the imposition of a tax on some or all of the goods crossing a national boundary, are to a large extent fallacious. Similarly, the ardent free traders may be openly condemned for their failure to realize the benefits and the necessity of a tariff under peculiar circumstances.

The common cry of the manufacturer seeking a protective tariff for the products of his industry is that his foreign competitors pay lower wages to their employees than he does and therefore they have an unfair advantage over him. To the politicians and Tariff Boards, whose knowledge of tariff principles has been woefully lacking in past years, this argument appears to be very reasonable. If this were so, a country of high wages, like the United States, would be unable to compete with European countries whose level of wages is relatively lower. American industries would go bankrupt and there would be countrywide unemployment. The misconception upon which this point is based is that high wages means high cost of production. However, this is not the case. The only reason that the level of wages is higher in the United States than in France is because the employees of American factories are more productive than the French workmen.

If a Frenchman produces 5 shoes a day for a daily wage of \$3, each shoe he produces would cost the employer 60c for wages. If an American who is paid \$5 a day can turn out 10 shoes a day, it is only costing the employer 50c a shoe for wages. Thus, while the American employee receives a higher wage than the Frenchman he is, in reality, the "cheaper" man. As long as the Japanese continue to be inefficient in the manufacture of textiles it makes no difference to the American textile industries what wages are paid to the Japanese workmen. Since the American is adapted to the use of machinery he can produce more articles in one hour than an European can in the same period; thus, the unitary cost is lower.

Tariffs, however, have an important service to perform. An infant industry which is just commencing operations may have large expenses which will bear very heavily upon it until it is able to increase its production to the point of maximum efficiency. After it has become firmly established, under normal conditions, it will be able to compete successfully with foreign producers.

Iron manufactures grew enormously during the period of high protection in the United States. To a large extent this was a direct result of a protection tariff. Without it the iron industry would never have been established on a competitive basis with the iron industry of England which was founded many years previous to that of the United States.

The general principle of any tariff is to restrict the importation of articles which domestic producers can only manufacture at a higher cost. In this regard the community, as a whole, suffers in being forced to sustain an inefficient industry—one which should discontinue operations. On the other hand, the economist or politician who urges the cancellation of all tariffs should pass into oblivion, where many of Mr. Roosevelt's Brain Trust have already gone and where Mr. Aberhart is destined to go, because of their misunderstanding of the fundamental economic principles.

The effect of any tariff can only be discerned by the examination of each particular case. It is sheer folly to say that the imposition of all tariffs is a hindrance to economic growth or that prosperity will be achieved by raising tariffs against foreign imports.



Science

Those of us who prefer to acquire velocity over a period of time by a two-inch movement of the right toe, or, to use an obsolescent term, "to drive a car," have been annoyed for the past two months or so by the off-set scooters with which Hollywood stars woo figures. (Photographical and cashable). It seems that the fad has at last hit Boston. We have received the following report from one of our contributors.

"Over in one of the hardware stores on Summer street, there is a sort of glorified scooter. The back wheel is about the size of a bicycle wheel but it is off center so that the axle traces a cycloid as the gadget moves along. The man at the store said that the thing would go 20 m. p. h. The reason he gave was that when the axle was highest above the ground it would coast down and thus gain momentum. I asked, why the added momentum would not be neutralized by the upward climb of the axle. He replied that the cycle was so fast that there was not time enough to lose the momentum."

Quotes from the Classrooms

After our last experience with this section, we look forward with interest to emphatic denials by the persons to whom these quotes are attributed. Not that it makes any difference. But even though the words may not be exactly the same, being more or less second-hand, the idea is there.

Lounger sub 5 reports "Just to prove that 8.02 is no apple pie, Prof. Sears commented, pointing to an equation containing a multitude of pi's, 'we don't need all these pi's do we?'"

Prof. Zeldin, pointing at the blackboard. "Now, gentlemen, let's run through this."

Thermo Prof. "Now we'll go through this nozzle."

