

PREVENT FIRES ON JULY 4, SAYS ILLINOIS MARSHAL

In response to numerous inquiries as to the attitude of the division of fire prevention concerning the use of fireworks this year, State Fire Marshal John G. Gamber has authorized an interview, urging community celebrations of the Fourth of July throughout the state. The interview is as follows:

"Independence Day, 1919, probably will be celebrated with more patriotic fervor than ever before in the history of our country. It will be the occasion not only of rejoicing over liberty's triumph in the world war, but of doing honor to our returned fighting men, most of whom are expected to be home by that time.

"Realizing the tremendous popular enthusiasm which will give vent to itself on this day, and with no idea of discouraging a proper expression of the great patriotic impulse underlying it, I most earnestly appeal to the people of the state of Illinois to keep this enthusiasm within safe and sane channels.

"During the past several years great strides have been made in the direction of a safe and sane celebration of the Fourth of July, with the result that the toll of dead and maimed, and the number of fires, have steadily decreased.

"To many the temptation to go to extremes will be great this year. The stimulus to celebrate was never greater. The need of restraint is therefore correspondingly great. The lesson of restraint was well learned during the war; let everyone continue to apply it in time of peace.

"In scores of localities throughout the state, plans are already being made for great community observances, with rousing homecoming celebrations for the returned fighting men as the big feature. These events will be marked by parades, band concerts, addresses by noted speakers, programs of great variety and community displays of fireworks.

"I can not too strongly express my indorsement of such observances and I urge them upon city officials, chambers of commerce and such other organizations as are accustomed to take the initiative in these matters in their respective communities. Certainly no time is more opportune for a community Fourth of July celebration than this, when every city, village and town desires to honor all its fighting heroes.

"City and village officials are empowered by statute, to regulate, restrain and prohibit the use of fireworks, firecrackers, torpedoes, Roman candles, skyrocketts and other pyrotechnic displays. I call upon such officials to exercise these broad powers to bring about such regulation and restraint as is necessary in their respective communities in the interest of public safety.

"It is a misdemeanor in Illinois, punishable by a fine of \$25, for anyone to trade, sell or give away any toy pistol so made or constructed that it can be used to shoot blank cartridges. The toy pistol and blank cartridge are the most prolific cause of tetanus, or lockjaw. If any person has knowledge of the violation of this act it is his duty to report this knowledge promptly to the police or state's attorney.

"I appeal to every resident of Illinois, individually, to exercise the utmost carefulness in the use of fireworks.

GARRETT CONFERS D. D. ON DR. HOUGH

The sixty-fifth annual commencement exercises of Garrett Biblical institute were held last week in Memorial hall on the campus. There prevailed throughout a somewhat military atmosphere, having as speakers Colonel Raymond Robins of Chicago and Colonel John H. Wigmore of Evanston and in addition the students of Garrett who had been engaged in national military service were present in their uniforms.

At the conclusion of the processional prayer was offered by Bishop Nicholson following which Colonel Raymond Robins, the speaker of the afternoon, was introduced by President Stuart.

Following the ceremony of conferring the diplomas, President Stuart, contrary to his custom of previous years, left the platform, giving the diplomas to the graduates together with a congratulatory handshake.

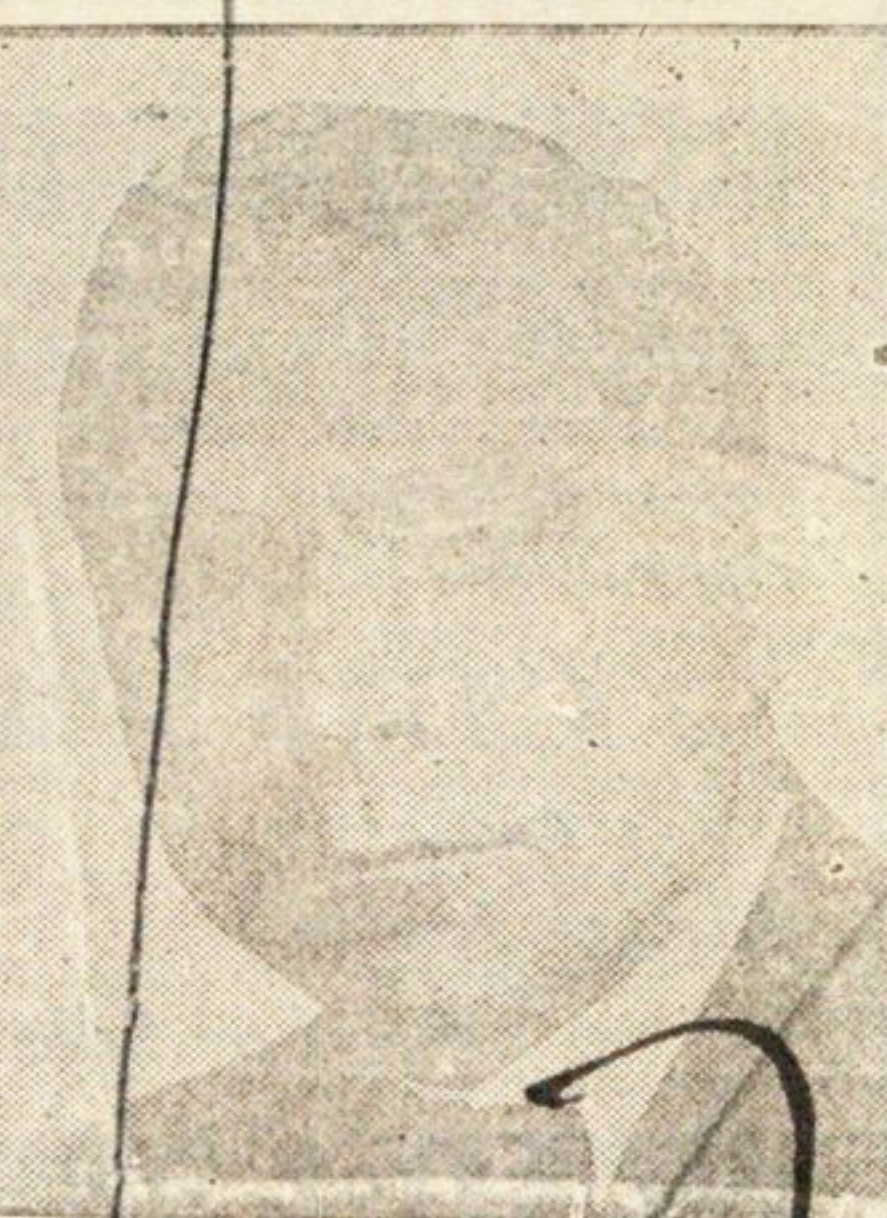
Of especial interest was the bestowing of the doctor of divinity degree upon Professor Lynn Harold Hough president-elect of Northwestern university. In conferring this degree President Stuart said of him:

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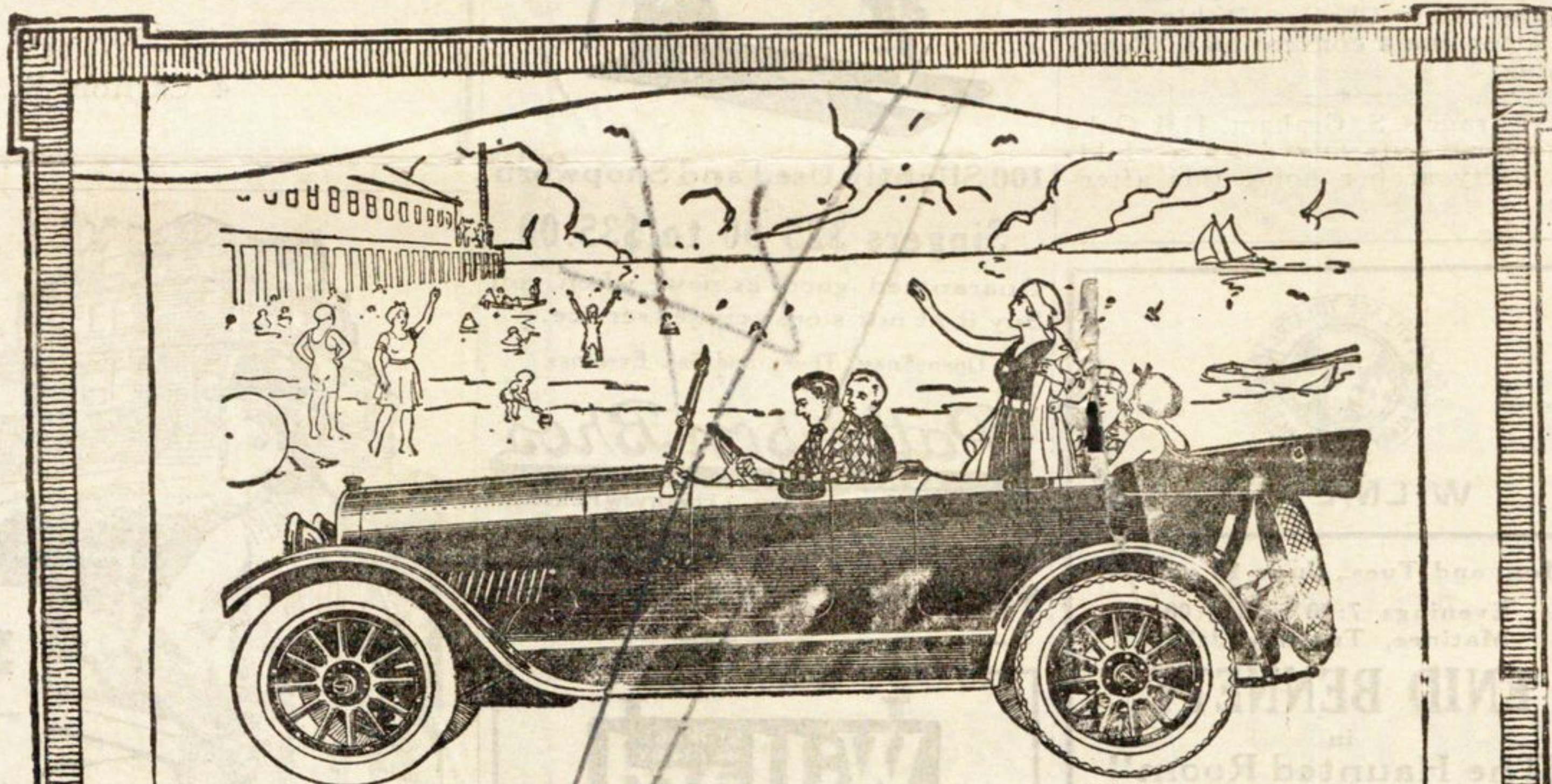
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