

# The Downers Grove Reporter

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## BOOST! -- Don't Knock

### INTERESTING LETTER

The letter from Warren Wells tells of an automobile trip out of Reno, Nev., along the Lincoln Highway, and describes some of the beautiful scenery and points of interest. We should like to have been with him on this interesting trip.

Reno, Nevada, June 3, 1915.

Dear Walt:

Took an auto trip last Sunday, May 30, which might interest the readers of the Reporter.

We started out from Reno (seven of us in a Studebaker six) about 9 a. m. and followed the Lincoln Highway west along the beautiful Truckee River. The first town we drove through was Verdi, which has seven saloons, a lumber mill, and a population of about 200. About one mile west of Verdi we crossed the state line into California and almost immediately began to climb what is called the Dog Valley Grade. The road is very steep and narrow up this grade and we had to climb for nearly a half hour on first and second speeds. Reaching the top of the grade we had a beautiful view of Dog Valley nearly 1,000 feet below.

We soon crossed the Little Truckee River and then the road widened and improved and we drove into Truckee, California, about 35 miles from Reno. A few miles west of Truckee we came within sight of Donner Lake. It is a very beautiful piece of water and the Lincoln Highway skirts its shores its entire length of 3 1/2 miles. It is completely surrounded by forests of immense pine trees and great snow peaks rise up on every side. It is nearly 6,500 feet above sea level and within a very short distance of the summit of the Sierras. The snow

reaches a great depth there in the winter, sometimes being as deep as 20 feet and even last Sunday I was throwing snow balls up there with my coat off and sleeves rolled up and the thermometer registered a little above 80 degrees. At the summit the snow is still from 3 to 6 feet deep and there were seven autos lined up on the Lincoln Highway waiting for the snow to melt enough to allow them to get across.

From the shores of Donner Lake one can see miles and miles of snow sheds along the Southern Pacific as they wind their way around and up and finally cross at the summit. There are 32 miles of these snow sheds and the S. P. has a lookout near the summit where there are two men on constant duty. They can see the entire 32 miles of shed and can give the warning in case of fire, or slides or any danger whatever.

It was on the shores of beautiful Donner Lake where we stopped to eat lunch and I think I can tell you nearly correctly the early history of this lake.

In the year 1846 a large party of emigrants headed by the family of Donner were traveling west and winter overtook them just before they were able to get over the summit. The snow storms were terrible and they had few provisions. Before spring they were slowly starving to death and they drew lots to see who should go west for help. The first ones who went were never heard from and so a second party set out. After a hard struggle they finally got over the mountain, and secured aid. When they finally returned they found most of their party dead and the survivors were existing by eating the bodies of their dead comrades and also by using their bodies for fuel. Only about half a dozen lived and some of their de-

scendants are still inhabitants of this section of the country. Monuments have been erected to their memory on the shore of the lake and this is one of the many spots of interest which the tourist never fails to see when traveling west over the S. P.

However, to get back to our trip: we started for home about three o'clock but had only gone a few hundred feet when the engine stopped and we found that the gasoline tank was empty and the nearest town was Truckee, over six miles away. I was elected to walk to Truckee and get some gas and had covered about half the distance when the folks caught up with me in the car. They had borrowed a coffee-pot full from a machine which they had found camped farther back on the road. The coffee-pot did not hold enough, however, and before we got to town we stopped again. We were about one mile from Truckee and within a few hundred feet of the top of the last hill. There was with us a large party named Campbell, who weighed 210 lbs., and he and I got behind the car and pushed it to the top of the hill and we then jumped on and coasted into town and got within a block of a garage. After getting a tank full of gas we started again for home. We were about four miles out of Reno when we hit a very bad bump and broke a rear spring, but did not stop to repair it and we drove into Reno without any more trouble.

Everybody in the party enjoyed the day immensely, myself more than anyone else and our little bad luck was taken very good naturedly as the day wouldn't have been complete without it.