Hardy (experiment having gone wrong) "Well, anyhow, those of you who repeat this course next year will be able to see it."

Structures Prof., "Now we'll go to the joint upstairs."

Bones and Bonus

The Veterans of Future Wars make their Technology debut . . . we are still trying to find out what the boys are going to do who are anti-war, and V. F. W. being as how it would be awfully funny if someone called their bluff, paid their bonus and declared war special so that they could make good. We have had a sort of theory about what to do with fiery militarists. Simply to spend all of the appropriations for armaments to transport them to an out of the way corner of the earth, like the Sahara or the South Pole, let them pick sides and fight it out. Give them all of the lethal weapons that are lying around unused so that they would get it over sooner.

But then they would probably get together and gang up on the rest of the world.

Geology as she is spoke

A prospector saved up his money for years to get a geologist's report on his property. When he received the document he could not make anything of it. It was all Greek to him. So he sat down and wrote a lament and complaint to the geologist, published by the Vancouver Daily Province as follows:

"It's not very gneiss of you to take my gold and give me just so much waste. I am schist going to telluride

Reviews and Previews

SHUBERT—On Your Toes, musical comedy extravaganza which is noted particularly for its scenes satirizing the classical ballet, ends its Boston engagement tomorrow evening. Next Saturday evening, the theater will be occupied by the play entitled *Night of January 16*. The latter play is occupied with the trial of a female defendant for murder. Its novel feature consists of having the members of the jury chosen from the audience, the jurors receiving the customary three dollar stipend.

PLYMOUTH—*Tobacco Road*, famous long-run play dealing with the plight of the poor white trash in the South, opens here next Monday. The play is based on the novel of the same name by Erskine Caldwell. Caldwell is noted for his works on the poor and downtrodden both in the South and in the industrial slums in the North. The play has the tremendous advantage of Henry Hull in the role of Jeeter Lester and the rest of the cast is composed of similar high caliber performers.

COPLEY—Mary Young presents the world premiere of *Storm Child* on April 13. Miss Young is to have the stellar lead in this forthcoming work.

Admissions

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credits of any one language will be allowed.

Chemistry and history, while no longer required, are recommended as useful preparatory subjects, because of the first year chemistry course, and because of the need of a knowledge of past history for a better understanding of the contemporary world.

The plan of admission under the upper fifth of the high or preparatory school graduating class remains unchanged, except that the required subjects are modified according to the new requirements.

Plan A, under which the student takes examinations in all required subjects, now only necessitates examinations in the four years of mathematics. School records must be presented in physics and ten units of electives, or the applicant must pass examinations in the subjects. Plan B remains unchanged in all main particulars.

Letters have been sent to 1400 high schools, notifying them of the change and every applicant who has requested admission will also be advised of the modifications.

I. F. C.

(Continued from Page 1)

for the selection of the most popular orchestra leader, began the climb to his present ranking position among orchestra leaders immediately after he graduated from Rutgers University where he was preparing for a career as a lawyer. Even while at college, Ozzie had helped pay his tuition by leading a small orchestra for campus parties and dances. Besides, he was elected president of the student council, captain of the university debating team, and to membership in various honorary campus organizations. A few days after graduation, Nelson made his professional debut with an orchestra of seven members, which soon was increased to sixteen. He has enjoyed lengthy and highly successful engagements at such prominent pleasure spots as the Glen Island Casino in New Rochelle, the Ritz Towers in New York city, the exclusive Indian Creek Club in Miami, Florida, and the fashionable Hotel New Yorker in New York city.

now that, try asbestos I could, I couldn't make heads or tailings of it. Perhaps you don't realize what albitite it puts me in. I tell you its tuff concentrate for so long on buying some advice and then having to tram it over the dump. Why, some of the words you couldn't pronounce if you had tungsten feet long. At first I thought I'd take arsenic and diorite then and there. But my better judgment has prevailed. I am going to take all the money I have left and go over to the barite now and in about twenty minutes albitite. Then perhaps I'll be able to understand your report."