

Winnetka Weekly Talk

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SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1922

THE WAY OF DELIVERANCE FROM EVIL

Never has there been a time when science and research more clearly pointed the way to constructive action to eliminate the evils of the times than in this year of grace, nineteen hundred and twenty-two. We know, or may easily find out, how to control almost every ill to which human flesh is heir. The fault is in ourselves that we suffer as we do from catastrophes and tragedies that could be avoided if only we would accept the help that is freely and fully offered to us. It is only because of the colossal capacity of the human mind to resist knowledge, and because of the selfishness that prevents each from acting for the benefit of the community, that keeps us slaves to circumstances which can only bring unhappiness and suffering in their wake.

Medical science has told us how to prevent the major part of the disease which every year takes such high toll in life and economic loss. Science has told us how to prevent the great catastrophes of nature, floods and famine. Common sense and the organization whose business it is to fight fires, tell us how to avoid those hazards that occasion practically all the fires. And we will not listen. Having eyes to see, we see not; having ears to hear, we hear not; and then we bemoan the unhappiness of our fate that we must pay the price of our folly.

It has been the subject of much jest that the people of the late German empire were so circumscribed in their actions by the ubiquitous sign, "Verboten". But the American people need, and need badly, a few restrictions put upon their freedom of action in such ways as impose hardships upon the general public. With laws, and their enforcement, to control the cutting down of trees on hillsides and to direct the care of farms in those sections in which floods originate, we should avoid the yearly loss of crops and property under which the population in the lowlands along the river courses suffer. With laws, and their enforcement, to control the keeping of dogs we should avoid the yearly toll of injury to children. With laws, and their enforcement, to care for the protection of the public against contagious disease we should be a much more healthy nation than we are today. With laws, and their enforcement, to protect the children against labor in mines and factories that deprives them of their childhood and their chance of a normal development into manhood and womanhood, we should be able to look forward to an America of the future whose people should be fit specimens of the race of the proud and the free.

Perhaps this is the day of the development of knowledge to apply for the prevention of catastrophe. Perhaps tomorrow will be the day of its application. Then today is the day for education and the development of a public conscience that will hasten the time when there will be no excuse ready for those who offend against the general good.

BACK HIM UP

Will Hays, mentor of the public morals and director of the motion picture policies, has decreed that the objectionable features of moviedom must be eliminated, that pictures must be made without catering to the worst in the public taste.

The educational character of the movies is recognized, because of the constancy of attendance by young people and the unavoidable effect that the pictures that they see have upon their habits of thought. Every film is educational, but few of them teach lessons in which it is desirable that the general public should be instructed. Mr. Hays is going "to change all that." The decent public and those of a taste at all cultivated will pray for more strength to his elbow. If they will back their prayer with work and give their moral support to the effort to improve the character of the films while they withhold their financial support from those that need improvement, there will come a success that will startle even the director-general of the motion picture industry and encourage him in his efforts to keep up with a task that is herculean in its proportions.

Grant Keehn returned Tuesday from a trip in the East, where he went to attend commencement at Hamilton College.

Mr. and Mrs. D'Aix and their niece have returned after an extended motor trip in the East.

Before you go on your vacation get a

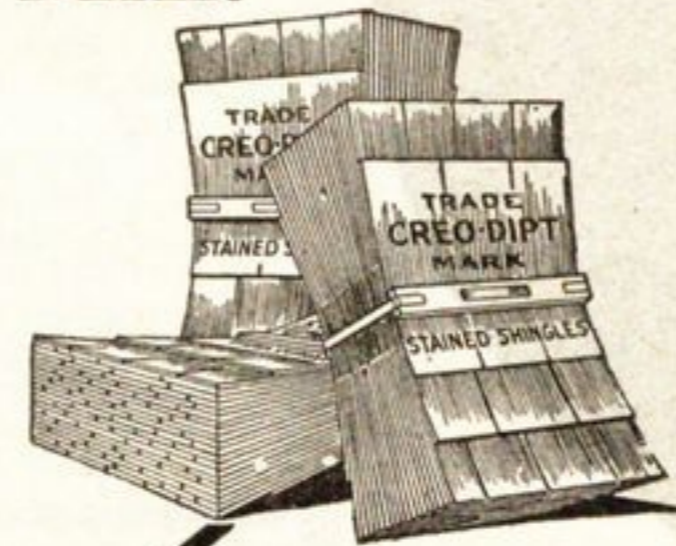
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