Our next trip will probably be to Lake Tahoe, the most beautiful summer resort in the world, and I shall try and tell about that trip later on.

Yours,  
WARREN WELLS.

### A "KESWICK" CONFERENCE

A "Keswick" conference is to be held in the Moody Bible Institute on the afternoons and evening of June 16-18, under the charge of Rev. W. H. Griffith Thomas, D. D., formerly of Oxford, England, and now a professor in Wycliff College, Toronto. Dr. Thomas has been a leading teacher at the famous Keswick Conference, held every summer in the Cumberland Lake region of England.

National Religion of Russia. Prince Vladimir of Russia, who brought the Greek religion to Russia in 982, preferred it because of its oriental form, and thought it stood closer to the Russian character than the rites of the Roman. He made Kiev the seat of the metropolitan, while the patriarch remained just the same in Constantinople. But Peter the Great forbade the Russian clergy to recognize the foreign patriarch, and founded the Holy Synod in 1722, which became the head of the Russian church. There are about 15,000 monks and 30,000 priests in Russia, the former celibates, the latter married. Besides there are some 5,000 nuns with 250 convents, of which Novo Devitchy is the largest of all.

### WESTERN WEDDING AT FOREST PARK FAIR GROUNDS

The Western Wedding to be performed at Forest Park, Thursday, June 17, at 7 p. m., is the only real Western Wedding ever performed in Chicago. With everything in keeping with the good old days when the West was young, and cowboys looked forward to these events which were made memorable by the brilliant setting of Indians, and the old time stage coach, gaily decorated with wild flowers, and ending in a grand finale. The Chase for the Bride, whichever one of the boys is the first to grab the Bride from her horse, receiving a kiss, which in most instances was very embarrassing to the New Bridegroom.

The Western Wedding at Forest Park Fair Grounds, will be an exact duplicate of the weddings performed in the days of '49. Anna E. Inman, the oldest American actress on the stage today, and the minister, and the bride's mother, riding in the stage coach, will lead the wedding procession. Immediately following on horseback, Charles M. Hackney, the groom, and Myrtle Vaughn, the bride, known in theatrical world as Dorothy Raymond, accompanied by cowboys, and one hundred Iroquois Indians.

### In the Face of Worries.

Here is a special reason for seeking society or the theater: Other people, in real life or on the stage (better in real life, of course, because there one has to talk back), can best pull one out of oneself when one's own powers are utterly inadequate. When actual causes of anxiety seem overwhelming, if one can be made to forget them for a time, hope comes into the ascendant. The best of all remedies is perhaps the most difficult, though not impossible. It is to "rise superior" to your troubles—to convince yourself, lift yourself, force yourself into the feeling of directorship—of competent and confident directorship of all your affairs. Add "with God's help" if you want to, for that may back up our worthy intentions more even than our ancestors began to realize—whatever they professed to believe. This feeling of calm adequacy does much to secure adequacy, and what is of perhaps more importance, compels peace.—Popular Review.

### Czar's Immense Wealth.

The czar of Russia is a well-paid ruler. He receives the revenues from the Russian crown lands, and their area is equal to that of one-third of the United States. Several years ago the imperial treasurer is reported to have advised the czar: "Your majesty need have no fear of ever coming to feel the sting of poverty. Financially you are solvent yourself. With one hand you could buy out the American multimillionaires, Morgan and Rockefeller, and still have enough left to talk business with Baron Rothschild!" It is said that the czar was displeased at the flippancy of the holder of his purse string. Whether the story is apocryphal or not, it does not misrepresent the czar's wealth.

## Trade With Our Advertisers

### CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

NOTICE. To Whom It May Concern—Fred Kettinger, of the firm of Kettinger & Astum, will not be responsible for any debts contracted for under the firm name on and after June 3, 1915, unless the order is signed by himself, the partnership having been dissolved. The business will be continued under his management in the future. (Signed) FRED KETTENRING, Downers Grove, Ill., June 3, 1915.

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